

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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India

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2011 Monsoon Report 3

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

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Report Highlights:

On July 9th, 2011, the southwest monsoon covered the entire country nearly one week ahead of schedule. Rainfall was well distributed in most parts of the country, facilitating sowing and transplanting of most kharif season (fall and early winter harvested) crops. Reasonably good rains in July have reduced the rainfall deficit, with cumulative weighted rainfall (June 1 to July 20) at 1 percent below Long Period Average (LPA). The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) had forecast widespread rainfall over most parts of the country except for the southern interior peninsula where rainfall is likely to be below normal.

General Information:

On July 9th, 2011, the southwest monsoon covered entire country, nearly one week ahead of schedule (Figure 1). The weighted all India rainfall during the week ending July 20, was 72.9 mm (Figure 2), which was 7 percent above normal, compared with 13.5 percent below normal a year ago. Rainfall was well distributed in most part of the country helping in sowing or transplanting of most kharif season (fall and early winter harvested) crops. Good rainfall during first half of July has helped already sown crops (kharif sorghum, soybean, peanut, pearl millet, cotton, red gram, green gram, sugarcane, black gram, and sesame) in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh recover from moisture stress conditions. Similarly, good rainfall over central India (Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh) has helped sowing/re-sowing and the germination of soybean, green gram, maize, peanut, pigeon pea, rice, and small millets. Orissa, Jharkhand, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur and Tripura (NMMT) and some pockets of Punjab and Haryana did not receive adequate rainfall, which may delay paddy transplanting operations. Insufficient rains over Rayalseema in Andhra Pradesh may also limit the area sown to peanuts.

Reasonably good rains in July have reduced the rainfall deficit. Data from the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) indicate that the cumulative weighted all India rainfall was 1 percent below normal at 343.8 mm for the period June 1 to July 20, 2011 (Figure 3). Rainfall activity over all the four regions (Northwest, Central, South Peninsula, and East India) was normal or above normal except for the following areas: Northeast (rice), Union Territory of Daman and Dadra, Nagar Haveli (peanut, pulses) and Rayalaseema region in Andhra Pradesh (peanut). Rainfall has been normal in 22 out of 36 meteorological subdivisions; 8 subdivisions are reporting above average rainfall, while the remaining 6 are below average. A lack of rain in the south interior peninsula will likely affect sowing of red gram, cotton and rice.

Progress of planting:

Poor rainfall during the month of June has affected areas planted to pulses, oilseeds and cotton crops, mostly rain-fed areas of Gujarat and Maharashtra. According to the latest progressive planting report ([Weather Watch Report](#)), 30 million hectares (equal to 29 percent of the normal area under kharif crops) have been sown, compared to the 32 million hectares during the same period last year. Planting of rice, sugarcane, soybean and pearl millet has been progressing well ahead of last year's level (Table 1). Almost half way through the monsoon season (June-September), the window of opportunity is narrowing for most kharif crops. However, with IMD predicting an increase in rainfall activity over most of the country next week, replenished water tables should help advance crop planting.

