

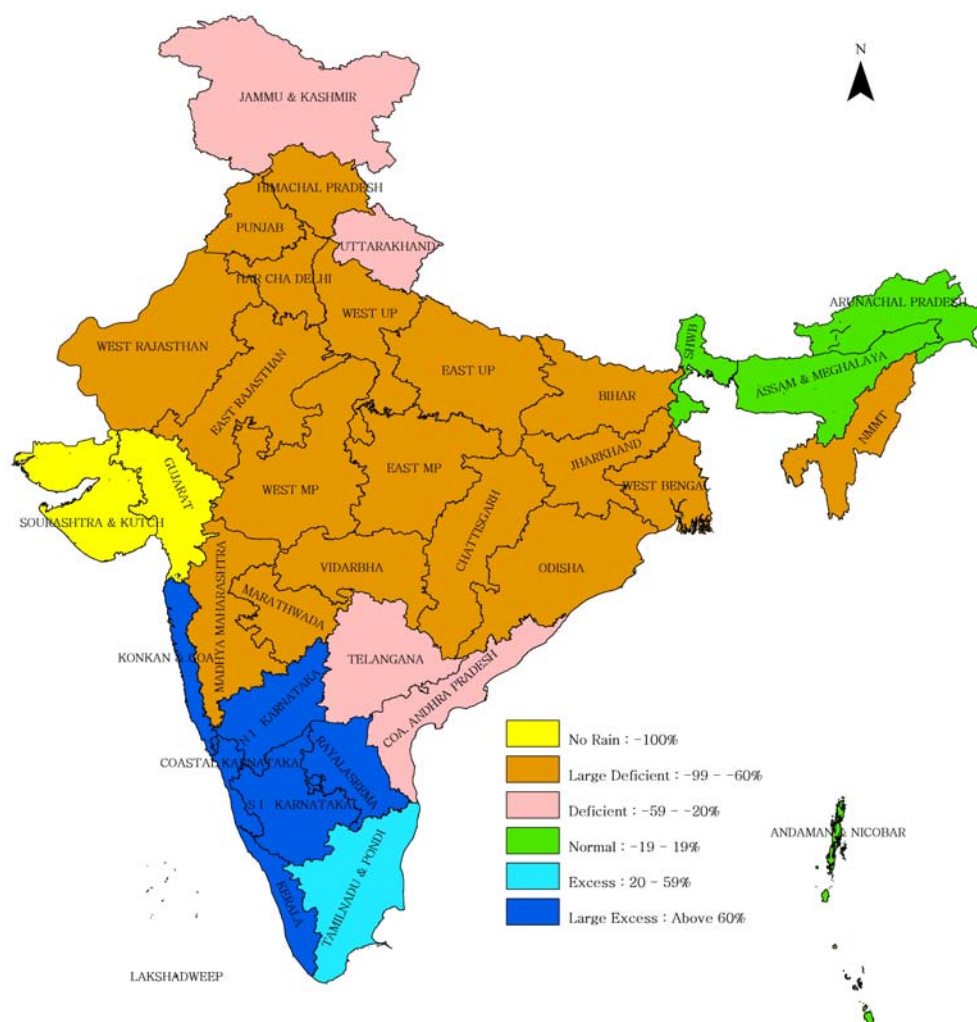
**All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology (AICRPAM)**

ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture  
Santoshnagar, Hyderabad – 500059

**Weather Conditions and Agromet Advisories Issued during March 2018**

**1. General Weather Conditions**

During 1 - 28 March 2018, the country as a whole has received 15.1 mm rainfall, which is 46% deficit, compared to the normal rainfall for the same period (27.9 mm). Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, rainfall was large excess in 7 meteorological sub-divisions; excess in one subdivision; normal in 4; deficient in 4 and largely deficient in 18 subdivisions. The remaining 2 meteorological subdivisions of Gujarat state did not receive rain. The rainfall received during 1 - 28 March 2018 is depicted in Fig. 1.



@AICRPAM, CRIDA  
Based on the data given by IMD

Fig. 1: Meteorological sub-divisional-wise rainfall received during 1 - 28 March 2018

**2. Agromet advisories issued by ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology (AICRPAM) centers during March 2018**

