



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

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India

Agricultural Situation

Monsoon Progress Report - Four

2002

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Report Highlights:

If monsoon activity fails to pick up soon, India's fall harvested crop production, which includes rice, coarse cereals, soybeans, cotton, peanut, and sugarcane will be in jeopardy.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
New Delhi [IN1], IN

Monsoon activity deteriorated further during the week ending July 10 as only 5 of the 36 weather subdivisions received normal or above normal rainfall compared with eleven the previous week (Fig. 1). Rains were mostly confined to Bihar, Gangetic West Bengal, and Uttaranchal. All India Area Weighted rainfall during the week was just one inch, 62 percent below normal.

Cumulative rainfall during June 1 to July 10 was normal or above normal in only 16 of the 36 weather subdivisions compared with 25 last week and 28 during the corresponding period of last year (Fig. 2). Rainfall has been particularly scanty in north, northwestern, and central India, where the major crops are rice, coarse cereals, soybeans, cotton, and sugarcane.

Two to three weeks of consecutive dry weather in several states has started causing concern among farmers and state and central governments. Some state governments have already started preparing contingency plans. If monsoon activity fails to pick up soon, India's kharif (fall harvested) crop production, which includes rice, coarse cereals, soybeans, cotton, peanut, and sugarcane will be in jeopardy. A continued dry spell could reduce fodder availability for dairy animals adversely affecting milk production. Market prices of most commodities have reacted to poor rains.

Figure 1: Rainfall During the Week Ending July 10

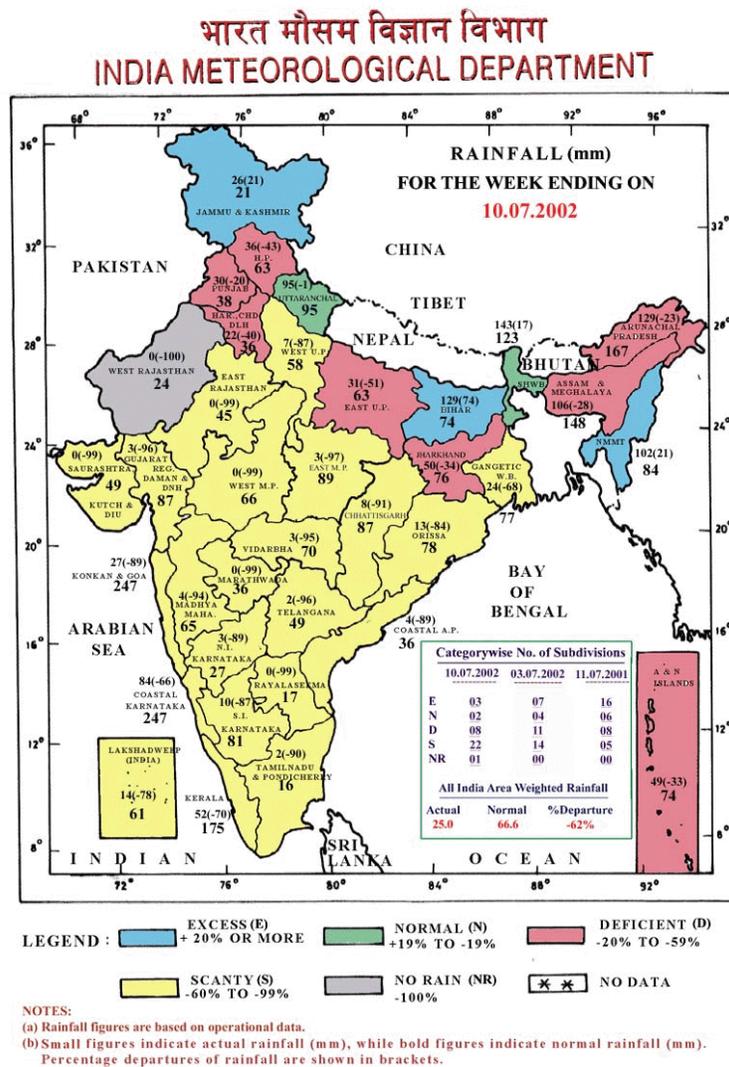


Figure 2: Cumulative Rainfall During June 1 to July 10

