

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### 2014 Monsoon Report 1

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

Climate Change/Global Warming/Food Security

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**Report Highlights:**

The [southwest monsoon](#) arrived in Kerala on June 6<sup>th</sup>. According to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), weather conditions are favorable for advance of the monsoon and monsoon rains are likely to cover southern and northeastern states by mid-June. On April 24, 2014, the IMD issued a “below-normal monsoon” forecast.

## **General Information:**

### **Monsoon Progress**

The southwest monsoon, critical for India's agricultural production, arrived in Kerala on June 6, 2014 (Figure 1). The historical average date of onset of monsoon is June 1<sup>st</sup>. The weather conditions were favorable for advance of the monsoon into states of Kerala, Karnataka, and remaining parts of Tamil Nadu. By mid-June, rains are likely to cover northeastern and remaining regions in south India, while the rest of the country is forecast to remain dry.

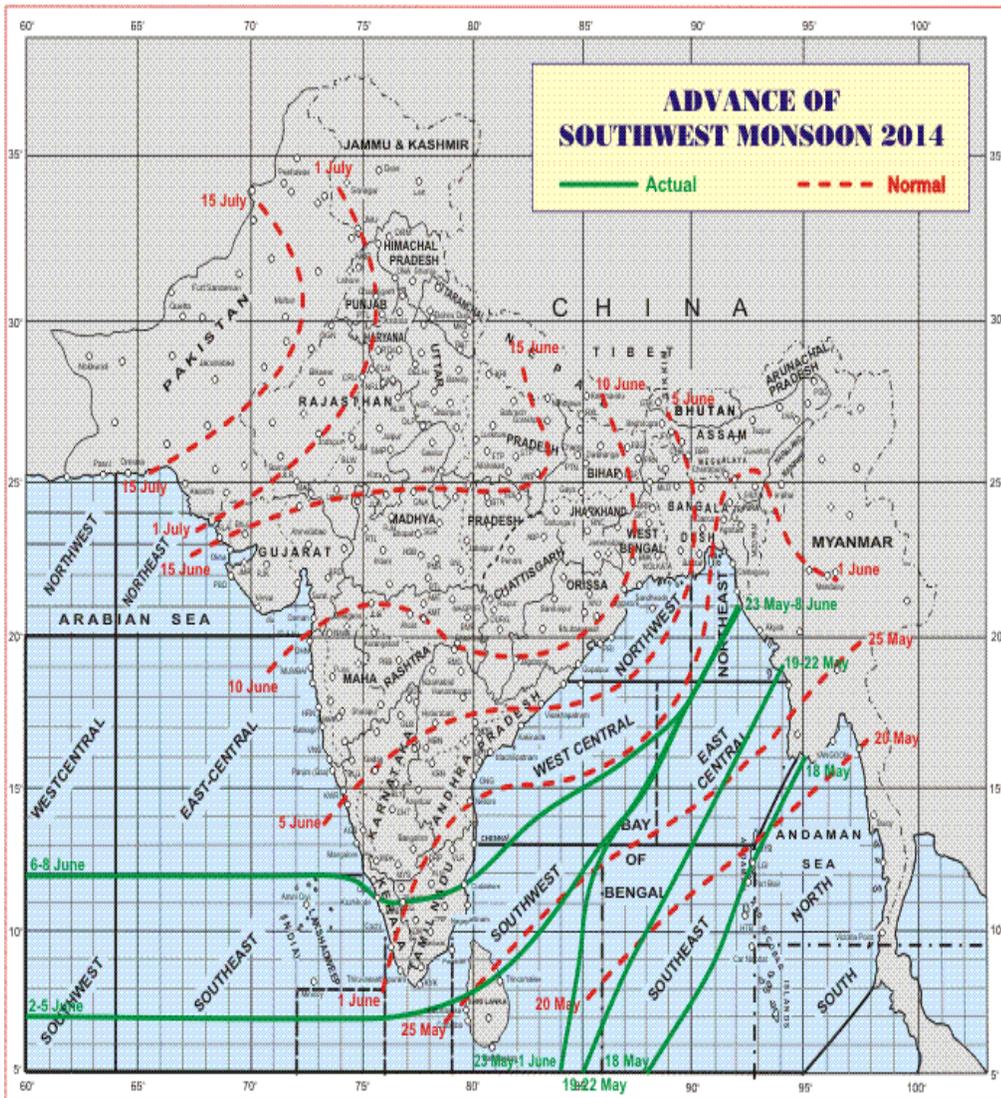
