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**Date:** 11/15/2013

**GAIN Report Number:** IN3130

## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### Monsoon Report 8

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

Climate Change/Global Warming/Food Security

Grain and Feed

Oilseeds and Products

Cotton and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

India's monsoonal rains through September 25, 2013 were five percent higher over India's long period average (LPA) and 12 percent higher over 2012. Favorable monsoon conditions boosted *kharif* crop planted area through the end of September to 103.8 million hectares, an increase of 5.4 percent over last year. The Government of India's (GOI) forecasts food grain production will be 129.32 million metric tons (MMT) an increase of 7.25 percent over India's annual production average of 120.57 MMT. The GOI also estimates that 2013/14 oilseed and cotton yields will achieve record levels.

**General Information:**

## 2013 Monsoon Status

According to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) September levels of precipitation throughout India averaged 96 percent of LPA (LPA=864.1mm) [1]. Cumulative levels of rainfall from June through September 25 were five percent above the LPA (Figure 1) and a significant increase over 2012's seven percent deficit. 2013 monsoonal rains were normal and/or above normal in 30 meteorological sub-divisions, although drought was reported in six sub-divisions, to include the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi. Following heavy rainfall in June, July rains averaged 106 percent and August rains averaged 98 percent of normal LPA, respectively. National average rainfall levels during the first three months of the 2013 monsoon season (June-September) were 10 percent above normal levels.

India's monsoon typically withdraws entirely from central and northern India by the third week of October. However, the conclusion of the 2013 monsoon was delayed through the end of October due to lingering weather anomalies following Cyclone Phailin, which made landfall in Odisha on October 12.

[1] [http://www.imd.gov.in/section/nhac/dynamic/LRF\\_SEPT13.pdf](http://www.imd.gov.in/section/nhac/dynamic/LRF_SEPT13.pdf)

## Planting Update for the *Kharif* Season

In 2013, planted area for *kharif* (June-September) crops reached 103.83 million hectares, a 5.4 percent increase over the 98.52 million hectares planted in 2012 (Table 1). Favorable monsoonal weather patterns contributed to the increased 2013 *kharif* planted area. However, drought conditions in eastern and northeastern India may result in limited levels of lost acreage in those regions.

## GOI's First Advance Estimate of *Kharif* Production

On September 24, the GOI issued its [First Advance Estimate 2013/14](#) which forecast India's food grain production for crop year 2013/14 at 129.32 MMT, an increase of 7.25 percent over the India's annual production average of 120.57 MMT. The GOI also estimates that 2013/14 oilseed and cotton yields will achieve record levels.

## Water Levels

September 2013 water levels in major Indian reservoirs were 14 percent higher over 2012 levels and 17 percent higher over the normal 10 year average. Higher reservoir levels will assist wheat and other irrigated winter crops. Growers of rice, rapeseed, mustard and pulses will also benefit from the higher levels of ground water following the monsoon.

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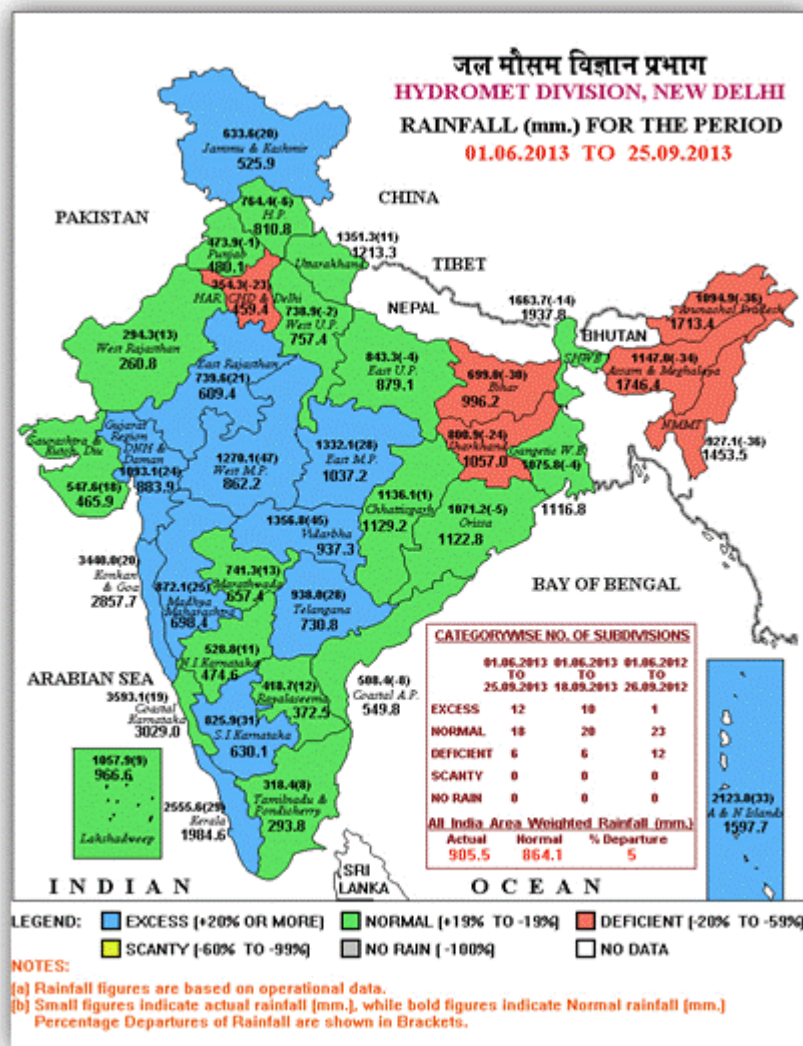
**Table 1. India: *Kharif* Planting Progress 2013**

Crop	Planted Area as of September 27, 2013	Planted Area as of September 27, 2012	Normal Area <sup>1</sup> for 39 <sup>th</sup> week of the year
Rice	37.65	36.88	39.21
Coarse Grains	19.58	17.59	21.31
Pulses	10.91	09.98	11.07
Oilseeds	19.39	17.47	18.20
Sugarcane	4.87	05.00	4.71
Cotton	11.43	11.60	10.47
<b>Total</b>	<b>103.83</b>	<b>98.52</b>	<b>104.97</b>

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, GOI.

<sup>1</sup>: Normal area is average of last five years

**Figure 1. India: Rainfall from June 1 to September 25, 2013**



Source: IMD, GOI