Geography · GS - I

Explain the significance of the northeast monsoon for Tamil Nadu and examine its impact on agriculture, water resources and the regional economy.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 30/10/2026	GS - I	Geography

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Retreating monsoon; Bay of Bengal; Tamil Nadu rainfall; reservoir recharge; agricultural productivity; water security; extreme rainfall risks

Model Answer

Introduction

The northeast monsoon, generally active from October to December, plays a crucial role in Tamil Nadu's climate and water security. Unlike much of India, the state receives a significant share of its annual rainfall during this period.

Significance of the Northeast Monsoon

1. Agricultural Benefits

- Supports paddy cultivation and other rabi-season agricultural activities.
- Improves soil moisture and reduces dependence on irrigation.

2. Water Resource Management

- Replenishes reservoirs, lakes and groundwater.

- Improves drinking-water availability and irrigation potential.

3. Regional Economic Impact

Better rainfall supports agricultural incomes, rural employment and water-dependent economic activities.

Challenges

- Intense rainfall can cause urban flooding and crop damage.
- Uneven spatial distribution may leave some districts water-deficient.
- Excessive runoff can reduce groundwater recharge and increase soil erosion.

Way Forward

Rainwater harvesting, desilting of water bodies, improved reservoir management, climate-resilient agriculture and accurate weather forecasting should be prioritised.

Conclusion

The northeast monsoon is essential for Tamil Nadu's agricultural and water security. Scientific water management is necessary to convert rainfall gains into long-term resilience.

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