

All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology (AICRPAM)
 ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture
 Santoshnagar, Hyderabad – 500059

Weather Conditions and Agromet Advisories Issued during December 2017

1. General Weather Conditions

During 1 October- 27 December 2017, the country as a whole has received 112.5 mm rainfall, which is 10% deficit compared to the normal rainfall for the same period (124.9 mm). Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, rainfall was large excess in 1 sub-division; excess in 5 sub-divisions; normal in 13 sub-divisions; deficient in 8 sub-divisions and large deficient in 9 sub-divisions. The rainfall received during 1 October - 27 December, is depicted in Fig. 1.

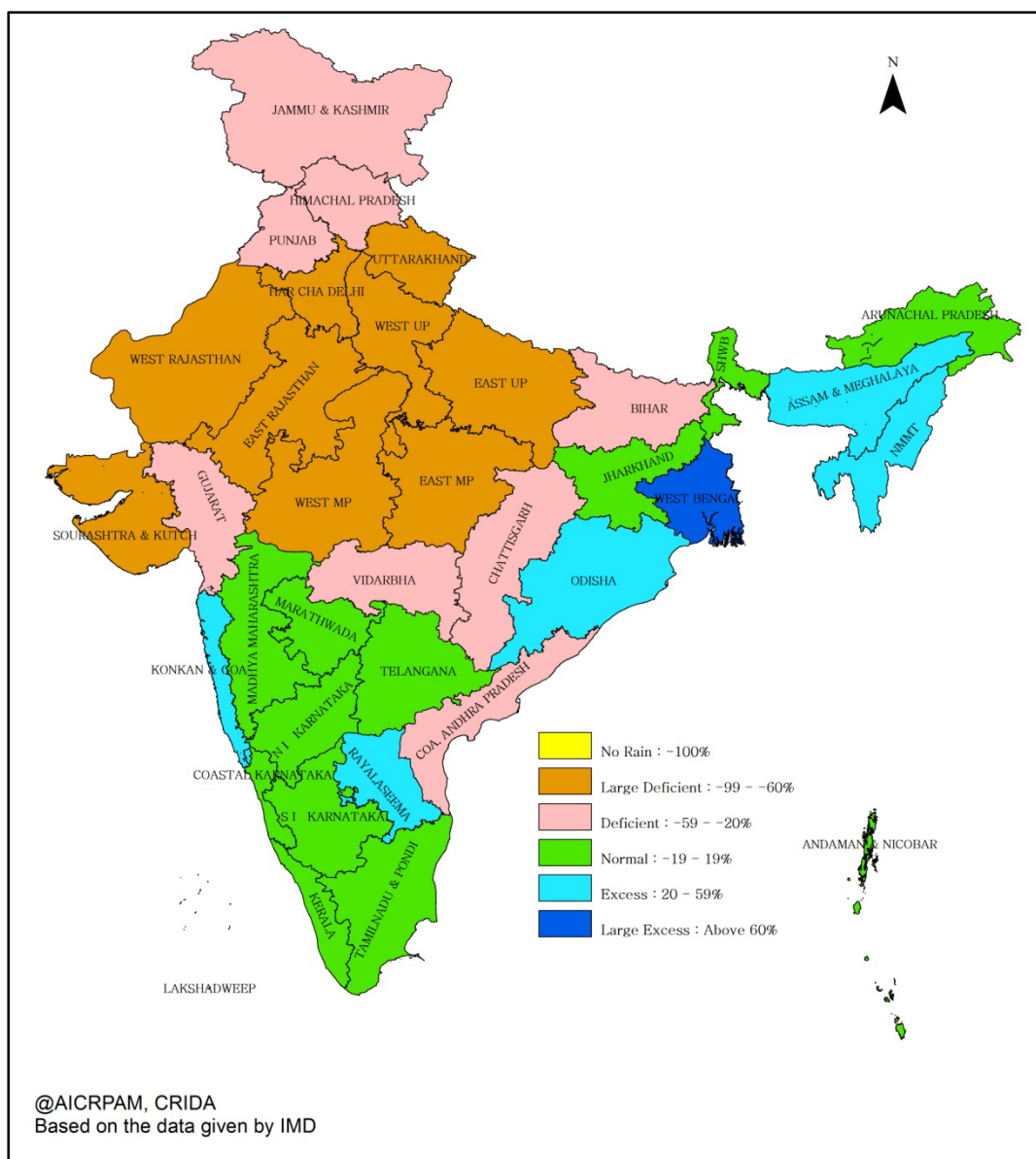


Fig. 1: Meteorological sub-division-wise rainfall received during 1 October – 27 December, 2017

2. Progress in *rabi* sowing (Source: Department of Agriculture cooperation and Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India)

The total sown area of major crops as on 29th December, 2017 (as per reports received from states), stands at 565.79 lakh hectare as compared to 571.47 lakh hectare, as on this date last year (Table 1).

