



**National Agromet Advisory Service Bulletin**  
**Based on**  
**Extended Range Weather Forecast (ERFS)**

**Validity for 9<sup>th</sup> March to 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018**

**Date of issue: 9 March 2018**

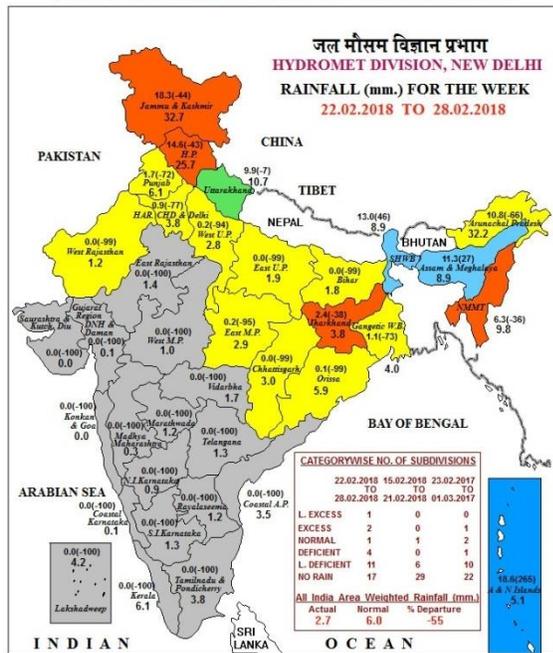
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**&**  
**Earth System Science Organization**  
**India Meteorological Department**

## Realized Rainfall and Extended Range Forecast (Rainfall and Temperatures)

### Realized Rainfall

(22<sup>nd</sup> February to 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018)

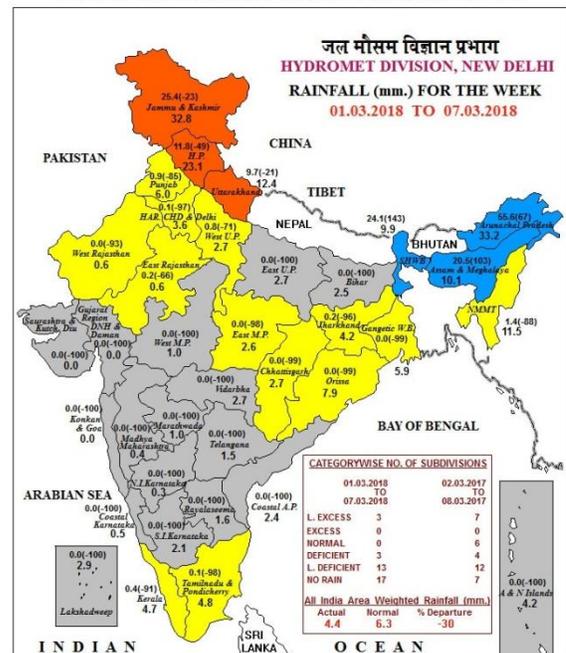
#### भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



**LEGEND:** L. EXCESS (+60% OR MORE) EXCESS (+20% TO +59%) NORMAL (+19% TO -19%)  
L. DEFICIENT (-20% TO -59%) L. DEFICIENT (-60% TO -99%) NO RAIN [-100%] NO DATA

**NOTES:**  
[a] Rainfall figures are based on operational data.  
[b] Small figures indicate actual rainfall (mm.), while bold figures indicate Normal rainfall (mm.)  
Percentage Departures of Rainfall are shown in Brackets.

