Geography

Explain the mechanism of the withdrawal of the Southwest Monsoon and discuss its significance for India's agriculture and water resources.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 15/10/2026	—	Geography

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Monsoon withdrawal, northwest India, weakening of monsoon circulation, changing pressure patterns, southward shift of the rain belt, agricultural production, kharif crops, groundwater recharge, reservoir storage, rainfall variability, Northeast Monsoon.

Model Answer

1. **Introduction**

The Southwest Monsoon is India's principal rainy season, generally extending from June to September. Its withdrawal marks the transition from the rainy season to the post-monsoon season and has significant implications for agriculture and water availability.

2. Main Body

A. Mechanism of Monsoon Withdrawal

1. **Changing atmospheric conditions:** Changes in pressure patterns and atmospheric circulation weaken the monsoon system.
2. **Declining rainfall:** Rainfall decreases and dry conditions gradually develop over northwestern India.
3. **Gradual retreat:** The monsoon withdraws progressively from northwest India towards the rest of the country.

B. Significance for India

1. **Agriculture:** Monsoon rainfall influences the production of kharif crops such as rice, cotton and soybean.
2. **Water resources:** Rainfall replenishes groundwater, reservoirs and freshwater sources.
3. **Economic impact:** Rainfall variability affects farmers' incomes, food production and food inflation.
4. **Regional rainfall:** The Northeast Monsoon brings important rainfall to Tamil Nadu and parts of southeastern India during October–December.

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.C. Major Challenges

Uneven rainfall, delayed withdrawal, floods, droughts and inadequate water management can adversely affect agricultural productivity and water security.

3. Conclusion

The withdrawal of the Southwest Monsoon is a crucial climatic transition. Accurate forecasting, climate-resilient agriculture and efficient water-resource management are essential to reduce its risks and strengthen India's agricultural and water security.