Table 1 Progress in *rabi* sowing in India as on 29th December, 2017 (Area in Lakh hectare)

Crops	Area Sown		% Difference Over
	2017-18	2016-17	2016-17
Wheat	273.85	290.74	-6
Rice	16.33	11.55	41
Total Pulses	150.63	138.34	9
Gram	101.88	89.26	14
Lentil	16.83	16.11	4
Fieldpea	9.39	9.65	-3
Kulthi	4.01	3.44	17
Urdbean	6.47	6.73	-4
Moongbean	2.97	3.63	-18
Lathyrus	3.75	4.05	-7
Other Pulses	5.34	5.48	-3
Total Coarse cereals	50.71	51.28	-1
Jowar	29.2	30.56	-4
Bajra	0.2	0.16	25
Ragi	0.62	0.24	158
Maize	13.57	13.15	3
Barley	7.12	7.18	-1
Total Oilseeds	74.27	79.56	-7
Rapeseed & Mustard	63.58	68.94	-8
Groundnut	4.33	4.04	7
Safflower	0.72	0.97	-26
Sunflower	1.39	1.31	6
Sesamum	0.32	0.39	-18
Linseed	3.63	3.44	6
Other Oil seeds	0.3	0.48	-38
Total Rabi Crops	565.79	571.47	-1

3. Agromet Advisories issued by centers of ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology (AICRPAM) during December 2017

Date of issue	AICRPAM centre	Agromet Advisory issued
01-12-2017	Kovilpatti, Tamilnadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above normal rainfall is forecasted, farmers are advised not to irrigate fields and drain out the excess water from <i>rabi</i> sown paddy field. Expecting high wind velocity ranging from 45 - 65 km/hr in the next two weeks, farmers are advised to prop up banana fields with bamboo or casuarina poles, which may be provided to protect banana from lodging due to high wind velocity.
	Parbhani, Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ratooning must be avoided in cotton crop. Picking of bolls should be done before end of December. Due to cloudy condition in the last week, pod fly attack in pigeon pea was noticed. Farmers are recommended to spray Monocrotophos @ 13 ml or Diamethoate @ 10 ml per 10 liter of water.
	Udaipur, Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeping in view of the forecast of dry weather conditions during next five days, farmers are advised to irrigate wheat crop which is at CRI stage (21-25 days after sowing) and top dress nitrogen (30 kg N/ha or 65 kg urea/ha).
08-12-2017	Thrissur, Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to continuous rain, there is a chance of sigatoka disease in banana. As a precaution, spray pseudomonas 20g/litre. In case of severe attack, spray 1 gm of Bavistin per litre of water on lower surface of leaf (by mixing with gum). There is a chance for the attack of thrips and mites in vegetables. Apply 2% neem oil+garlic emulsion under the leaf surface at 10 days intervals. If the attack is severe apply spiromecifen 8 ml/10 L of water.
	Bangalore, Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As excess rainfall is forecasted, farmers are advised to postpone the sun drying and winnowing of kharif crops like Ragi, Maize and Groundnut in next couple of days. Postpone the spraying operation in horticultural crops due to forecast of moderate rainfall and high wind speed.
	Samastipur, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As excess rainfall is forecasted, farmers are advised to complete the sowing of late <i>rabi</i> sown mustard and recommended varieties viz.. Rajendra rai picheti (RAURD-9403), Rajendra anukul (RAURD-1002) and Rajendra suflam (RAURDL 02-01), which are suitable for late sowing in this region. Farmers are advised not to give irrigation in early sown wheat crop which reaches Crown Root Initiation (CRI) stage (21-25 days after sowing) as the excess rainfall is forecasted. Application of 30 kg nitrogen per hectare is advised 2-3 days after the rainfall
15-12-2017	Vijayapura, Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As below normal rainfall is forecasted in coming weeks, farmers are recommended to take agronomical measures like hand weeding and repeated intercultivation and earth up the rows and keep the crops free from weeds to conserve the in-situ soil moisture. Farmers are also advised to provide supplemental irrigation in <i>rabi</i> crops, wherever possible.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present cloudy weather is congenial for aphid incidence in <i>rabi</i>

	Solapur, Maharashtra	<p>sorghum, safflower and vegetable crops. Farmers are advised to spray dimethoate 30 EC @ 10 ml in 10 lit of water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To control pod borer in pulses, spray 5% NSKE and also erect T-shaped bird perches @ 50/ha which will help in controlling pest population. • Present weather condition is congenial for incidence of thrips in chili. Spray diamethoate 30% concentrate @ 15 ml or lambda psyhalothrine 5% concentrate @ 6 ml per 10 lit. of water as a precautionary measure.
22-12-2017	Bhubaneswar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weather is favourable for sowing of Coriander during week-2. Farmers are advised to go for high yielding varieties like CO-1, CO-2, CO-3, Swati, Sadhana, Ram Selction and Udi. Recommended seed rate is 6 kg of seeds/acre. Treat the seeds with 1.5 g Carbendazim or 3 g Thiram/kg of seeds. Soak the seeds overnight for 10 to 12 hours for better germination.
	Jammu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers are advised to go for sowing of late sown wheat cv. WH-1021, PBW-590, PBW-373, Raj-3077, Raj-3765, and DBW-16 in irrigated areas. • Weather is congenial for the incidence of mustard saw-fly. So, farmers are advised to apply Cypermethrin 10EC @ 1ml/lt or Chlorpyrifos 3EC @ 2ml/lt to control the disease during week-1. • In vegetable crops (Radish/ Broccoli / Cauliflower/ Knolkhol), weather is congenial for the incidence of downy mildew. So, farmers are advised to apply Mancozeb @ 0.25% at 0-15 days interval. Apply 2% Methyl parathion dust @ 250 gm/basins or alternatively sticky grease band, 15-20 cm wide, 0.5 m above ground level to check mealy bugs.
29-12-2017	Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As below normal rainfall is forecasted, late sowing of early maturing wheat varieties like MP 3366, Lok-1, and HD 2864 varieties are recommended only under irrigated areas.
	Udaipur, Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Severe cold wave conditions prevail over many parts of the state. In frost sensitive crops, farmers are advised to apply irrigation or produce smoke in the fields for the protection against frost. • To control mustard aphid, farmers are recommended to take up dusting of Methyl Parathion 2% or Carbaryl 5% dust @ 20 to 25 kg/ha or spray Chlorpyrifos 20 EC @ 600 ml/ha.