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Date: 11/15/2013

GAIN Report Number: IN3131

India

Post: New Delhi

Monsoon 2013 Wrap up Report

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Climate Change/Global Warming/Food Security

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Report Highlights:

Despite deficit September rains, seasonal rainfall averages during the 2013 monsoon (June-Sept) were six percent over India's long period average (LPA) of 89 cm. 2013 *kharif* planted area grew by 5.4 percent to 104.0 million hectares. Oilseed & cotton yields should achieve record levels. Food grains are estimated at 129.3 million metric tons (MMT), a marginal increase over 2012. Weather conditions appear favorable for upcoming planting of rapeseed, mustard, wheat, corn, safflower & sunflower.

General Information:

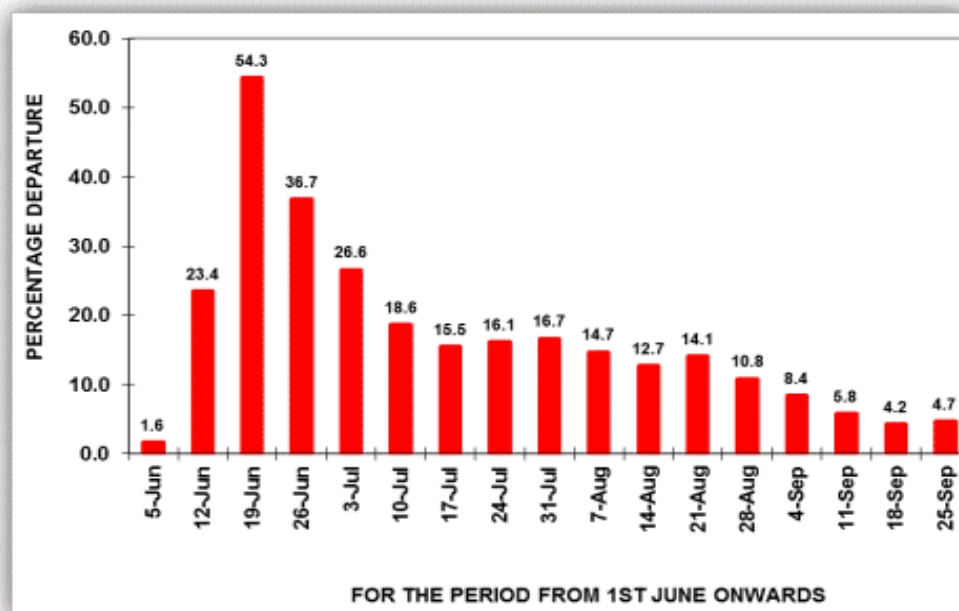
According to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), precipitation levels during the 2013 southwest monsoon (June-September) were six percent above the LPA of 89cm. The 2013 southwest monsoon began in southern Kerala on June 1 and covered all of India by June 16, which is a month earlier than the seasonal average (Figure 3) for national coverage. Most regions received normal and/or above normal levels of rainfall throughout the June-September period (Table 1). However, some areas of northeastern and eastern India experienced a 28 percent rainfall deficit below the LPA.

Table1. India: Rainfall: Geographical and Month-wise Distribution, unit in millimeter

Geographic Regions	Actual Rainfall	Normal Rainfall (LPA)	Percent Departure
All India	936.7	886.9	106.0
Northwest India	671.8	615.0	109.0
Central India	1195.3	974.2	123.0
South Peninsula	825.6	715.7	115.0
East & Northeast India	1037.9	1437.8	72.0
Monthly Rainfall			
June	216.3	163.5	132.0
July	307.5	288.9	106.0
August	257.0	261.0	98.0
September	149.5	173.5	86.0

Source: [Indian Meteorological Department, GOI](#)

Figure 1. India: 2013 Monsoon Rainfall Timeline (Based on LPA)



Source: IMD, GOI

Precipitation levels throughout September averaged 4.7 percent above LPA, a notable decrease from the

August average of 14.0 percent over LPA. Despite September's decline, the overall cumulative rainfall for 2013's southwest monsoon remained above average throughout the 2013 season (Figure 1). Cumulative average levels of precipitation were reported normal and/or above normal in 30 meteorological sub-divisions. Six sub-divisions, to include districts of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya, Nagaland-Manipur-Mizoram-Tripura, Jharkhand and Bihar, experienced varying levels of drought conditions which may result in limited lost acreage in those regions (Figure 2).

