

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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India

Post: New Delhi

Monsoon Update - Its Raining Its Pouring

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Agriculture in the News

Agriculture in the Economy

Climate Change/Global Warming/Food Security

Market Development Reports

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Report Highlights:

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) second forecast for the Southwest Monsoon predicts a normal monsoon for 2017 and suggests that June to September rainfall will be 98 percent of the Long Period Average (LPA). May 30, 2017, was the official onset date for the 2017 Southwest Monsoon when showers hit southern India.

General Information:

Forecast Revised from Near Normal to Normal Monsoon in 2017

On June 6, 2017, IMD, Ministry of Earth Science published the second forecast of the 2017 Southwest Monsoon (June to September). With 50 percent probability, the IMD forecasts that monsoon rainfall is likely to be 98 percent of the LPA. The monthly rainfall over the country as a whole is forecast to be 96 percent of LPA in July and 99 percent of LPA during August. This forecast, IMD's second, is an update from its April forecast when it forecast a near normal monsoon with monsoon rainfall likely to be 96 percent of the LPA. For more details refer to the [IMD Press Release](#).

Table 1. Probability Forecast for Southwest Monsoon 2017

Category	Rainfall Range (% of LPA)	Forecast Probability (%)
Deficient	Less than 90	7
Below Normal	Between 90-96	28
Normal	Between 96-104	50
Above Normal	Between 104-110	13
Excess	Greater than 110	2

Source: Indian Meteorological Department

Table 2. Regional Rainfall Forecast for Southwest Monsoon 2017

Geographic Region	Rainfall Range (% of LPA) Jul-Sep
North West	96
Central	100
South Peninsula	99
North East	96
All India	98

Table 3. India: IMD Southwest Monsoon forecast and actual rainfall as percentage of LPA

Year	2 nd Stage Forecasted Rainfall (% of LPA)	Actual Rainfall (% of LPA)	Forecast Probability (%)
2012	96	93	42
2013	98	106	46
2014	93	88	38
2015	88	86	66
2016	106	97	40
2017	98	-	50

Source: Indian Meteorological Department