




# drishti

## Rare Easterly Winds over the Indian Ocean

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- Climate Prediction Centre of the US National Weather Service has said that **unusually warm waters in the Arabian Sea** have set up a **rare band of easterly winds** over the Indian Ocean, which has significantly **delayed the monsoon** onset over the Kerala coast.
- The number of factors has led to a dry spell in India, which is likely to continue throughout June.
  - **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)**: Its location and strength may play an important role in the development of monsoon over India during the next several weeks.
  - **Cyclone 'Vayu'**: It took advantage of an MJO wave traversing the West Indian Ocean and adjoining South Arabian Sea.
  - **Storm initiation**: Over the East Indian Ocean and adjoining Bay of Bengal have led to **oceanic circulation** over North-East and adjoining East-Central Bay.

### Madden-Julian Oscillation

- It is an oceanic-atmospheric phenomenon which affects weather activities across the globe. It brings major fluctuation in tropical weather on weekly to monthly timescales.
- The MJO can be defined as an eastward moving 'pulse' of clouds, rainfall, winds and pressure near the equator that typically recurs every 30 to 60 days.
- It's a traversing phenomenon and is most prominent over the Indian and Pacific Oceans