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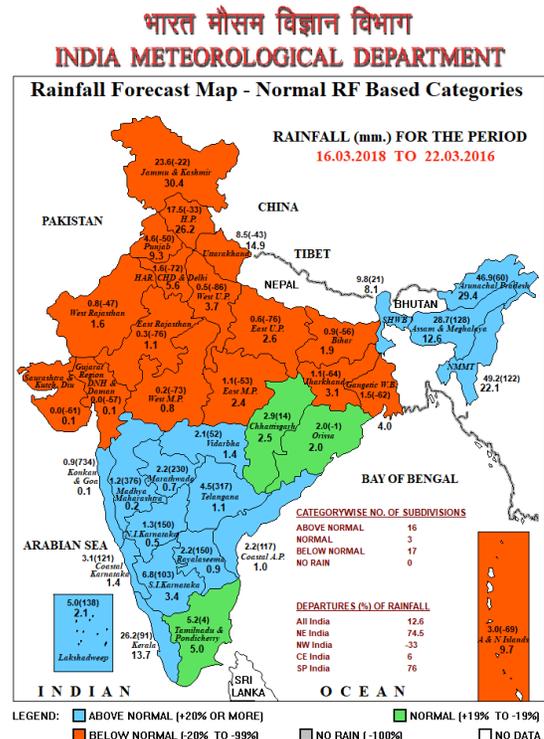
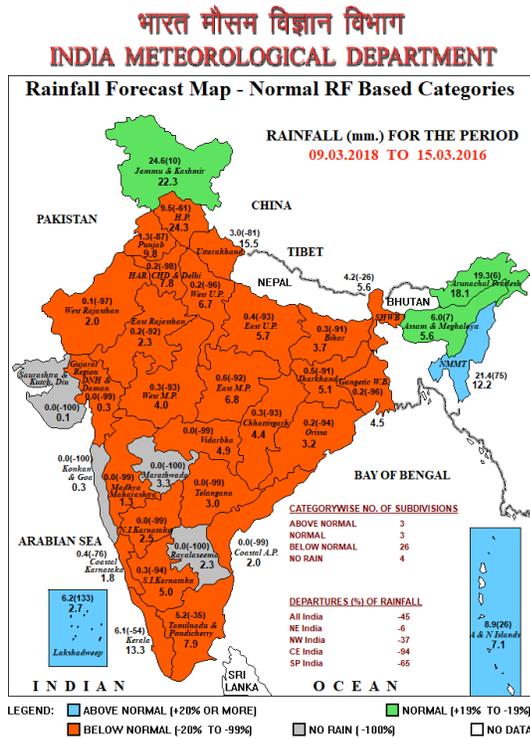
**NOTES:**  
[a] Rainfall figures are based on operational data.  
[b] Small figures indicate actual rainfall (mm.), while bold figures indicate Normal rainfall (mm.)  
Percentage Departures of Rainfall are shown in Brackets.

- Normal or above normal rainfall occurred during last two weeks in Assam & Meghalaya and Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim.
- Normal or above normal rainfall occurred in either of the last two weeks in Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- Below normal rainfall/no rain occurred over rest of the country.

# Extended Range Forecast System

## Rainfall forecast maps for the next 2 weeks (IC – 07 March)

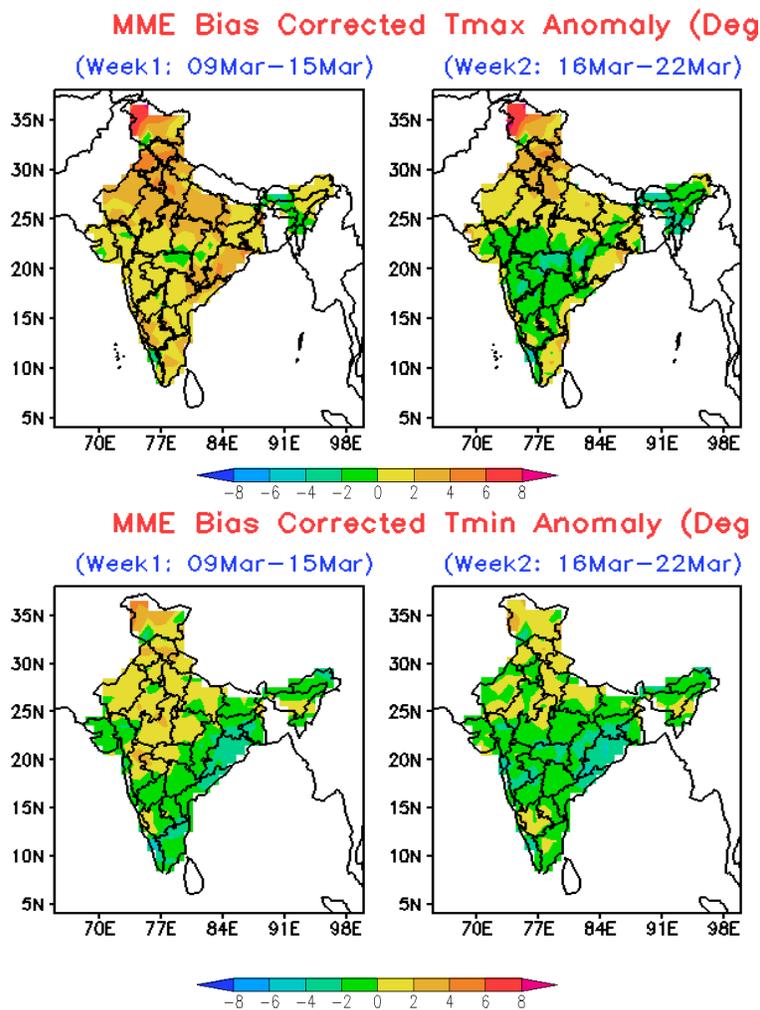
(9<sup>th</sup> March to 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018)



