

AI-Based Weather Forecasting Program

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AI-Based Weather Forecasting Program Latest News

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (MoAFW) launched AI-based monsoon forecasts via SMS (m-Kisan) to nearly 3.8 crore farmers across 13 states this year.

About AI-Based Weather Forecasting Program

- It was launched by the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare**.
- Under this initiative AI-based monsoon forecasts were **sent using the m-Kisan portal**.
- This is the first-of-its-kind targeted dissemination of AI weather forecasts to date.
- These AI-based forecasts distributed by the MoAFW correctly **identified 20 days' pause** in monsoon progression.
- The government sent updated information **to farmers every week** until continuous rains arrived in their area.
- **AI Models used**

- The forecasts used were a blend of two open-access models—**Google’s Neural GCM** and European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts’ (ECMWF) **Artificial Intelligence Forecasting Systems** (AIFS).
- **Significance:** It centers specifically on the needs of farmers by **providing tailored weather forecasts** in easy to understand language and helps them make informed farming decisions.

What is m-Kisan Portal?

- It is a platform which **provides web-based mobile advisory to farmers** with the technological backstopping from Research Institutes and Agricultural Universities supporting farmers.
- It enables all **Central and State government organizations** in agriculture and allied sectors to provide information/services/advisories to farmers by SMS in their language, preference of agricultural practices and location.
- Through this portal messages are tailored to the farmer’s language, location, and preferred practices, helping them stay **updated on weather, crops, pest control**, and government schemes.

Source: PIB

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