



Government of India
India Meteorological Department

Press Release

Dated: 14th October 2018

Performance Evaluation of Monsoon – 2018 over Maharashtra

The southwest monsoon season (June to September) of 2018 ended with an over-all deficiency of 9% for the country as a whole. This all-India deficiency is mainly attributed to the very large rainfall deficiency observed over Northeast India (24%). However, over northwest India, central India and south Peninsula, realized seasonal rainfall distribution was satisfactory as per the details given below:

Region	Assessment in 2 nd stage LRF (% of Long period average)	Realised rainfall at the end of the season (% of long period average)	Variation In %
North West India (±8 model error)	100%	98%	-2%
Central India (±8 model error)	99%	93%	-6%
South Peninsula (±8 model error)	95%	98%	+3
East and NE India (±8 model error)	93%	76%	-17%
All India (±4 model error)	97%	91%	-6%

The long range forecast for northwest India, central India and south Peninsula was however found to be within the model prediction error ranges. It is to clarify that the operational long range forecast is only issued for India as a whole and for four broad homogeneous areas of the country as presented above. No state level or district level forecasts are issued as part of long range forecast as not sufficient skill exists presently.

Maharashtra, falls under the Central India of our long range forecast assessments, has received seasonal rainfall within the normal range (- 8% of its long period average). Three out of four meteorological subdivisions of Maharashtra received normal rainfall during monsoon 2018 as given below:

Subdivision	Actual (in mm)	Normal (in mm)	Departure	
Konkan - Goa	2883.4	2914.7	-1%	Normal
Madhya Maharashtra	665.4	729.3	-9%	Normal
Marathwada	534.6	682.9	-22%	Deficient
Vidarbha	875.4	954.6	-8%	Normal

As per the IMD's district level rainfall data, out of 35 districts in Maharashtra, 13 districts received below normal rainfall and most of these districts are from Marathwada subdivision. All the other three subdivisions of Maharashtra received normal rainfall as indicated in the long range forecast of IMD.

Recent columns of print media that have attributed IMD colluding with seed and fertilizer companies in Maharashtra is totally false and IMD strongly condemn such reports.