### Extended Range Rainfall Forecast

- **Week 1 (09.03.2018 to 15.03.2018):** Jammu & Kashmir is expected to get rainfall associated with Western Disturbance (WD), along with isolated rainfall activity over North-eastern states and isolated places over the south Peninsula.
- **Week 2 (16.03.2018 to 22.03.2018):** Western Disturbance (WD) associated rainfall is expected to continue during the week with increase of rainfall over North-eastern states.

**Maximum and Minimum temperature anomaly ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) forecast for next 2 weeks (IC – 07 March)  
(9<sup>th</sup> March to 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018)**



**Tmax (Maximum Temperature)**

- **Week 1 (09.03.2018 to 15.03.2018):** As indicated earlier above normal Tmax is likely to continue over most places of India with some places over north India, central India and eastern coastal region is likely to have 4 to 6 degree above normal.
- **Week 2 (16.03.2018 to 22.03.2018):** Above normal Tmax is likely to continue over northern part of India, adjoining central India and parts of eastern coastal region. Whereas, over parts of central India and adjoining peninsula will have below normal Tmax.

**Tmin (Minimum Temperature)**

- **Week 1 (09.03.2018 to 15.03.2018) and Week 2 (16.03.2018 to 22.03.2018):** Except some parts of northwest India and adjoining central India Tmin will be mostly below normal.

## **Strategic Agricultural Planning based on rainfall during next two weeks till**

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018**

### **Agromet Advisories**

#### **Tamil Nadu**

##### **Rainfall Situation**

Rainfall received during the period of 01 to 07 March 2018 over Tamil Nadu is 0.1 mm, which is 98% deficit than normal. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks [9 to 15 March (week-1) and 16 to 22 March (week-2)] is: below normal and normal, respectively.

- As prolonged dry spell condition is prevailing, farmers are advised to undertake foliar spray of KCl @ 1% (10g/lit) in cotton. Anticipated weather condition is favorable for mealy bug incidence in cotton, Farmers are advised to spray dimethoate or profenophos 2 ml/lit during week-1.
- 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.
- High wind speed is expected in coming days. For protecting banana from high wind speed, mount the soil around the base of the tree and give support by using casuarina poles.

#### **Kerala**

##### **Rainfall Situation**

Rainfall received during the period of 01 to 07 March 2018 over Kerala is 0.4 mm, which is 91% deficit than normal. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks is: below normal and above normal, respectively.

- Farmers are advised to monitor rhizome weevil infestation in banana. Mulch the basins to conserve soil moisture. Against Sigatoka leaf spot disease, spray 1% Bordeaux mixture or Tilt 25 EC @ 1ml/litre of water during week-1.
- Weather condition is congenial for thrips incidence in vegetables. Farmers are advised to spray Oberon @ 0.6 ml/litre of water during week-1.
- Due to dry warm weather, mulching is recommended in nutmeg to protect the trees from drought and sun scorching and can also irrigate the plants.

#### **Karnataka**

##### **Rainfall Situation**

No rainfall was received during the period of 01 to 07 March 2018 over different meteorological sub-divisions of Karnataka viz., North Interior Karnataka, South Interior Karnataka and Coastal Karnataka. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks is: below normal (week-1) and above normal (week-2) for all the three sub-divisions.

### **South Interior Karnataka**

- Farmers are advised for providing one or two protective irrigation in Mango and other horticultural crops during week-1 due to prolonged dry spell. Though above normal rainfall is forecasted during week-2, the quantity is very less.
- The grains of the harvested crops should be properly dried to optimum moisture percentage, for examples: Cereals - 11-12 %, Pulses-9%, Oilseeds-8% and Vegetable seeds 5-6% for long storage & also minimize the store pest damage.
- Dropping of fruits in mango orchards was noticed. To manage this provide adequate quantity of irrigation water (go for drip irrigation, wherever possible).

### **North Interior Karnataka**

- Farmers are advised to take up ploughing of land after harvesting the *rabi* crops, which helps in mulching of crop residue and also in conserving rain water received during pre-monsoon showers.
- Farmers are advised to take up plant protection measures in horticultural crops like tomato, brinjal, pomegranate and lime during week-1. Weather is favourable for harvesting, threshing and drying of *rabi* crops during week-1. Harvesting and raisin making of grapes may be continued during week-1.
- Farmers are advised to vaccinate (ET vaccine) sheep and goats against Enterotoxaemia. For milch animals, regularly follow schedule of 1 kg feed + 50 g mineral mixture per 2 litres of milk yield and feed all the animals with both green fodder and dry fodder.

