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Voluntary Public

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India

Post: New Delhi

Monsoon Report - 3

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Climate Change/Global Warming/Food Security

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Report Highlights:

According to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), cumulative levels of rainfall from June 1 to July 13 were three percent below IMD's long-term average (LTA) of 280 millimeter (mm). As a result, 43.7 million hectares have been planted for the *kharif* (fall harvested) season, an increase of 64-percent over last year. Assuming normal July rainfall, higher water levels in major reservoir should support planting/transplanting of irrigated crops like rice.

General Information:

Cumulative Rainfall Three Percent below Normal

According to the IMD, the cumulative precipitation from June 1 to July 13 was three percent below its LTA of 280 mm (Figure 1). Central, northern, and eastern India received normal to above-normal levels of rainfall. Of 36 total meteorological sub-divisions (Figure 1), rainfall was normal to above-normal in about 24 sub-divisions, with 14 sub-divisions in Maharashtra, Bihar, eastern Gujarat, Kerala, and some areas in the northeastern states received deficit rains.

Kharif Crop Planting Gains Ground

Abundant rainfall in key production areas supported higher area planted for oilseeds, cotton, coarse cereals, and pulses. To date, *kharif* crop planting has reached 43.7 million hectares, up 64 percent over last year (Table 1). The window of opportunity for planting most *kharif* crops generally extends through mid-July. Rice planting and transplanting is underway and is likely to be completed on time if July rains hold steady. Additionally, higher water levels in major Indian reservoirs should support the production of irrigated crops such as rice.

Water in Reservoirs Higher than Last year

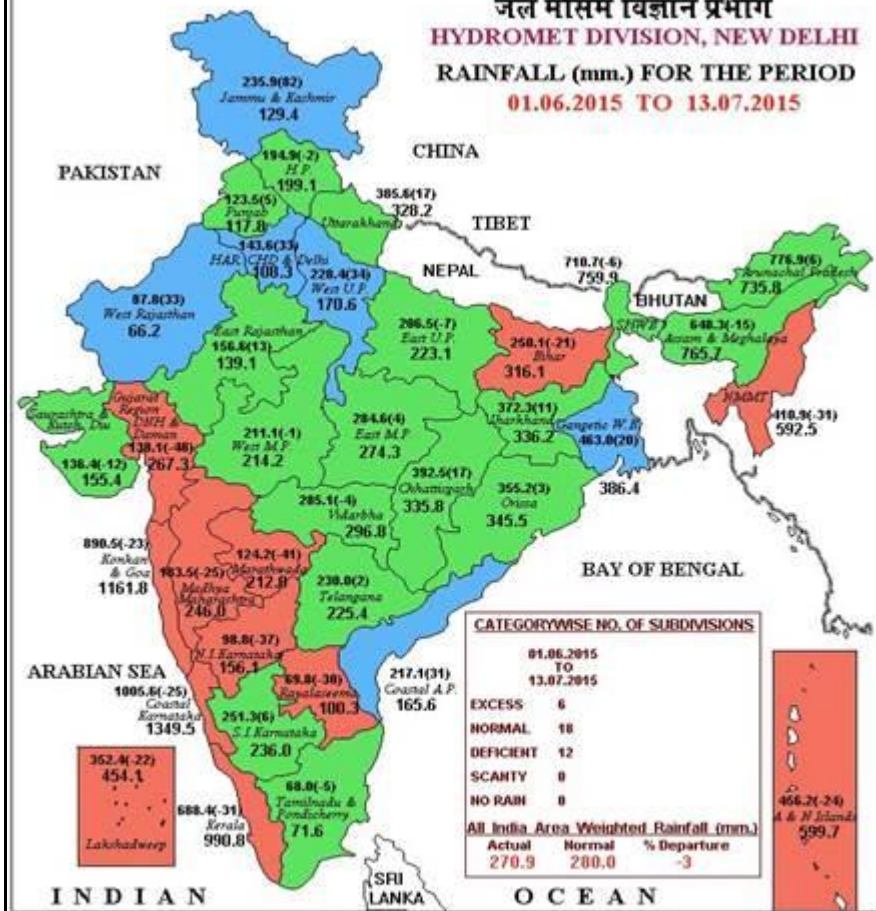
India's Central Water Commission (CWC) monitors 91 major Indian reservoirs with a total maximum capacity of 157.80 billion cubic meters (BCM). According to CWC, total water levels in the 91 reservoirs, as of July 02, 2015, were 48.51 BCM, a notable increase over the 37.62 BCM reported during the same period last year, and the previous ten-year average (as of July 1) of 33.46 BCM.

Source: [Weather watch report, MoA, GoI](#)

Table 1. India: <i>Kharif</i> Planting Progress as on July 10, 2015, In Million Hectares		
Crop	Area planted in 2015	Area planted in 2014
Rice	8.96	9.47
Pulses	3.26	2.27
Coarse cereals	8.18	3.83
Sugarcane	4.43	4.39
Oilseeds	10.12	2.22
Cotton	8.78	4.51
Total	43.73	26.69
Source: PIB press release		

Figure 1. India: Rainfall during the period starting June 1 to July 13, 2015

जल मौसम विज्ञान प्रभाग
HYDROMET DIVISION, NEW DELHI
RAINFALL (mm.) FOR THE PERIOD
01.06.2015 TO 13.07.2015



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