

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Monsoon Wrap-up Report 2011

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

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Report Highlights:

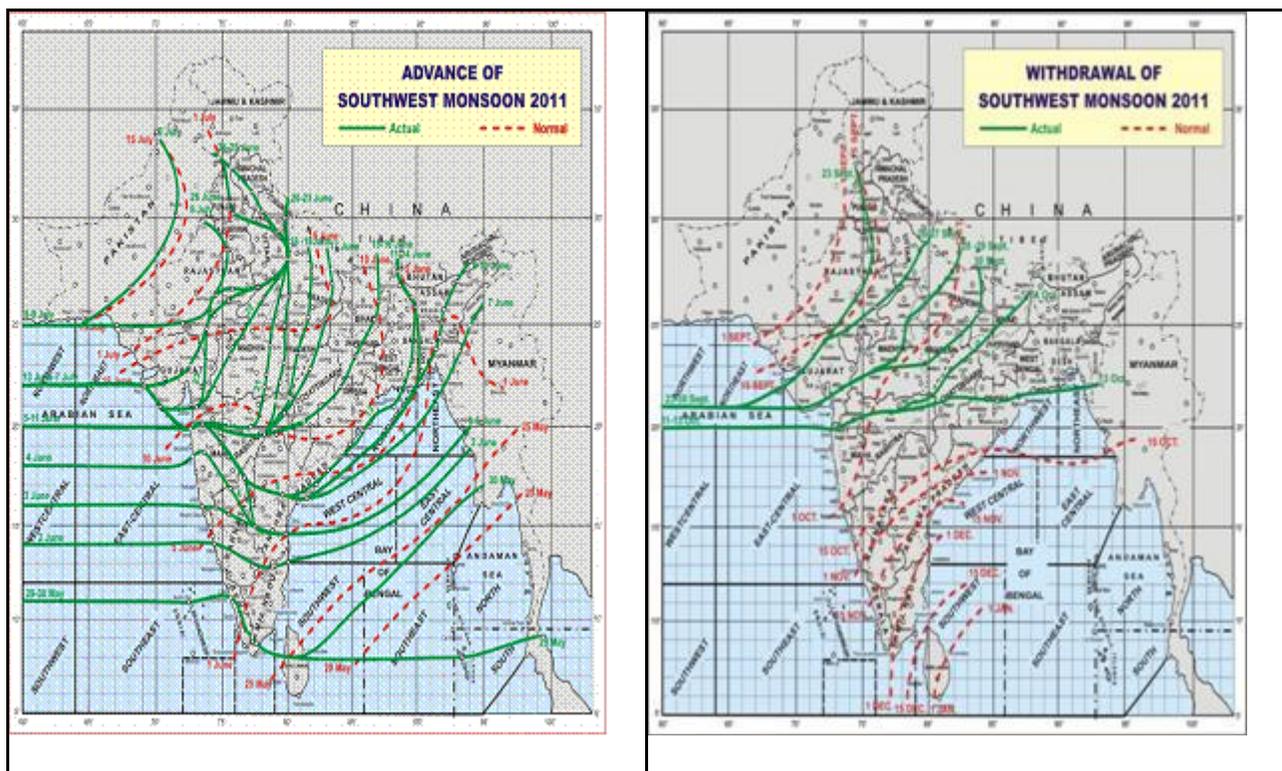
Meteorological reports indicate that India had a favorable 2011 monsoon season (June-September). According to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), total rainfall was 101 percent of the Long Period Average (LPA). Only 3 of the 36 meteorological subdivisions reported insufficient seasonal rainfall. With the exception of 3 subdivisions in Northeast India, the 2011 monsoon provided good rain coverage throughout the country. Kharif crop planting (fall and early winter harvest) of rice, cotton, sugarcane soybean and other crops increased to 104.7 million hectares, 3 percent above last year's level.

General Information:

Monsoon Performance in 2011:

Indian monsoon rains arrived in Kerala on May 29, 2011, 3 days ahead of the forecast date of June 1st. By July 9th, monsoon rain coverage throughout the country was nearly complete, 6 days ahead of schedule. Continuous rainfall associated with low pressure systems caused flooding in West Bengal, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh and Orissa. The withdrawal of the 2011 monsoon began in West Rajasthan on September 23rd, almost 3 weeks behind schedule. By mid-October, the Monsoon completed its withdrawal from West Bengal and the Northeastern states (Figure 1).

Figure 1. India: Advance and Withdrawal of Southwest Monsoon 2011



Source: Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), GOI

Rainfall Distribution:

According to the IMD, seasonal rainfall was 101 percent of the Long Period Average (LPA). Regionally, northwest India was 107 percent of the LPA, central India was 110 percent of the LPA, the southern Peninsula was 100 percent of the LPA, while the Northeast remained at 86 percent of the LPA (Table 1). Except for the month of July, nationwide monthly rainfall was evenly distributed: 112 percent of LPA in June, 85 percent of LPA in July, 110 percent of LPA in August, and 106 percent of

LPA in September. Most meteorological subdivisions (33 out of 36 subdivisions, representing 92 percent of the total area) reported receiving normal or above normal rainfall. The remaining 3 subdivisions [Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya, and Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur and Tripura (NMMT)] were below the LPA.

Table 1. Rainfall Distribution under four broad geographical regions

Regions	Actual Rainfall (millimeter)	Long Period Average (millimeter)	Actual for 2011 (percent of LPA)
All India	899.9	887.5	101
Northwest India	654.8	615.0	107
Central India	1073.6	975.5	110
South Peninsula	715.2	715.5	100
Northeast India	1233.6	1438.3	86

Source: Indian Meteorological Department, GOI

Kharif Crop Planting Progress:

According to the latest Indian Ministry of Agriculture [planting report](#), kharif crop planting increased to 104.7 million hectares, 3 percent above last year (Table 2). Although flood conditions delayed planting in many areas, the prospect of good financial returns for rice, soybean, cotton, sugarcane and castor encouraged farmers to bring additional area under production. The current prevailing weather conditions appear favorable for good harvests of soybean, cotton, peanut, black and green gram. Planting conditions also seem favorable for rapeseed, mustard, wheat, corn, safflower and sunflower...

Table 2. Kharif Crop Planting Area as on October 13, 2011, In Million Hectares

Crop Name	Area in 2011	Area in 2010
Rice	38.41	35.11
Coarse Cereals	20.02	21.21
Total Pulses	11.17	12.19
Peanut	4.28	4.96
Soybean	10.29	9.33
Other oilseeds	3.38	3.19
Cotton	12.05	11.02
Sugarcane	5.09	4.94
Total Crops	104.69	101.95

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, GOI