### **Maharashtra**

#### **Rainfall Situation**

No rainfall was received during the period of 01 to 07 March 2018 over different meteorological sub divisions of the state *viz.*, Vidarbha, Marathwada, Madhya Maharashtra and Konkan Goa. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks is: no rainfall over Konkan and Marathwada; below normal over Madhya Maharashtra and Vidarbha during week-1; above normal over all the four subdivisions during week-2.

#### **Vidarbha**

- Farmers are advised to take up the harvest of matured *rabi* crops/fruits/vegetables and ensure safe storage in view of forecasted rainfall during week-2. Ensure safety of farm animals/livestock in a safe covered area during hailstorm.
- With assured irrigation water, sowing of summer greengram is recommended by first fortnight of March. Recommended variety is Pusa Vaishakhi. Seed rate of 12 kg/ha is recommended with 30 cm row spacing. Seed treatment with bio-fungicide Trichoderma @ 5g/kg seed and bio-fertilizers Rhizobium and PSB each @ 25g/kg seed is also recommended.
- With assured irrigation, cultivation of summer vegetables like okra, bitter gourd, tinda, gourds, cowpea, cluster bean, coriander and leafy vegetables fenugreek/spinach is recommended to farmers.

## **Marathwada**

- To fulfill the fodder demand of animals during summer season, sowing of African tall variety of maize should be done as per availability of water. A seed rate of 75 kg /ha is recommended along with seed treatment with 250 gm Azotabactor per 10 kg seed before sowing. Apply 50:50:50 kg NPK fertilizer as a basal dose and 50 kg N as top dressing, one month after sowing.
- Due to increase in temperature, infestation of thrips on buds, flowers and small fruits may occur in pomegranate. To control, farmers are advised to spray Fipronil @ 2 ml per liter of water during week-1.

## **Konkan Goa**

- Due to temperature variation, there is a possibility of fruit drop in mango. Apply irrigation for alphonso mango @ 150 to 200 lit. of water at fortnight interval to reduce fruit drop and increase the size of fruits. Next five days medium wind speed is expected hence, support mango fruits bearing branches to avoid bark damage.
- Farmers are advised to monitor the incidence of hopper, aphids and thrips on vegetable crops viz., brinjal, tomato, cabbage, chilli, knol knol etc. If noticed, spray Malathion @ 20 ml or Dimethoate @ 12 ml per 10 liter of water during week-1.
- Weather is congenial for the incidence of Tea mosquito on new emerging flush of cashew. Spray Lambda Cyhalothrin 5% EC @ 6 ml in 10 lit. of water.
- Farmers are advised to protect the animals/poultry birds from low temperature by providing curtains and electric bulbs as per the need.

## **Chhattisgarh**

### **Rainfall situation**

No rainfall was received over Chhattisgarh during the period of 01 to 07 March. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks is: below normal and normal, respectively.

- Weather is conducive for the infestation of stem borer in summer rice. Farmers are advised to place pheromone traps @ 10 nos. per acre.
- For sowing of summer crops like green gram and groundnut, farmers are advised for using paddy straw mulch between the rows for reducing the rate of evaporation.
- Mango is at flowering/ fruit setting stage. Infestation of mango hopper is commonly observed during this stage. Therefore, farmers are advised to keep the mango orchards clean and smoking should be done during evening time. To control fruit fly, use malathion insecticide with jaggery solution and pots of such solution should be kept hanging in different places in the orchard. This material is also readily available in the market.

## **Odissa**

### **Rainfall situation**

No rainfall was received over Orissa during the period of 01 to 07 March. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks is: below normal and normal, respectively.

- Weather is congenial for infestation of stem borer. For effective management of stem borer, farmers are advised to apply granular insecticide fipronil @ 6kg/a.i. or 2ml fipronil 5% SC/litre during week-1.
- Summer pulse crops are at vegetative stage. Go for intercultural operation and irrigate the crop during week-1.
- Maize is at silking stage and no rainfall is forecasted during week-1. So, farmers are advised to irrigate maize to meet the crop water requirement due to increased temperature and never allow water stagnation for more than 6 hours in the field.

## **Jharkhand**

### **Rainfall situation**

0.2 mm of rainfall received over Jharkhand during the period of 01 to 07 March, which is 96% deficit. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks is: below normal for both weeks.

