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India

Agricultural Situation

Monsoon Wrap-up Report

2005

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Report Highlights:
Despite an overall normal monsoon, this year's monsoon season (June –September) was characterized by wide seasonal variations, which is likely to have a negative impact on production for most kharif (fall and early winter harvested) crops.

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

There was a considerable improvement in the monsoon activity in September, following a poor performance in August. A low-pressure area formed over Bay of Bengal on September 17 intensified into a cyclonic storm resulting in heavy rainfall over Andhra Pradesh and parts of Maharashtra, Gujarat, and subsequently over northwest India. Most regions of the country received excellent rains during the weeks of September 14 and 21. Through September 30, the cumulative rainfall was normal or excess in 32 out of the 36 weather subdivisions. The four weather subdivisions which received below normal rains were Bihar, Jharkand, Assam and Meghalaya, and Nagaland and Mizoram. The all India area-weighted rainfall during June 1 to September 28 was 872.8 millimeters, only 1 percent below the long period average (see Figure 1).

Despite an overall normal monsoon, this year's monsoon season (June –September) was characterized by wide seasonal variations (see Figure 2), which is likely to have a negative impact on the production for most *kharif* (fall and early winter harvested) crops, like rice, coarse cereals, pulses, soybeans, peanut, and cotton. Due to the late onset and advancement of the monsoon, rainfall activity during the first three weeks of June was subdued, delaying planting operations of most crops. The monsoon became active by the third week of June and continued to be until the end of July. In August, the monsoon was subdued with the possibility of a drought looming large over many parts of the country. The monsoon revived again in early September, improving the rainfall scenario. However, heavy rains and floods in several parts of the country brought by a cyclonic storm over the coast of Andhra Pradesh caused damage to standing crops like rice and cotton, although improving the planting conditions for *rabi* (winter season) crops like wheat, rapeseed, pulses, and rice.

The government's initial planting report shows that area coverage for most *kharif* crops this year is ahead of last year, except for peanut and soybeans. (See http://agricoop.nic.in/ncfcweather/NCFC19Sep/NCFC19Sep05.htm). Copious September rains helped to replenish water tables in major irrigation reservoirs, which should prove beneficial for the *rabi* crops, particularly wheat.

The government's first advance production estimate of *kharif* crops (with last year's fourth advance estimate within parentheses) in metric tons are: rice - 73.83 (71.67), sorghum - 3.9 (4.04), pearl millet - 7.79 (8.11), corn - 12.17 (11.6), pulses - 4.98 (4.95), peanut – 5.94 (5.33), soybeans – 6.58 (7.51), cotton – 15.9 (17.0) [1], sugarcane – 257.72 (232.32). These estimates will undergo several revisions before the government finalizes them.

[1] In million bales. GOI estimates are typically much lower than the trade estimate, which post follows.