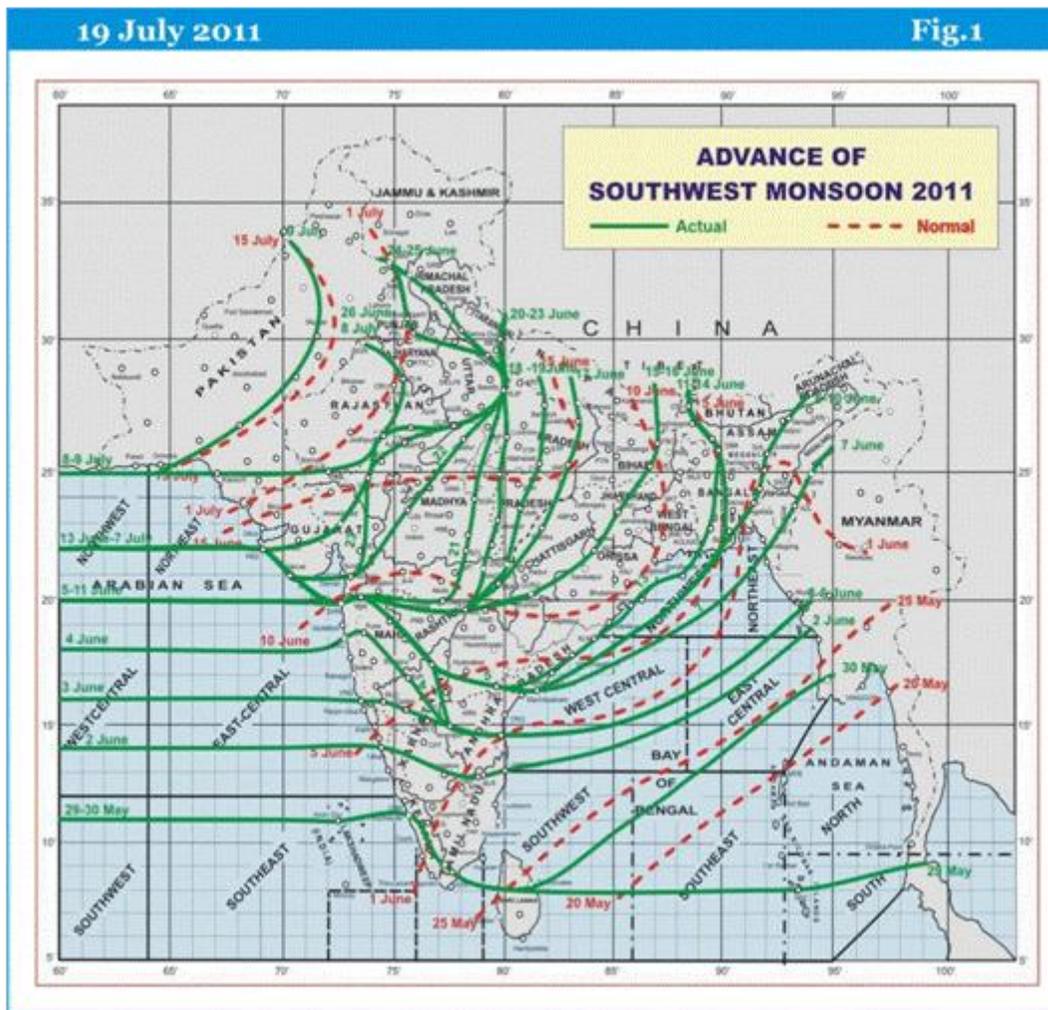
Table 1: All India Crop Progress as on July 08, 2011

Crop Name	Area sown 2011	Area sown 2010
Rice	7.43	6.78
Sorghum	0.56	0.85
Pearl millet	2.30	1.78
Maize	1.92	1.93
Other coarse cereals	0.42	0.40
Coarse cereals	5.20	4.96
Total Pulses	2.25	2.97
Soybean	3.68	3.42
Peanut	1.37	1.96
Sunflower	0.04	0.11
Other oilseeds	0.34	0.36
Total oilseeds	5.43	5.85
Cotton	4.46	6.6
Sugarcane	5.13	4.9
All crop	30	32

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, GOI.