- Prevailing weather conditions is congenial for rice blast disease. As and when the symptoms appear on leaves, farmers are advised to spray Tricyclazole (Beam) @ 2 gm per litre of water during clear weather.

## **West Bengal**

### **Rainfall Situation**

Rainfall received over SHWB & Sikkim is 24.1 mm rainfall (143% excess) and Gangetic West Bengal has not received rainfall during the period of 01 to 07 March 2018. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks (09 to 15 March and 16 to 22 March) is: below normal during week-1 for both subdivisions; above normal over Sub-Himalayan WB and below normal over Gangetic WB during week-2.

- As there is no forecast of rainfall during week-1, farmers are advised to provide irrigation in the Boro rice. Always try to maintain 5 to 7 cm of stagnant water on the field. For timely sown crop, apply second dose of top dressing at the rate of 25 kg nitrogen per ha of land. In the prevailing weather condition, there may be an infestation of stem-borer. If the infestation is more than 10%, then apply control measures. Do not use insecticide unnecessarily.
- In the prevailing weather condition, *Phalaris minor* weed may be very much dominant in wheat fields. Uproot the weed for burning. Blast disease may also be seen. Collect the infected seeds and burn them.
- Farmers are advised to start sowing the seeds of different summer vegetables such as okra, spinach, various leafy vegetables etc.

## **Rajasthan**

### **Rainfall Situation**

No rainfall was received over west Rajasthan and East Rajasthan has received 0.2 mm rainfall during 1-7 March 2018, which is 66% deficient. The extended range weather forecast provided

for next two weeks is: below normal for both the weeks over both subdivisions.

- Farmers are advised to procure certified seeds for green gram, black gram and start sowing during this week, where the *rabi* crops are harvested. Recommended variety: Green gram: K-851 and SML-668 and Black gram: Pant Urd31, Pant T-9, Pratap urd-1 and Barkha (RBU-38). Seeds should be treated with crop specific Rhizobium culture as well as PSB before sowing.
- Provide irrigation in wheat and opium poppy.
- Temperature is suitable for sowing of fodder maize and recommended variety is African tall.

## **Assam**

### **Rainfall Situation**

Assam has received 20.5 mm of rainfall during the period of 01 to 07 March 2018, which is 103% excess. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks is: normal and above normal.

- Farmers are advised to store harvested rapeseed and mustard in a cool, dark cupboard, away from the direct heat or sunlight.
- Farmers are advised to undertake land preparation for banana cultivation. Select well drained, 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.

## **Haryana**

### **Rainfall Situation**

Only 0.1 mm rainfall was received during the period of 01 to 07 March 2018 over Haryana. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks is: below normal for both weeks.

- Due to possibility of dry weather, farmers are advised to apply light irrigation in Berseem and cut the crop for fodder to feed livestock.
- Farmers are advised to, keep the animals under sheds during night hours for protection from cold. Provide 50 grams iodized salt and 50 to 100 grams mineral mixture daily with animal feed/fodder to keep them healthy.

## **Punjab**

### **Rainfall Situation**

The state has received only 0.9 mm rainfall during 01 to 07 March 2018, which is 85% deficit. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks is: below normal for both weeks.

- Farmers are advised to monitor the field for the appearance of symptoms of yellow rust disease in wheat. If appeared, spray with 200 ml Tilt/Bumper/Shine/Stilt/Compass/Markzole 25 EC in 200 litres of water per acre to check its

spread.

- Monitor wheat and mustard crop for aphid infestation. If the population reaches ETL, spray with recommended insecticides Actara (Thiamethoxam 25 WG @ 20 g/acre in wheat and 40 g/acre in mustard) using 80-100 litres of water.
- Farmers are advised to undertake the de-worming of calves, especially against Ascariasis / Malap. Feed well chaffed berseem, mixed with wheat straw to avoid Tympany (Aphara). Get all the animals vaccinated against foot and mouth disease (FMD).

## **Uttarakhand**

### **Rainfall Situation**

Rainfall received during the period of 01 to 07 March 2018 over Uttarakhand is 9.7 mm, which is 21% deficit. The extended range weather forecast provided for next two weeks is: below normal for both weeks.

- Keeping in view of the present weather conditions and rising maximum temperature, farmers are advised for monitoring of mustard crop against aphid infestation. If symptoms are visible, spray Rogor or Chlorpyrifos @ 1.5ml per litre of water.
- As below normal rainfall is forecasted, farmers are advised to irrigate vegetable crops like Tomato, Capsicum, Brinjal and Chilli.
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