

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Number:** IN2024-0047

## **Report Name:** Monsoon Withdrawal Delayed

**Country:** India

**Post:** Mumbai

**Report Category:** Climate Change/Global Warming/Food Security, Cotton and Products, Grain and Feed, Oilseeds and Products, Agriculture in the News

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### **Report Highlights:**

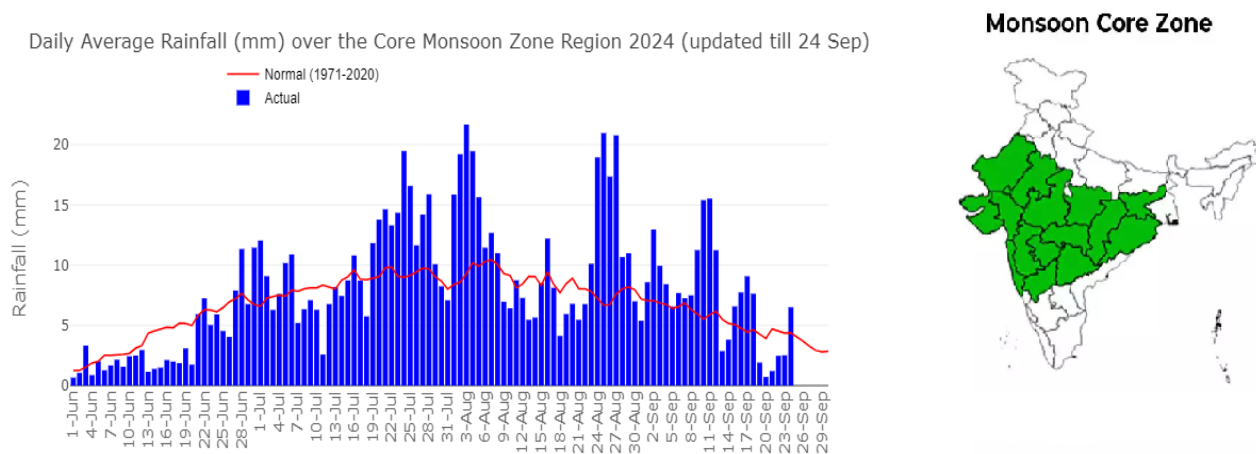
A heavy 2024 southwest monsoon season has caused flooding and water logging in several central India states, leading to crop damage and expected lower agricultural production. India's Meteorological Department (IMD) indicated that monsoon withdrawal was delayed by a week to September 23 and is likely to further exacerbate crop damage during harvest. Through September 24, cumulative rainfall is five percent above the fifty-year average/long-period average (LPA), with excess rains reported in both central and southern India (15 percent above LPA). Consequently, overall reservoir storage levels are much improved and bode well for Rabi (winter-sown) crops.

*DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Ministry of Earth Sciences/Indian Meteorological Department's (IMD) website <https://mausam.imd.gov.in/>. The U.S. Consulate General Mumbai – Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA), USDA and/or the U.S. government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The Government of India has not officially endorsed this report.*

## September Rains Threaten Kharif Production

On September 20, IMD issued [warnings](#) of widespread rainfall across central India between September 19 and October 2. Heavy rains are threatening damage to standing crops, primarily rice, pulses, maize, cotton, and soybeans. Excess rains have caused waterlogging in standing crops and could trigger various diseases. Historically the withdrawal of the southwest monsoon commences by September 17, however, a prolonged monsoon spell this year delayed the withdrawal date to September 23. The delay could negatively impact the crops which are typically harvested in September.