Conversely, heavy rains during the latter end of monsoon caused significant damage in Gujarat and in southern Rajasthan. Flooding also occurred in scattered areas of central, eastern and southern India. Although crop damage, particularly for rice, has been reported in flood affected areas, official assessments of crop loss were not available as of the date of publication. Post will provide an additional update once that information becomes available.

According to IMD, the monsoon withdrew from western Rajasthan on September 9, which is roughly a week later than it typically withdraws from that region. The withdrawal of the monsoon was further stalled during the third week of September due to the successive formations of two low-pressure systems over the central regions of India. (Figure 4) Typically, the monsoon withdraws entirely from central and northern India by 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. Prevailing weather conditions are currently favorable for commencement of northeast monsoon rains in the southern Indian states.^[1]

^[1] For background note on seasonal outlook for northeast monsoon, please refer the following link from IMD: http://imd.gov.in/section/nhac/dynamic/background_ne2013.pdf

Higher *Kharif* Crop Planting to Boost Foodgrains and Cash Crop Production

Timely monsoon rainfall and favorable weather conditions increased planted area for the 2013 *kharif* (July-June) crop to 104.0 million hectares, a 4.4 percent increase over the previous year. However, planted area for food grains during the 2013 *kharif* season was marginally lower over longer term averages, as farmers shifted acreage toward cash and plantation crops instead of food grains due to more favorable market conditions. On September 24, the GOI issued its [First Advance Estimate 2013/14](#) which forecasts 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 (Table 2).

Prolonged heavy rains and flooding reportedly caused damage to standing rice, oilseed, coarse grain, and pulse crops in eastern Madhya Pradesh, areas of Gujarat and other scattered areas within central India. Eastern and northeastern India could also see marginally reduce the rice yields due to drought conditions in those regions. Additionally, wet conditions due to recent heavy rains in central, western and eastern India could delay the harvest of standing crops such as soybean, millet and paddy.

In most growing areas, the prolonged monsoon rains have provided adequate soil moisture which will assist growers during planting of *rabi* (winter planted/spring harvested) crops. *Rabi* planting conditions thus far are favorable for rapeseed, mustard, wheat, corn, safflower and sunflower crops. Additionally, high water levels in major Indian reservoirs will assist in *rabi* planting. The current average for 2013

water levels across 85 major reservoirs is 16 percent higher than 2012 and 18 percent over the most recent 10 year average.

Table2. India: Kharif Crop Planting and Production Estimates for 2013, Area in Million Hectares and Production in Million Metric Tons

Crop Name	Normal Area	Area ¹ in 2013	Area in 2012	1 st Advance ² Estimate 2013/14	4 th Advance Estimate 2012/13
Rice	39.21	37.99	37.29	92.32	92.76
Corn	07.22	08.22	07.48	17.78	16.04
Coarse Cereals	21.31	19.59	17.77	30.99	29.54
Total Cereals	60.53	57.58	55.06	123.31	122.30
Total Pulses	11.07	10.67	10.16	06.01	05.91
Total Foodgrains	71.61	68.25	65.22	129.32	128.20
Soybean	09.56	12.20	10.68	15.68	14.67
Peanut	04.90	04.32	03.88	05.56	03.10
Total Oilseeds ³	18.22	19.49	17.71	23.96	20.86
Cotton	10.47	11.46	11.72	35.30	34.00
Sugarcane	04.71	04.87	05.00	341.77	338.96
Total	105.01	104.07	99.65	530.55	522.02

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, GOI

¹: [Weather Watch Report, Ministry of Agriculture](#)

²: [First Advance Estimate 2013/14](#) for crop season (July-June)

