

CLIMATE

1. Describe the El Niño mechanism in your own words.

Ans. The El Niño phenomenon is a feature connected with the Southern Oscillation. In this, a warm ocean current flows past the Peruvian Coast, in place of the cold Peruvian current. It occurs at the interval of 2 to 5 years.

The changes in pressure conditions are connected to the El Niño. Hence, the phenomenon is referred to as ENSO (El Niño Southern Oscillations).

2. How does the presence of Tibetan plateau influence the arrival of monsoon in India?

Ans. As the vast Tibetan plateau, high up in the mountains, warms during the summer months, it heats the air above, which then rises and creates an area of low pressure, explained Dr. Rajagopalan. That belt of low pressure sucked in moisture from the oceans, thus initiating the monsoon.

3. What are "Jet Streams"?

Ans. A narrow variable band of very strong

~~posed~~ predominantly westerly air currents
circled the globe several miles above
the earth.