

All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology (AICRPAM)

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Weather conditions and agromet advisories issued during April 2016

1. General weather conditions prevailed

Because of deficit rainfall, major areas of the country were under dry condition (Central and Northwest India: 0-10% deficit; Tamilnadu, Eastern India and Himachal Pradesh: 10-25% deficit; Kerala and Leh-Ladakh region of Jammu: more than 50% deficit), whereas Northeast India received excess rainfall during April due to frequent thunderstorms (Fig. 1).

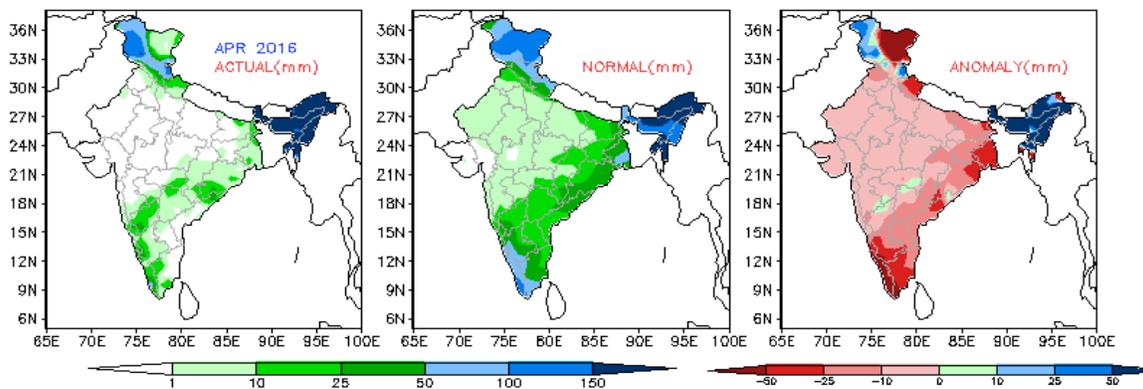


Fig. 1: Rainfall distribution across the country during April 2016 (Source: IMD)

Anomaly of monthly maximum temperature during April was highest (+4 °C) in Jharkhand and parts of Himachal Pradesh (Fig. 2). All states of the country, except parts of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Assam, experienced a positive maximum temperature anomaly of 0 to 3 °C.

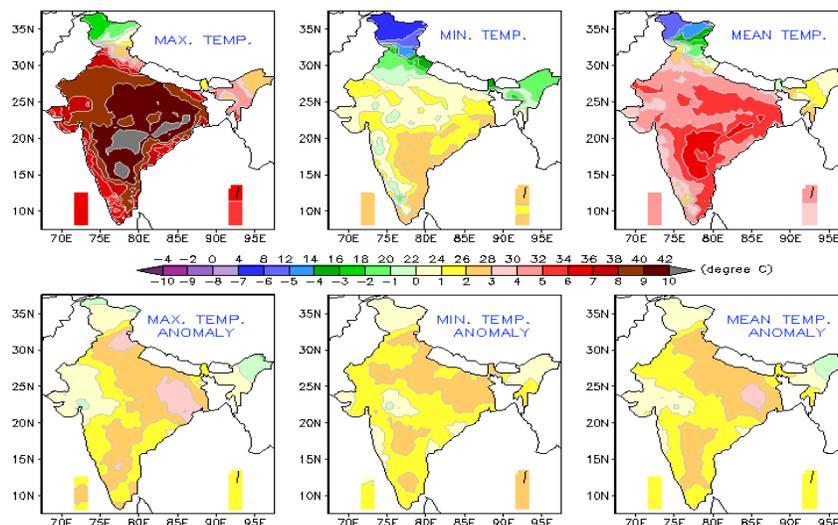


Fig. 2: Temperature distribution and anomaly across the country during April 2016 (Source: IMD)

2. Aberrant weather conditions observed

2.1 Heat wave conditions prevailed over different parts of the country throughout April and the week-wise details during April are given below.

- First week: East Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Delhi NCR, Himachal Pradesh, northeast Rajasthan and East Madhya Pradesh experienced heat wave conditions on one or two days of the week.
- Second week: Severe heat wave at isolated places over Gangetic West Bengal and Coastal Odisha on 12th & 13th April and heat wave conditions at a few places over Bihar and Jharkhand on 12th April.
- Third week: Severe heat wave conditions prevailed at isolated places over Jharkhand on many days and over Gangetic West Bengal, Odisha, Punjab & Himachal Pradesh on one or two days of the week.
- Fourth week: Heat wave to severe heat wave conditions prevailed at isolated place over Gangetic West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand & Bihar on almost all the days and over Telangana on many days during the week.

2.2 Thunderstorms were reported at isolated places over northeastern states (Assam & Meghalaya, in particular) throughout the month. Monthly cumulative rainfall more than 150 mm was reported by IMD in northeast region (Fig. 1).

3. Agromet advisories issued by ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology (AICRPAM) centers during April 2016

Standard Meteorological week	AICRPAM Center	Agromet Advisory issued
14 SMW (2-8 April)	Bijapur center, Karnataka	Dry and hot weather forecasted in the district during the coming five days. To manage heat stress in livestock, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Leave the buffaloes in ponds during afternoon hours ▪ Sprinkle cold water 2-3 times a day on the body of the animal ▪ Apply 4-6 inch thick hay thatch as a roofing material of animal shed ▪ Ensure proper ventilation for free circulation of air in the sheds
	BCKV, Mohanpur, West Bengal	As there is forecast of high temperature and humidity, there is a possibility of incidence of fruit rot and powdery mildew in summer vegetables. Fruit rot- apply blitox (4 gram) or carbendazim (1g per litre); Powdery mildew- hexaconazole @ 1 ml per litre
	OUAT, Bhubaneswar	As heat wave condition is forecasted, apply light and frequent irrigation to summer green gram, vegetables and sugarcane to cope up with excess evaporative demand

		due to heat wave
15 SMW (9-15 April)	Kovilpatti, Tamilnadu	Heat wave is forecasted over Tamilnadu during 15-16 April. Advisories for Poultry are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use foggers/fans and sprinklers to reduce temperature and to increase air flow ▪ Provide feed during early morning or late evening ▪ Add electrolytes and vitamin-C in drinking water.
16 SMW (16-22 April)	PDKV, Akola, Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rain/thunderstorms is forecasted at isolated places over plains of central India. Threshing of harvested produce be undertaken immediately to protect the produce from possibility of rain/thundershowers during the prevailing conditions. ▪ Use of hail nets/hail caps to protect orange and sweet lime orchards from mechanical damage and also covering banana bunch with skirting bags was advised
17 SMW (23-29 April)	SKUAST, Jammu & Kashmir	Wheat: since rainfall/thunderstorm is forecasted after May 10, farmers are advised to thresh the harvested wheat crop within 2-3 days
	BAU, Ranchi, Jharkhand	As heat wave warning has been issued by IMD, irrigate the field of different vegetables, crops and fruit trees at a regular interval