

68. The Norwesters bring about 50 cm rainfall in

- (A) Assam (B) Odisha  
(C) West Bengal (D) Karnataka  
(E) Answer not known

நார்வெஸ்டர், 50 செ.மீ மழைப்பொழிவை ————— இடத்தில் தருகிறது

- (A) அசாம் (B) ஒடிசா  
(C) மேற்கு வங்காளம் (D) கர்நாடகம்  
(E) விடை தெரியவில்லை

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**Inter -Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)** also moves northward, and a major part of Indian landmass comes under the influence of southeast trade winds. While crossing equator this wind gets deflected and takes the direction of southwest and becomes south-west monsoon. During the winter season, the pressure and wind belts shift southward, thereby establishing the north-east monsoon (trade winds) over this region. Such systematic change in the direction of planetary winds is known as monsoon.

## Seasons

The meteorologists recognize the four distinct seasons in India. They are;

1. **Winter season**  
(January - February).
2. **Summer season**  
(March - May).
3. **Southwest monsoon or Rainy season**  
(June - September).
4. **Northeast monsoon season**  
(October - December).

### 1. Winter season

During this period, the vertical rays of the sun falls over tropic of capricorn which is far away from India. Hence, India receives the slanting sun's rays which results in low temperature. The cold weather season is characterized by clear skies, fine weather, light northerly winds, low humidity and large day time variations of temperature. During this season a high pressure develops over north India and a north-westerly wind blows down the Indus and Ganges valleys. In south India, the general direction of wind is from east to west.

The rain during this season generally occurs over the Western Himalayas, Tamil nadu and Kerala. Western disturbances and associated trough in westerlies are main rain bearing system in northern part of the country. The jet stream plays a dominant role in bringing these disturbances to India. Western disturbances cause rainfall in Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh, and snowfall in the hills of Jammu

and Kashmir. This rainfall is very useful for the cultivation of winter wheat.

### 2. Summer season

During this season, the vertical rays of the sun falls over the peninsular India. Hence, there is a steady increase in temperature from south to north. It is practically hot and dry in the entire country in the initial part of this season. Weather over the land areas of the country is influenced by thunderstorms associated with rain and sometimes with hail mostly in the middle and later part.

During this season, temperature starts increasing all over the country and by April, the interior parts of south India record mean daily temperatures of 30°C–35°C. Central Indian land mass becomes hot with day-time maximum temperature reaching about 40°C at many locations.

Because of the atmospheric pressure conditions, the winds blow from southwest to northeast direction in Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal. They bring pre monsoon showers to the west coast during the month of May. There are few thunder showers called “**Mango Showers**” which helps in quick ripening of mangoes along the coast of Kerala and Karnataka.

“Norwesters” or “Kalbaisakhis” are the local storms with thunder that blow from north western part and rain lasting for short durations. It occurs over the eastern and north eastern parts over Bihar, West Bengal and Assam during April and May. They approach the stations from the northwesterly direction.

### 3. Southwest monsoon or Rainy Season

The southwest monsoon is the most significant feature of the Indian climate. The onset of the southwest monsoon takes place normally over the southern tip of the country by the first week of June, advances along the Konkan coast in early June and covers the whole country by 15th July. The monsoon is influenced by global phenomenon like **ElNino**.