**Figure 1. Average Rainfall over Core Monsoon Zone Region**



Source: Climate Research & Services, India Meteorological Department

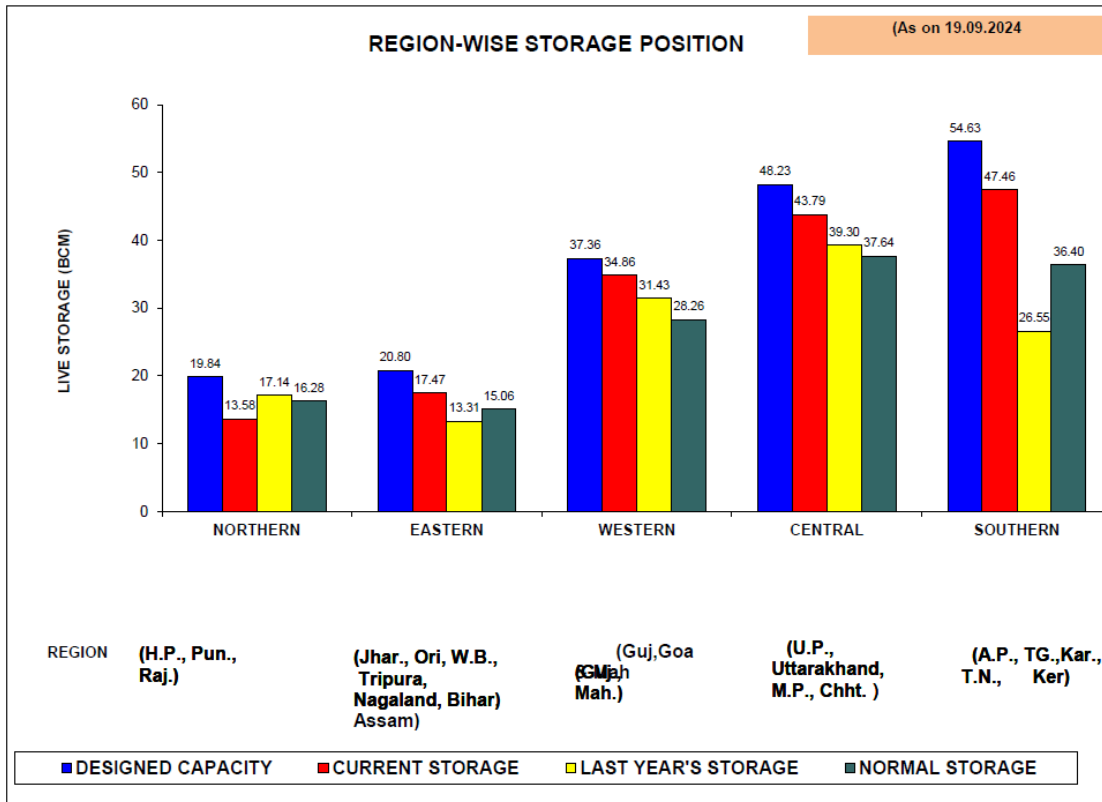
## Sowing Progress

As of September 20, Kharif [sowing](#) remains two percent higher than last year, and one percent higher than the five-year average (refer table 1). Planted area for pulses is up by eight percent, groundnut by nine percent, maize by four percent, and paddy by two percent. States with higher cumulative sowing thus far include Karnataka, Rajasthan (pulses), Maharashtra (pulses and maize), Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal (paddy), Madhya Pradesh (paddy and maize), and Gujarat (groundnut). Sowing is underway in the south India states of Andhra Pradesh (rice and pulses), Tamil Nadu (cereals), Chhattisgarh (pulses), and the southern part of Karnataka (cereals and pulses).

## Reservoir Storage Levels Above Ten-Year Average

India's Central Water Commission monitors the storage status of 150 reservoirs around the country on a weekly basis. The latest reservoir storage [bulletin](#) of September 19 shows current levels at 157.16 billion cubic meters (BCM) - 87 percent of total live storage capacity, up from 127.71 BCM (71 percent) as compared to last year.

**Figure 1. Reservoir Storage Status as on September 19, 2024**



Source: Central Water Commission, Ministry of Jal Shakti

**Table 1. Kharif 2024 Crop Sowing Progress (in million hectares)**

Crop	Area Sown as of September 20, 2024	Area Sown as of September 20, 2023	Normal Area (Five-year Average)	Y-o-Y Change	Change from Normal	Absolute Change
Paddy	41.350	40.450	40.155	2%	3%	0.900
Pulses	12.856	11.927	13.601	8%	-5%	0.929
- Arhar	4.650	4.074	4.555	14%	2%	0.576
- Urdbean	3.073	3.260	3.676	-6%	-16%	-0.187
- Moongbean	3.546	3.149	3.699	13%	-4%	0.397
- Kulthi	0.054	0.043	0.190	26%	-72%	0.011
- Moth Bean	1.053	0.942	1.032	12%	2%	0.111
- Other Pulses	0.480	0.459	0.449	5%	7%	0.021
Coarse Cereals	19.254	18.607	18.103	3%	6%	0.647
- Jowar	1.613	1.429	1.601	13%	1%	0.184
- Bajra	6.991	7.094	7.263	-1%	-4%	-0.103
- Ragi	1.246	1.050	1.096	19%	14%	0.196
- Small Millets	0.598	0.569	0.447	5%	34%	0.029
- Maize	8.806	8.465	7.696	4%	14%	0.341
Oilseeds	19.384	19.092	19.018	2%	2%	0.292
-Groundnut	4.785	4.375	4.528	9%	6%	0.410
-Soybean	12.511	12.385	12.295	1%	2%	0.126
-Sunflower	0.076	0.073	0.140	4%	-46%	0.003
-Sesamum	1.131	1.224	1.026	-8%	10%	-0.093
-Niger	0.073	0.080	0.122	-9%	-40%	-0.007
-Castor	0.800	0.950	0.907	-16%	-12%	-0.150
-Other Oilseeds	0.008	0.005	-	60%	-	0.003
Sugarcane	5.768	5.711	5.115	1%	13%	0.057
Jute and Mesta	0.574	0.667	0.674	-14%	-15%	-0.093
Cotton	11.276	12.371	12.934	-9%	-13%	-1.095
<b>Total</b>	<b>110.462</b>	<b>108.825</b>	<b>109.600</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1.637</b>

Source: Crop situation [report](#) as on September 24, 2024, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.