

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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India

Post: New Delhi

IMD Issues Second Long-Range Monsoon Forecast for 2014

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Climate Change/Global Warming/Food Security

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Report Highlights:

Indian Meteorological Department predicts that the seasonal rainfall will now be 93 percent of normal compared to the previous forecast of 95 percent of the Long Period Average of 89 cm. July rains will be 93 percent of LPA while August rains are forecast at 96 percent of LPA.

General Information:

On June 9, 2014, the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a second [long-range forecast](#) update for 2014 Southwest monsoon rainfall. IMD predicts that the seasonal rainfall will now be 93 percent of normal with model error of ± 4 percent compared to the previous forecast of 95 percent of the Long Period Average with model error of ± 5 percent. IMD further predicts that there is now 70 percent probability of El Niño (in previous forecast the probability was 60 percent). However, with no indication of a positive Indian Ocean dipole, prospects of El Niño may weaken.

According to IMD, July rains will be 93 percent of LPA while August rains are forecast at 96 percent of LPA. The LPA is the aggregate of seasonal rainfall from 1950 to 2000, estimated at 89 cm. Further, according to the IMD model, there is 26 percent probability that rains could be normal (i.e., 96-104 percent of LPA) while the probabilities of excess (above 110 percent of LPA) or deficit rainfall (below 90 percent of LPA) this season are zero percent and 33 percent, respectively.

Northwestern India is set to receive 85 percent of normal rains, central India will receive 94 percent of normal while southern peninsula and northeastern India are forecast to receive 93 percent and 99 percent of rainfall, respectively, with a model error of ± 8 percent. For more information on IMD's first long range forecast, please refer GAIN report [IN4030](#) or visit home page of Indian Meteorological Department at www.imd.gov.in.