Figure 1

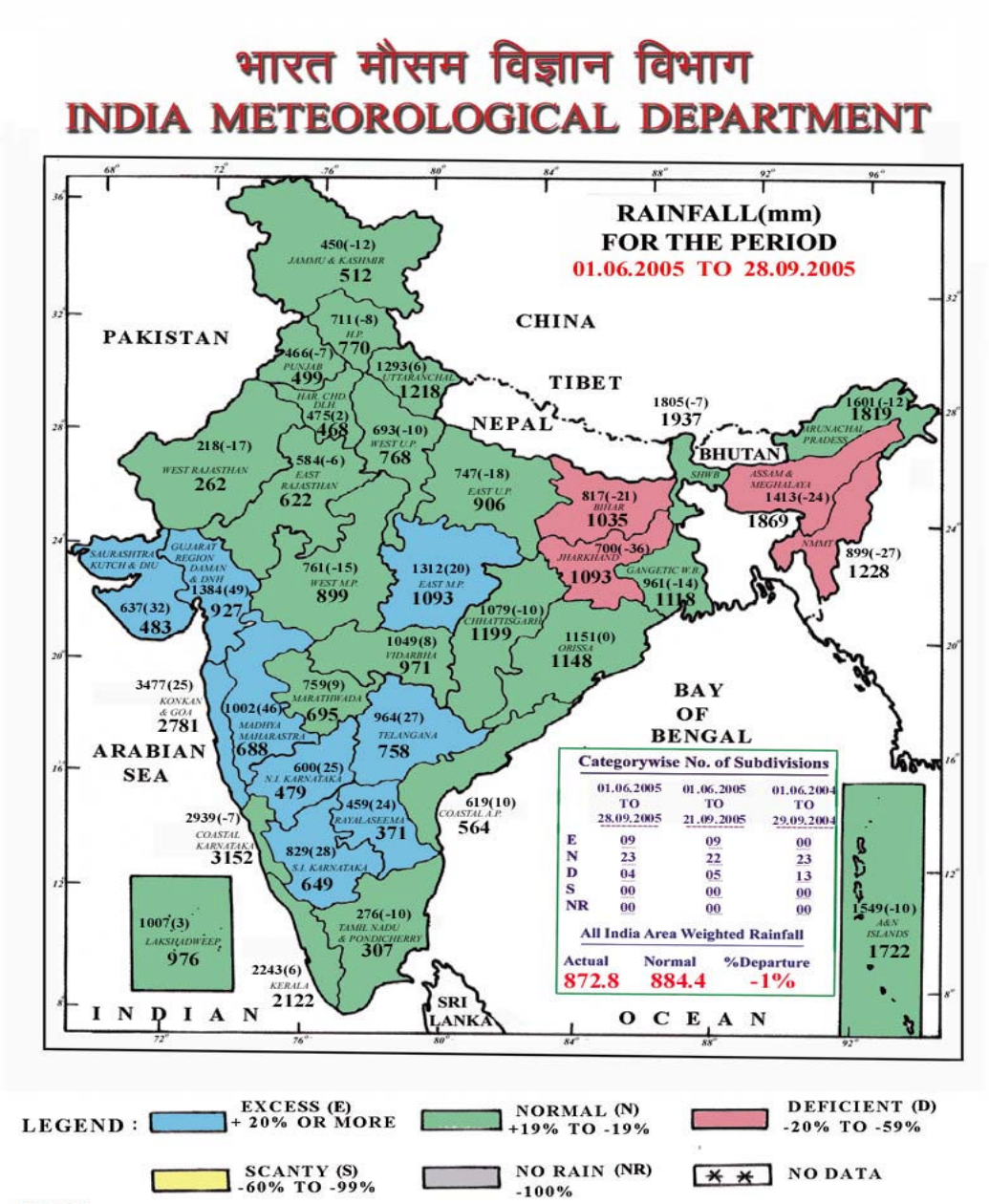
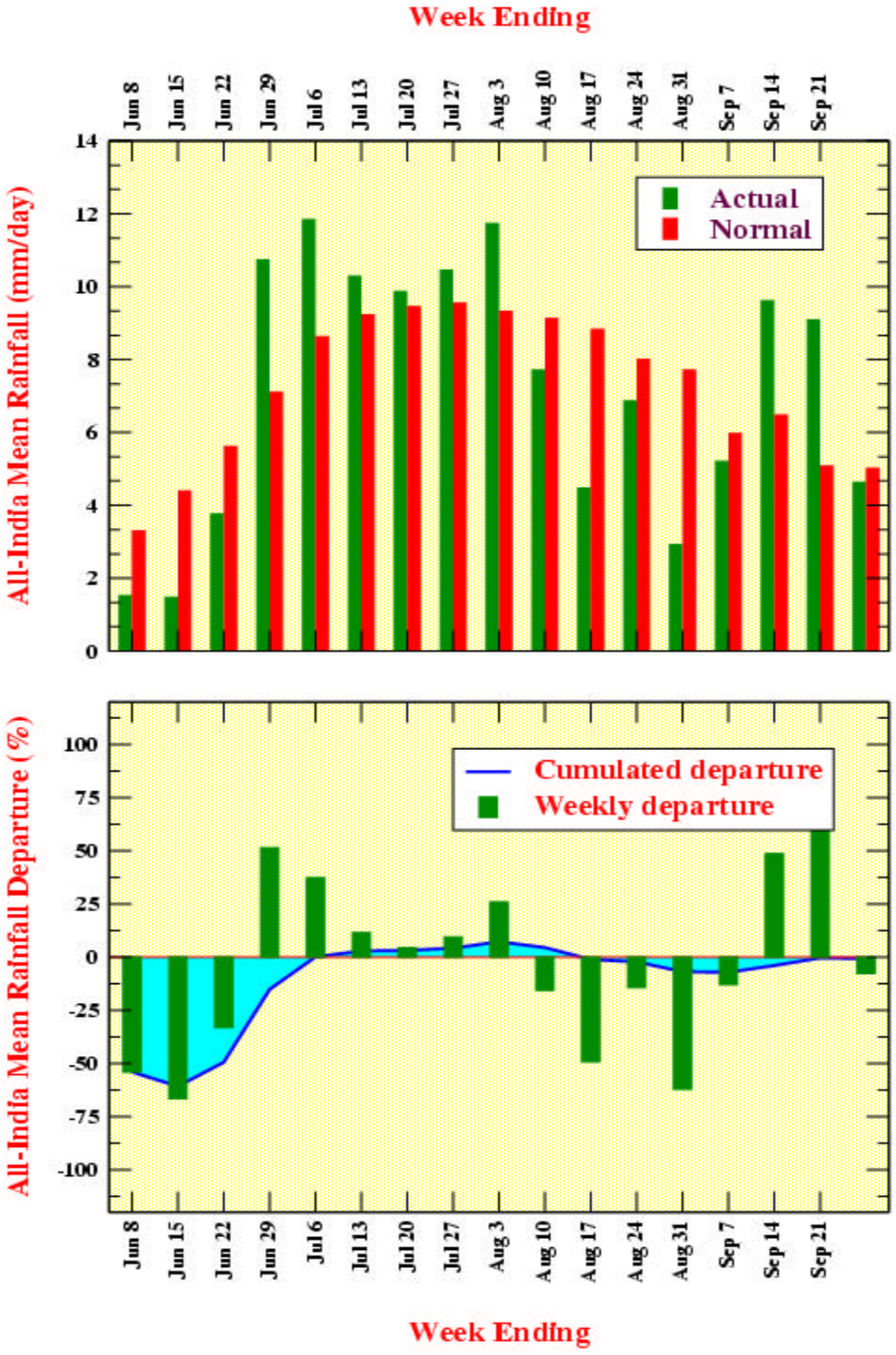

भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग
INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT
RAINFALL(mm)
FOR THE PERIOD
01.06.2005 TO 28.09.2005
PAKISTAN
CHINA
TIBET
NEPAL
BHUTAN
ARABIAN SEA
BAY OF BENGAL
INDIAN OCEAN
SRI LANKA
450(-12) JAMMU & KASHMIR 512
711(-8) H.P. 770
466(-7) PUNJAB 499
1293(6) UTTARANCHAL 1218
HAR. CHD DLH 475(2) 468
693(-10) WEST U.P. 768
218(-17) WEST RAJASTHAN 262
584(-6) EAST RAJASTHAN 622
747(-18) EAST U.P. 906
1805(-7) 1937
1601(-12) 1819
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
SHWB
ASSAM & MEGHALAYA 1413(-24) 1869
817(-21) BIHAR 1035
700(-36) JHARKHAND 1093
GANGETIC W.B. 961(-14) 1118
NMMT
899(-27) 1228
SAURASHTRA KUTCH & DIU
GUJARAT REGION DAMAN & DNH 1384(49) 927
637(32) 483
761(-15) WEST M.P. 899
1312(20) EAST M.P. 1093
1079(-10) CHHATTISGARH 1199
1151(0) ORISSA 1148
1049(8) VIDARBHA 971
3477(25) KONKAN & GOA 2781
759(9) MARATHWADA 695
1002(46) MADHYA MAHARASTRA 688
964(27) TELANGANA 758
600(25) N.I. KARNATAKA 479
459(24) RAYALASEEMA 371
619(10) COASTAL A.P. 564
2939(-7) COASTAL KARNATAKA 3152
829(28) S.I. KARNATAKA 649
1007(3) LAKSHADWEEP 976
276(-10) TAMIL NADU & PONDICHERRY 307
2243(6) KERALA 2122
1549(-10) A&N ISLANDS 1722
Categorywise No. of Subdivisions
01.06.2005 TO 28.09.2005
01.06.2005 TO 21.09.2005
01.06.2004 TO 29.09.2004
E 09 09 00
N 23 22 23
D 04 05 13
S 00 00 00
NR 00 00 00
All India Area Weighted Rainfall
Actual 872.8
Normal 884.4
%Departure -1%
LEGEND :
EXCESS (E) + 20% OR MORE
NORMAL (N) +19% TO -19%
DEFICIENT (D) -20% TO -59%
SCANTY (S) -60% TO -99%
NO RAIN (NR) -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.

Figure 2



Source: Monsoon Online by David B. Stephenson, K. Rupa Kumar, E. Black and J.V. Revadekar. (www.tropmet.res.in/~kolli/MOL/index.html)