³: Includes minor oilseeds such as Niger, Sesamum and Safflower

Figure 2. India: Cumulative Rainfall during Monsoon Season 2013

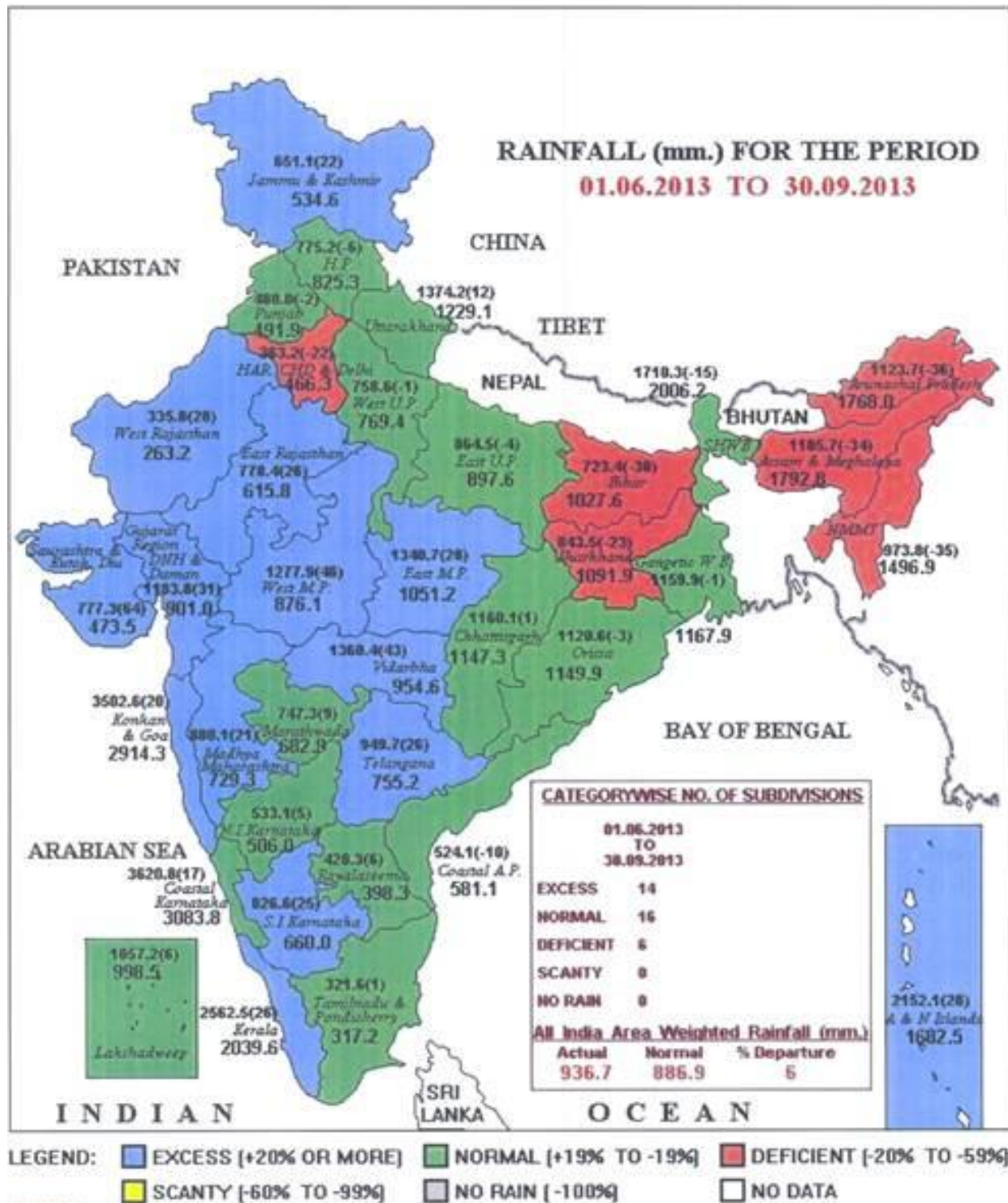
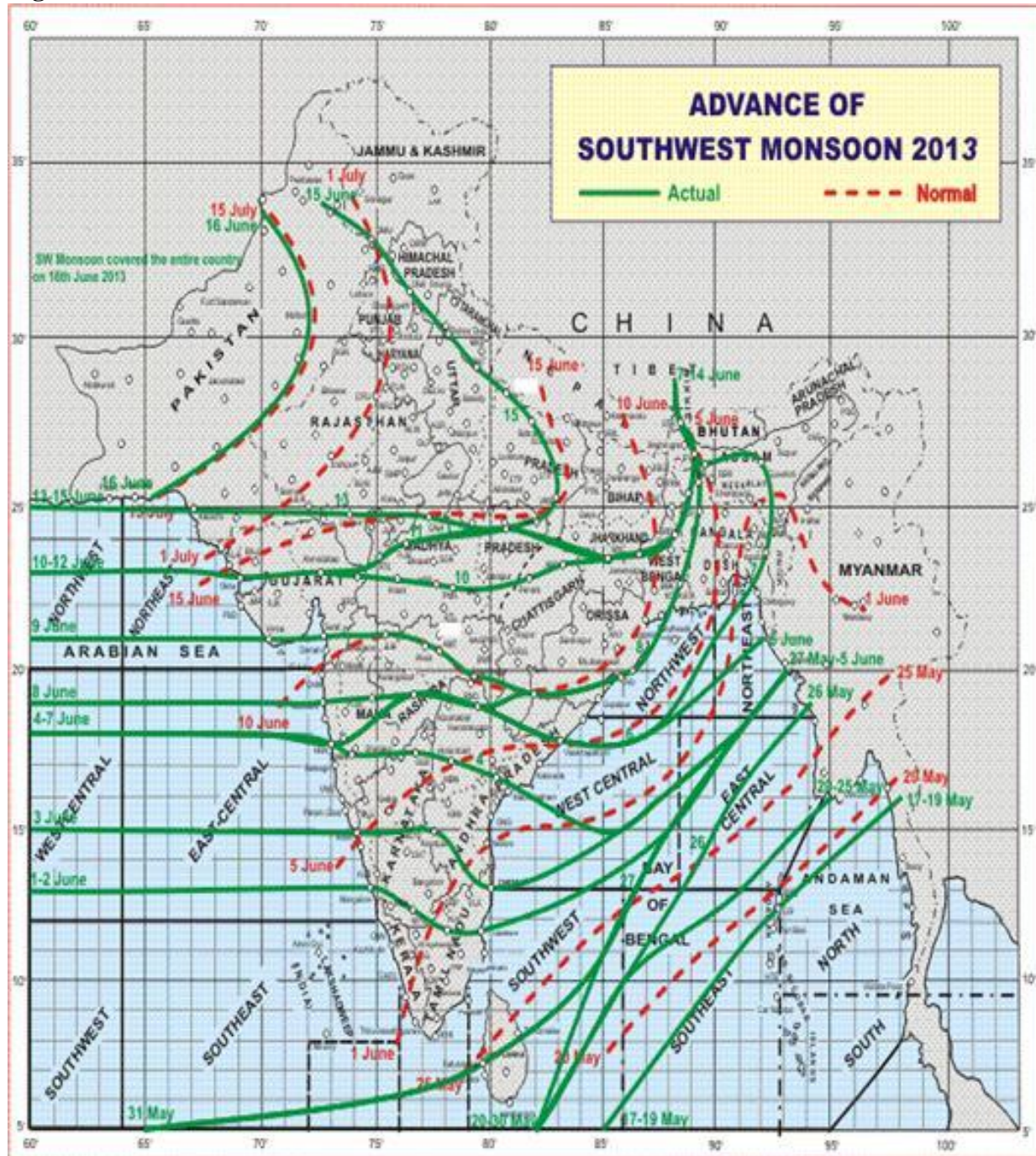


