

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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**Date:** 7/6/2011

**GAIN Report Number:** IN1161

## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### 2011 Monsoon Report 2

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

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**Report Highlights:**

After an earlier than normal arrival, monsoon progress across northwestern India has been slow. To date, Monsoon coverage has been good over most of the states except for Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Northeastern states, where cumulative rainfall has been below normal. On June 21, 2011, the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) released its second long-range forecast for southwest monsoon seasonal rainfall (June-September), predicting a **below normal rainfall (90-96 percent of Long Period Average)**. Currently, the performance of the monsoon is better than last year, and planting of kharif (fall and early harvested) crops has been progressing well. The window of opportunity for planting most of the kharif crops (rice, corns, sorghum, millet, soybean, pulses and cotton) extends through mid-July.

## General Information:

### Monsoon progress:

After an earlier than normal arrival, monsoon progress across northwestern India has been slow. Normally, the monsoon should have covered almost the entire country by now. During first week of June, the monsoon advanced to cover Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Karnataka and South Andhra Pradesh. However, during the following week, progress stalled over the west coast and was delayed by almost 5 days along eastern and northeastern states (Figure 1). By mid-June, the monsoon resurged and advanced further to cover parts of Maharashtra, Telangana, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, and the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh, the Bay of Bengal and West Bengal.

Monsoon coverage has been good over most of the states except for Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Northeastern states, where cumulative rainfall has been below normal. Under current conditions, the monsoon is expected to advance further into western Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. The cumulative rainfall during the period June 1 through June 29 was 11 percent above normal, with 26 out of 36 weather subdivisions receiving normal or above normal rainfall (Figure 2).

### IMD projects below normal monsoon:

On June 21, 2011, the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) released a revised long-range forecast for the southwest monsoon seasonal rainfall (June-September), predicting a **below normal rainfall** (90-96 percent of Long Period Average (LPA) ([IMD Forecast 2011](#))). The IMD forecast projects monsoon season rainfall to be 95 percent of the LPA, compared to the earlier April 19, 2011 prediction of a normal monsoon (96-104 percent of LPA). Rainfall coverage across the country is forecast to be 93 percent of LPA during the month of June, and 94 percent of LPA for the month of August, with a model error of  $\pm 9$  percent. With a forecast of below normal rainfall during the month of July, farmers may still opt to plant alternate crops.

### Progress of planting:

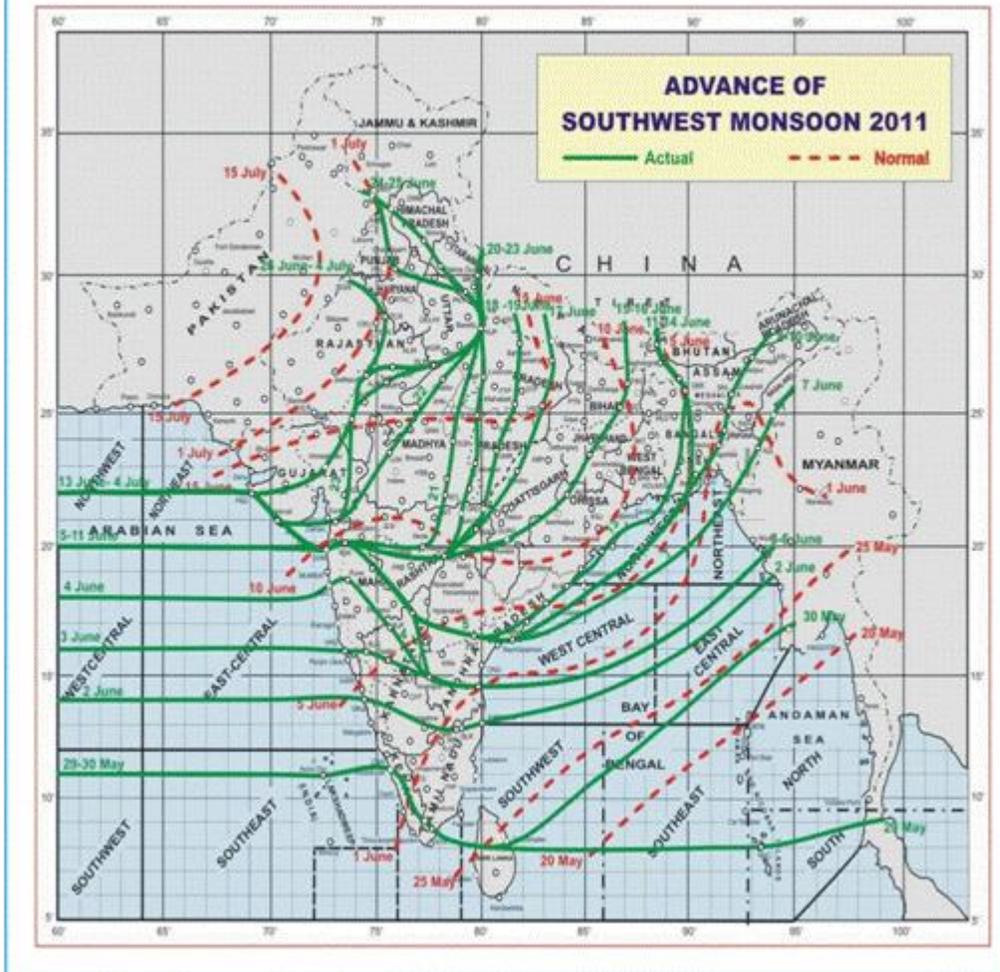
Currently, the performance of the monsoon is better than last year, and planting of kharif (fall and early harvested) crops has been progressing well. Per the latest press release from Press Information Bureau, Government of India ([PIB](#)) dated July 1, 2011; kharif rice planting is still in its preliminary stage, with 4.13 million hectares planted. Planted area has increased in Haryana (390,000 hectares), Odisha (456,000 hectares), and Uttar Pradesh (278,000 hectares). Oilseeds have been planted on 3.14 million hectares, which is 236,000 hectares more than corresponding period last year. Sugarcane has been planted on 5.14 million hectares, which is also up 238,000 hectares over last year (Table 1). The increase in sugarcane planted area is primarily in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. The window of opportunity for planting most of the kharif crops (rice, corns, sorghum, millet, soybean, pulses and cotton) extends to mid-July and in some cases until late July.