Date of issue	AICRPAM centre	Agromet Advisory issued
02-03-2018	Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In view of the forecast of congenial weather conditions for leaf folder infestation in paddy can be controlled using trichogramma cards (2CC per one acre). Cut the cards in to small pieces and fix in different areas of the field. If the infestation is severe, spray Quinalphos @ 2ml per one liter of water.</li> <li>• Keep vigilance against rhizome weevil in banana. Mulch the basins to conserve soil moisture. Irrigate once in three days. Against Sigatoka leaf spot disease, spray 1% Bordeaux mixture or Tilt 25 EC (1ml/lit of water) after cutting the severely affected leaves and burning it.</li> </ul>
	Marathwada, Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since no rainfall is forecasted, farmers are advised to irrigate the rabi crops at regular interval.</li> <li>• Due to increase in temperature, infestation of thrips on buds, flowers and small fruits may be observed in pomegranate. To control thrips, spray Fipronil @ 2 ml per liter of water.</li> </ul>
	Samastipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In view of increasing maximum temperature, farmers are advised to monitor thrips infestation in onion. If insect population is above ETL, spraying of Profenofos @ 1ml/L or Imidacloroprid @ 1ml/4 liter of water is advised. Add sticker @ 1ml/L of water for better result. Provide light and frequent irrigation at an interval of 10-12 days based on soil moisture.</li> <li>• Prevailing thermal regime is favourable for sowing of summer maize. Recommended varieties are: <i>Suwan, Deoki, Ganga 11, Shaktiman-1, 2, 3, 4 &amp; 5</i>. Seed rate@ 20 kg per hectare should be used. Farmers are advised to treat seeds with Thiram and <i>Captaf</i>@2.5gm per kilogram of seeds.</li> </ul>
09-03-2018	Kovilpatti, Tamilnadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since prolonged dry spell is prevailing, farmers are advised to apply foliar spray of KCL 1% (10g/lit) in cotton. Forecasted weather condition is favorable for mealy bug incidence in cotton. For an effective management of cotton mealy bug, farmers are advised to spray Dimethoate or Profenophos @ 2 ml/lit of water.</li> <li>• The forecasted weather condition is congenial for bacterial leaf blight incidence in rice. Farmers are advised to spray Copper Hydroxide 77 WP @1.25 kg/ha, if symptoms are visible.</li> </ul>
	Mohanpur, West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As no rainfall is forecasted, farmers are advised to provide irrigation to the <i>Boro</i> rice. Always try to maintain 5 to 7 cm depth of ponding water in the field. For timely sown crop, apply second dose of top dressing at the rate of 25 kg N/ha of land.</li> </ul>
	Jorhat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weather conditions are suitable for the harvest of rapeseed and mustard crops. Farmers are advised to store the harvested rapeseed and mustard seeds in cool, dark cupboards, away from the direct heat or sunlight.</li> <li>• In the view of anticipated weather conditions, Farmers are</li> </ul>

		<p>advised to undertake land preparation for banana cultivation. Select well drained, friable, loamy soil with adequate organic matter for banana cultivation. Healthy sword suckers with corm of high yielding cultivar should be selected. Weight of the planting materials should be around 1.5 kg to 2.0 kg.</p>
16-03-2018	<b>South Interior Karnataka</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to depression over southeast Arabian sea, above normal rainfall is expected in next two weeks and farmers are advised to postpone the drying of rabi crops in next couple of days.</li> </ul>
	<b>Samastipur</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers are advised not to spray any pesticide on the litchi crop at this stage. They are also advised not to give any irrigation.</li> <li>• Farmers are advised to give irrigation in maize and wheat, which are in grain forming/milk stage. Soil moisture stress at this critical stage will negatively impact grain yield.</li> </ul>
	<b>Hisar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to possibility dry weather and increase in temperature, apply need based irrigation in mustard. Harvest the early sown mustard.</li> </ul>
	<b>Ludhiana</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers are advised to monitor wheat and mustard crops for aphid infestation. If the population reaches ETL, spray Actara (Thiamethoxam 25 WG @ 20 g/acre in wheat and 40 g/acre in mustard) using 80-100 litres of water.</li> <li>• Complete harvesting of kinnow mandarin. Remove the dead, dried and diseases shoots from citrus plants and spray the pruned plants with Bordeaux mixture 2:2:250 or Blitox 3.0 g per liter water. Make sure that all the animals are vaccinated against FMD, if still not vaccinate, then get them vaccinated immediately, keep their record and repeat after six months.</li> </ul>
23-03-2018	<b>Rajasthan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers are advised to undertake threshing of mustard and gram crops and keep the produce in open for 1-2 days for sun drying before storage, as no rainfall is forecasted.</li> <li>• Farmers are recommended to harvest late sown wheat, which is at physiological maturity.</li> <li>• Sowing of fodder maize (Variety – African Tall) can be taken up wherever irrigation facility is available.</li> </ul>
	<b>Jharkhand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers are advised to maintain 5-7cm depth of water level in transplanted summer rice and broadcast urea after 25-30 days of transplanting. To control weeds in the field, use cono-weeder after 20-25 days of transplanting.</li> </ul>
	<b>Jammu</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers are advised to monitor the crop for incidence of yellow rust in wheat. If noticed, apply Propiconazole (Tilt) @ 25ml in 25 litres of water.</li> <li>• To control collar and root rot in gram, rogue out the severely infected plants and drench affected areas with Thiram @ 0.2% or carbendazim @ 0.1%.</li> </ul>
	<b>North Interior Karnataka</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply 4-6 inch thick hay thatch as a roofing material in poultry shed. Water can be used for spraying the floor and roof of shelter periodically during peak hot hours which lowers the temperature and consequently reduces the heat load on animals.</li> <li>• Proper ventilation should be maintained for free circulation of</li> </ul>

<b>30-03-2018</b>		air in the sheds.
	<b>Odisha</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The high temperature increases the water requirement of crops. Irrigate the crop and never allow water to remain stagnant for more than six hours in the field. Maize is at silking stage. Irrigate the crop depending upon the soil moisture content and never allow water stagnation for more than 6 hours in the field. Top dress with 8 kg N/acre.</li> <li>• Rabi sunflower is at maturity stage. Harvest the heads by sickle when the calyx of the flowers turns yellow. Dry them in sun. Summer sunflower crop is at pre-flowering stage. Spray 2-3 g Borax per litre water. In late sown crop of 25 day old, go for hoeing and weeding. Apply 3 kg N to improved varieties and 6 kg to hybrids.</li> </ul>
	<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The incidence of blight may occur in potato and tomato. Constant monitoring is advised. If symptoms appears then spray of Carbandizam @ 1.0 gm / litre of water or Dithane-M-45 @ 2.0 gm / litre of water.</li> </ul>