



Several Peruvian cities have been affected by heavy rains being caused by an unusual warming of the Pacific Ocean's waters along Peru's coastline, during these past three months (summer) which are coinciding with the highlands' rainy season; thus increasing the volume of rivers flowing from the Andes into the Pacific Ocean, causing major flooding on lowlands along the coastline, destroying agricultural areas and infrastructure, such as bridges and roads. This phenomenon is being attributed to weak anticyclonic winds coming from the Antarctic, which through the months of December to March move the cold El Niño current which bathes our coastline, cooling the ocean waters especially near the Equator, where the rainy season has increased the downpour, collapsing the cities' drains.

The Panamerican Highway which connects Peru's Pacific Ocean ports is disrupted, mainly in the northern part of the country, affecting road transportation to the ports of Huarney, Paramonga, Chimbote, Salaverry, Paita and Talara, located on the northern part of Peru.

The ports' infrastructure, however, has not been affected and they are working without major disruptions. However, road disruptions will be affecting outgoing containerized cargoes, especially agricultural and fish products, to be loaded at the ports of Paita and Salaverry. Special care should also be taken for bulk cargoes (soy, maize and fertilizers), mostly discharged at the ports of Paita and Salaverry, due to heavy rains in those areas. While airports to nearby cities seem to be operating, road access to these two ports may be difficult, due to flooded roads.

The ports of Huarney and Paramonga, which are nearer to the city of Lima (2-3 hours by road) are privately owned and operated, facilities, their infrastructures do not seem to have been affected by this phenomena, but the cities by them have. Therefore, transportation to these ports on short notice will be impossible as their only access is by road.

There may be water and energy disruptions in some areas, which unfortunately authorities are not always able to prevent as these depend on the severity of the rain/storms and the areas being flooded or constantly flooded.

A state of emergency has been declared by the government, which mainly comprises the northern part of Peru, although the Central Highway which goes from Lima into the Andes has also been affected, along with the railroad (mineral ores from the highlands, shipped through the port of Callao) service from the Andes.

The rain forest cities, and the port of Iquitos by the Amazon River, on the western part of Peru and only accessible by air, while not majorly affected by this weather phenomena, are also supporting heavy rain falls.

There are several messages posted on the internet, which note the Cusco and Machu Picchu have been affected. This is not true. Photos and or videos from these areas are from a previous season.

The port of Callao and all surrounding facilities have not been affected by the rain, although some of Lima's surrounding districts have been affected by floods.

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