**Table 1: Cropped Area as on July 1, 2011**

Crop	Area in million hectares
Rice	4.13
Pulses	0.70
Coarse cereals	2.20
Sugarcane	5.14
Oilseeds	3.14
Cotton	3.51

Source: PIB Press Release

### Figure 1: Progress of Monsoon 2011

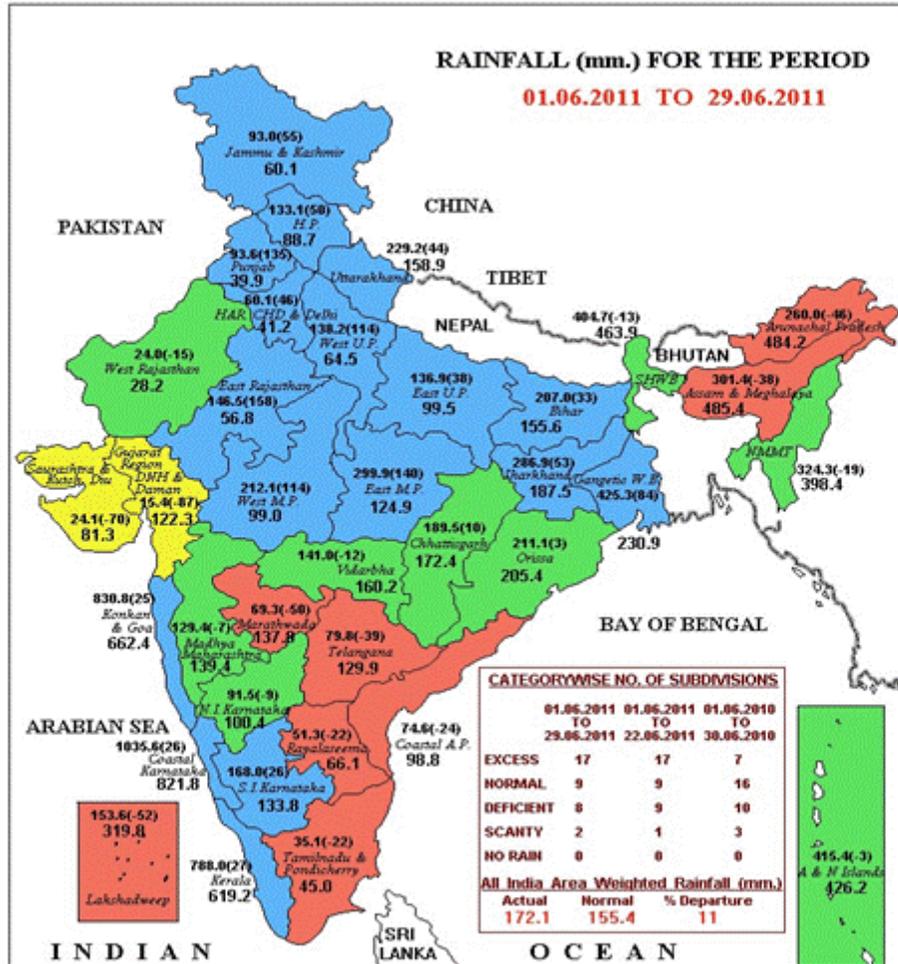


Prepared at: Drawing Unit: NWEC

Source: Indian Meteorological Department

Figure 2: Rainfall during the period starting June 1 to June 29, 2011

# भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Source: Indian Meteorological Department