### **Performance**

For the week beginning May 29 through June 4, 2014, pre-monsoon rains were 28 percent below normal, with deficient to no rains in 24 out of 36 weather subdivisions (Figure 2). Except for Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar, and Jammu and Kashmir, remaining states were completely dry or received scanty rains. Planting of most *kharif* (fall and early harvested) crops, such as rice, soybeans, peanut, cotton, coarse grains, and pulses, will resume after the monsoon reaches the major growing areas. Timely arrival of monsoon rain coupled with uniform spatial and temporal distribution is vital for sustaining agricultural production, especially when it irrigates 55 percent of agricultural land and brings 70 percent of total rainfall.

### **Forecast**

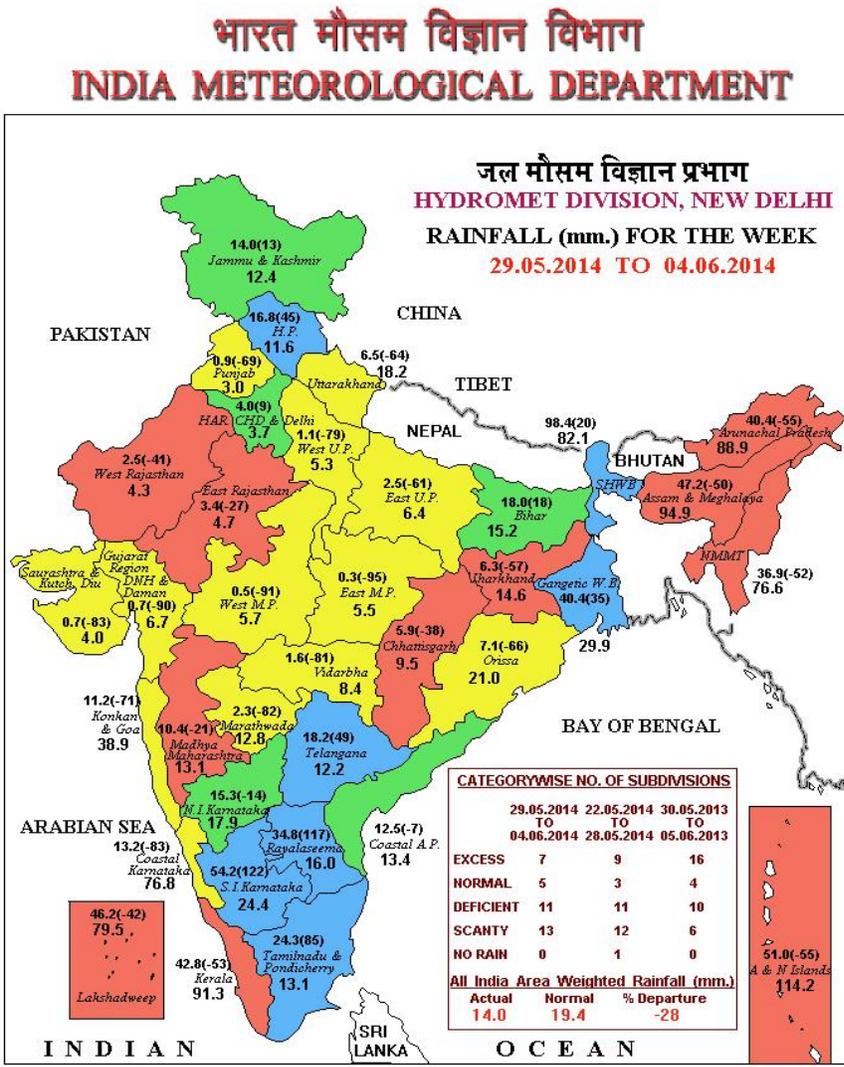
On April 24, 2014, the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a "below-normal monsoon" forecast, with rainfall most likely to be 95 percent of the Long Period Average (LPA) with a model error of +/- 5 percent. According to the [press release](#), IMD is likely to issue its second stage long-range forecast on June 9, 2014.

Figure 1. India: Monsoon progress as of June 6, 2014



Source: IMD, GOI

Figure 2. India: Rainfall for the week ending June 4, 2014



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: IMD, GOI