Figure 3. India: Advance of Southwest Monsoon 2013



Source: IMD, GOI

**WITHDRAWAL OF
SOUTHWEST MONSOON 2013**

— Actual - - - Normal

Regions shown: JAMMU & KASHMIR, HIMACHAL PRADESH, PUNJAB, RAJASTHAN, GUJARAT, MADHYA PRADESH, UTTAR PRADESH, BIHAR, WEST BENGAL, ASSAM, ARUNACHAL PRADESH, MIZORAM, MANIPUR, TRIPURA, NAGALAND, MIZORAM, MYANMAR, CHINA, TIBET, BHUTAN, NEPAL, BANGLADESH, ANDAMAN NIOB, SOUTH.

Monsoon Withdrawal Dates (Actual):

- 1 SEPT. (Northwest)
- 9-18 SEPT. (Rajasthan)
- 15 SEPT. (Gujarat)
- 19 SEPT. - 10 OCT. (West Central)
- 17-18 OCT. (Northwest)
- 19-20 OCT. (West Central)
- 1 OCT. (East Central)
- 15 OCT. (Southwest)
- 1 NOV. (Southwest)
- 15 NOV. (Southwest)
- 1 DEC. (Southwest)
- 15 DEC. (Southwest)
- 1 JAN. (Southwest)

Monsoon Withdrawal Dates (Normal):

- 1 SEPT. (Northwest)
- 15 SEPT. (Gujarat)
- 19 SEPT. - 10 OCT. (West Central)
- 17-18 OCT. (Northwest)
- 19-20 OCT. (West Central)
- 1 OCT. (East Central)
- 15 OCT. (Southwest)
- 1 NOV. (Southwest)
- 15 NOV. (Southwest)
- 1 DEC. (Southwest)
- 15 DEC. (Southwest)
- 1 JAN. (Southwest)

Withdrawn from the entire country on 21-Oct-2013 1 DEC-15 DEC-1 JAN.

Source: IMD, GOI