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South Asia Seasonal Climate Outlook Forum

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Why in News

The **spatial forecast** which shows wide variations in rainfall across India has been **provided by the South Asia Seasonal Climate Outlook Forum**.

Key Points

- South Asian nations, **supported by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**, have been conducting the **SASCOF since 2010**.
- SASCOF is a consortium of meteorologists and hydrological experts from South Asian countries, including **Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Maldives and Myanmar**.
- They work collectively to **issue regional forecasts** and the team **releases forecasts for the Southwest and Northeast monsoon seasons, every year**.

The experts usually meet ahead of preparing the forecasts, but it **was called off in 2020 in the wake of Covid-19**.

World Meteorological Organization

- The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is an **intergovernmental organization** with a membership of 193 Member States and Territories. **India** is a member.
- Established by the ratification of the WMO Convention on 23 March 1950, WMO became the **specialized agency of the United Nations** for meteorology (weather and climate), operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences.
- It is **headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland**.

Source: TH