Note: Area shown above is in million hectares

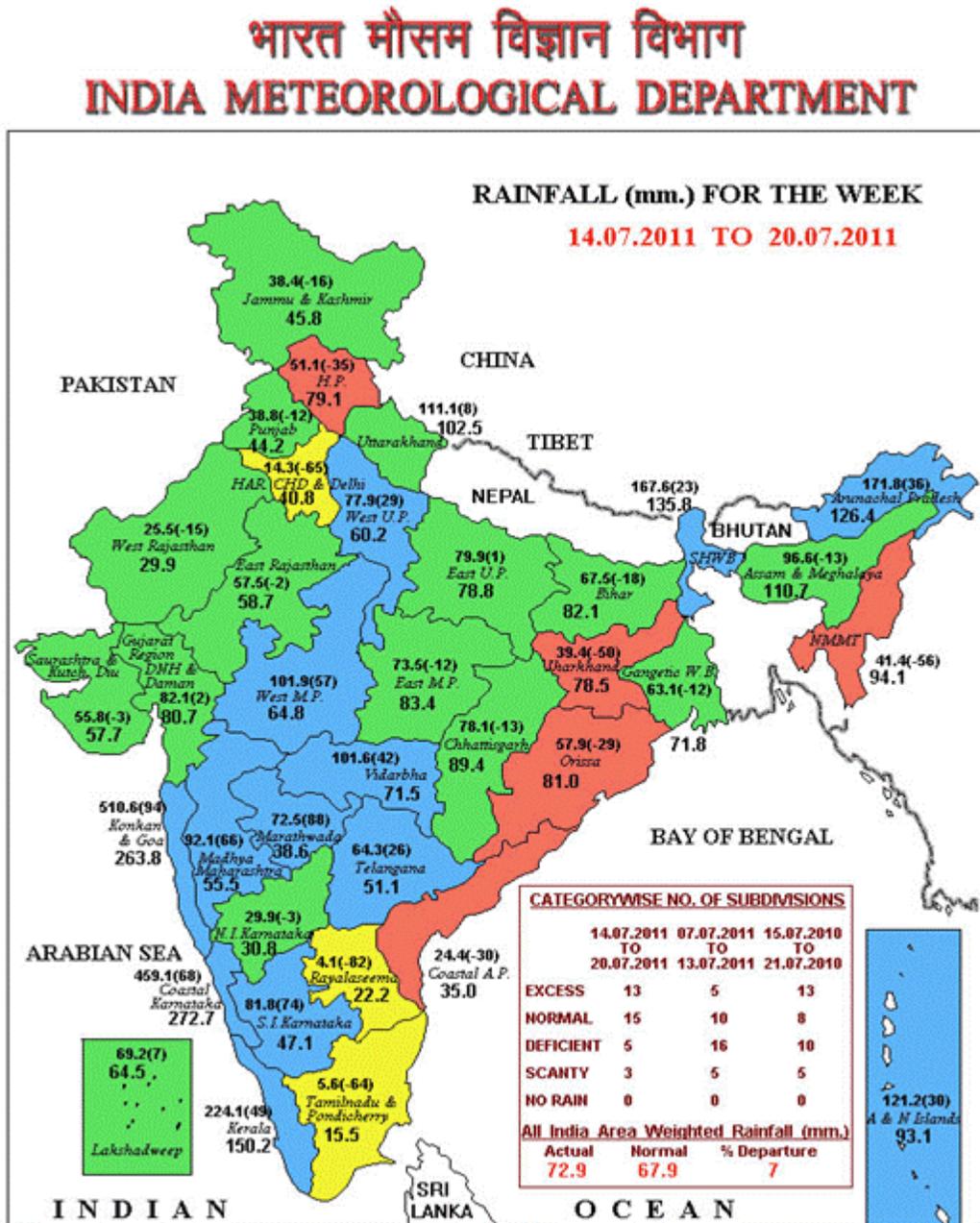
Figure 1: Progress of Monsoon 2011



Prepared at: Drawing Unit: NWFC

Source: Indian Meteorological Department, GOI

Figure 2: Rainfall during the period starting July 14 to July 20, 2011

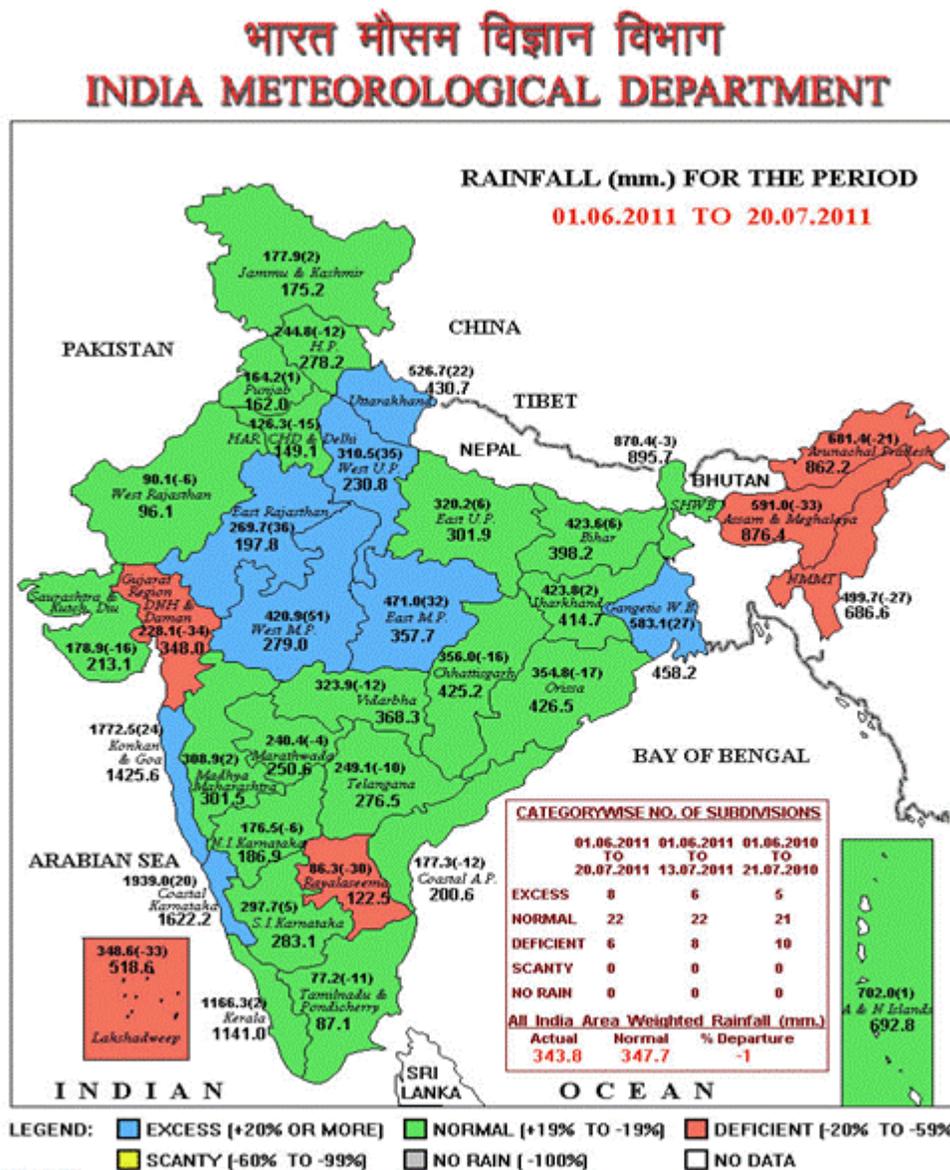


LEGEND: ■ EXCESS (+20% OR MORE) ■ NORMAL (+19% TO -19%) ■ DEFICIENT [-20% TO -59%]
■ SCANTY [-60% TO -99%] ■ NO RAIN [-100%] NO DATA

NOTES:
 (a) Rainfall figures are based on operational data.
 (b) Small figures indicate actual rainfall (mm.), while bold figures indicate Normal rainfall (mm.)
 Percentage Departures of Rainfall are shown in Brackets.

Source: Indian Meteorological Department, GOI

Figure 3: Rainfall during the period starting June 1 to July 20, 2011



Source: Indian Meteorological Department, GOI