

CRIDA : HYDERABAD

Answer to the provisionally admitted question for the Rajya Sabha - Q. Dy No. U1189

a) Whether a recent study by Morgan Stanley has indicated that the deficiency of rainfall during this monsoon season could cause only a moderate impact on both kharif and rabi seasons ?

Yes. They have reported that the impact of deficit rainfall on GDP may not be very significant.

b) Whether the Morgan Stanley study predicts a seven percent deficiency (In monsoon rainfall) which is considered a national average ?

No. It is not Morgan Stanley's prediction. They referred to India Meteorological Department's Long Range Weather forecast released on 9 June, 2014, which says monsoon rainfall will be 7% below normal this year.

c) Whether FAO of UN has forecast a huge impact of El Nino on India's kharif crops on prolonged continuation of rainfall deficiency ?

In an update dated 17-06-2014, FAO has given a review of possible impact of El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) on Indian agricultural food production in 2014-15. They have reported that "the Northern India has tended to receive below average monsoon rains (June-October). This can have a pronounced impact on kharif season crops (mainly rice), which are planted from May and harvested during last quarter of the year. The crop is largely rainfed (monsoon rains) and low-cumulative seasonal rains increases the probability of growth retardation, negatively impacting on crop yields. In addition, a prolonged period of poor rains may also impact the irrigated crops". *(Source: Global information and early warning system on food and agriculture update, FAO, published on 17-06-2014)*

d) Whether Government is constantly watching the situation to firm up its contingency plan ?