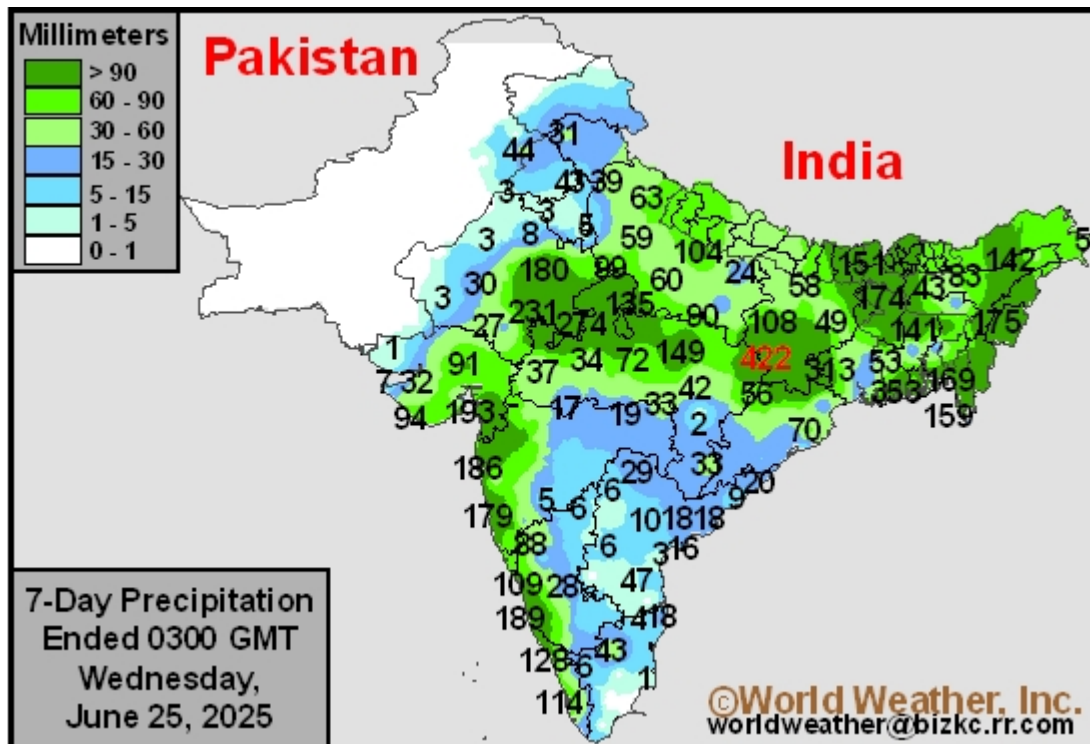


Southern India Drying While Local Flood Potential Rises North

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, June 25 (World Weather Inc.) – India's monsoon is intensifying – at least in some parts of the nation. Frequent rain recently in central and eastern crop areas has bolstered topsoil moisture and additional rain in the central, north and east during the next ten days will saturate the ground leading to some local flooding. In contrast, many areas from interior Maharashtra to Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are not getting much rain and this region will continue to dry out while rain is falling elsewhere. As a result of these changes, some interior west-central and southern India locations will continue to trend too dry for this time of year while the risk of flooding evolves farther to the north.

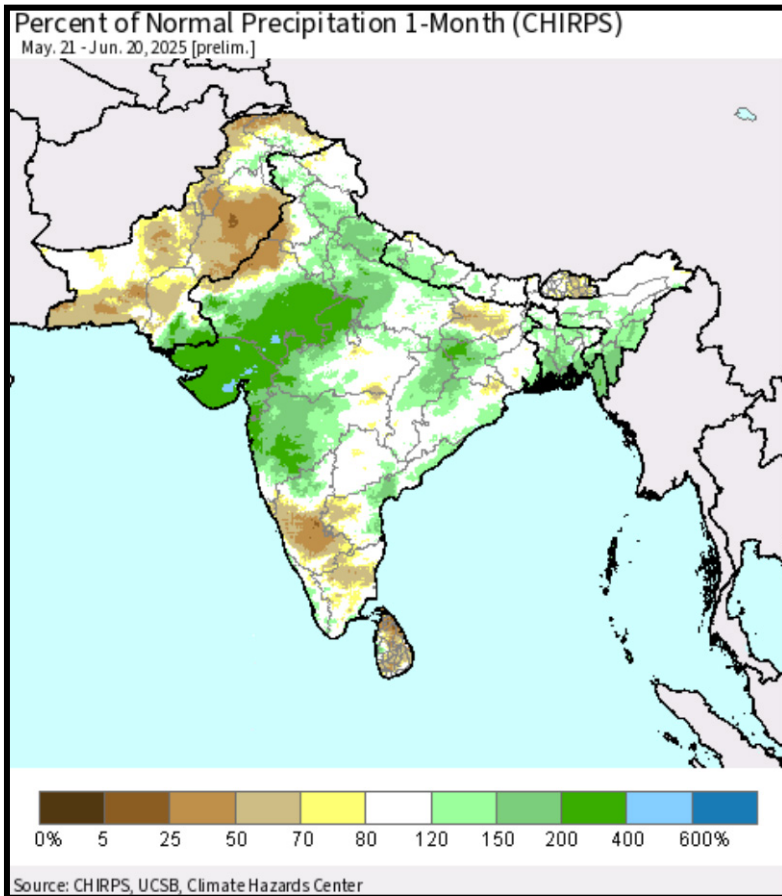
Precipitation varied significantly across the main production areas in India during the past week. The Eastern States, Bangladesh, West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Bihar into Uttar Pradesh, northern and eastern Madhya Pradesh, eastern Rajasthan, Gujarat, coastal sections of Maharashtra and Karnataka, and Kerala received anywhere from 2.00 to 9.65 inches of rain with local amounts up to 18.81 inches in Jharkhand and southern Bangladesh for the seven-day period ending this morning. Odisha, Chhattisgarh, other areas in Madhya Pradesh, other areas in Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and portions of interior Karnataka, western Maharashtra, and northern Tamil Nadu received 0.67 to 2.05 inches of rain. Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and eastern Maharashtra received 0.12 to 0.63 inch of moisture. Little to no rain was noted elsewhere.



Pre-monsoonal rain late in May and precipitation so far this month has been variable for much of India. Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Bihar, and portions of southern Andhra Pradesh,

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northwestern Rajasthan, and western Punjab received near to below normal rainfall for the 30-day period ending June 20. Other locations received near to above normal rainfall. Portions of Gujarat into southern and eastern Rajasthan received two to four times' normal precipitation during this time.



Soil moisture is short or critically short from much of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and interior Karnataka into Telangana, eastern Maharashtra, portions of Madhya Pradesh, and neighboring locations. Western sections of Rajasthan and much of Punjab are also dry or critically dry. The remaining locations have adequate to excessive amounts of moisture.

The lack of early monsoonal rain promoted less than favorable conditions for early-season planting in

portions of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, eastern Maharashtra, interior Karnataka, and immediate neighboring locations. These areas are in need of significant rain to completely fix the moisture deficits and support ideal long-term crop prospects, although it is not unusual for some of these areas to be a little dry in June. Portions of Punjab, northwestern Rajasthan, and neighboring areas are also too dry for ideal establishment, though there is still time for monsoonal rainfall to improve the moisture profile.

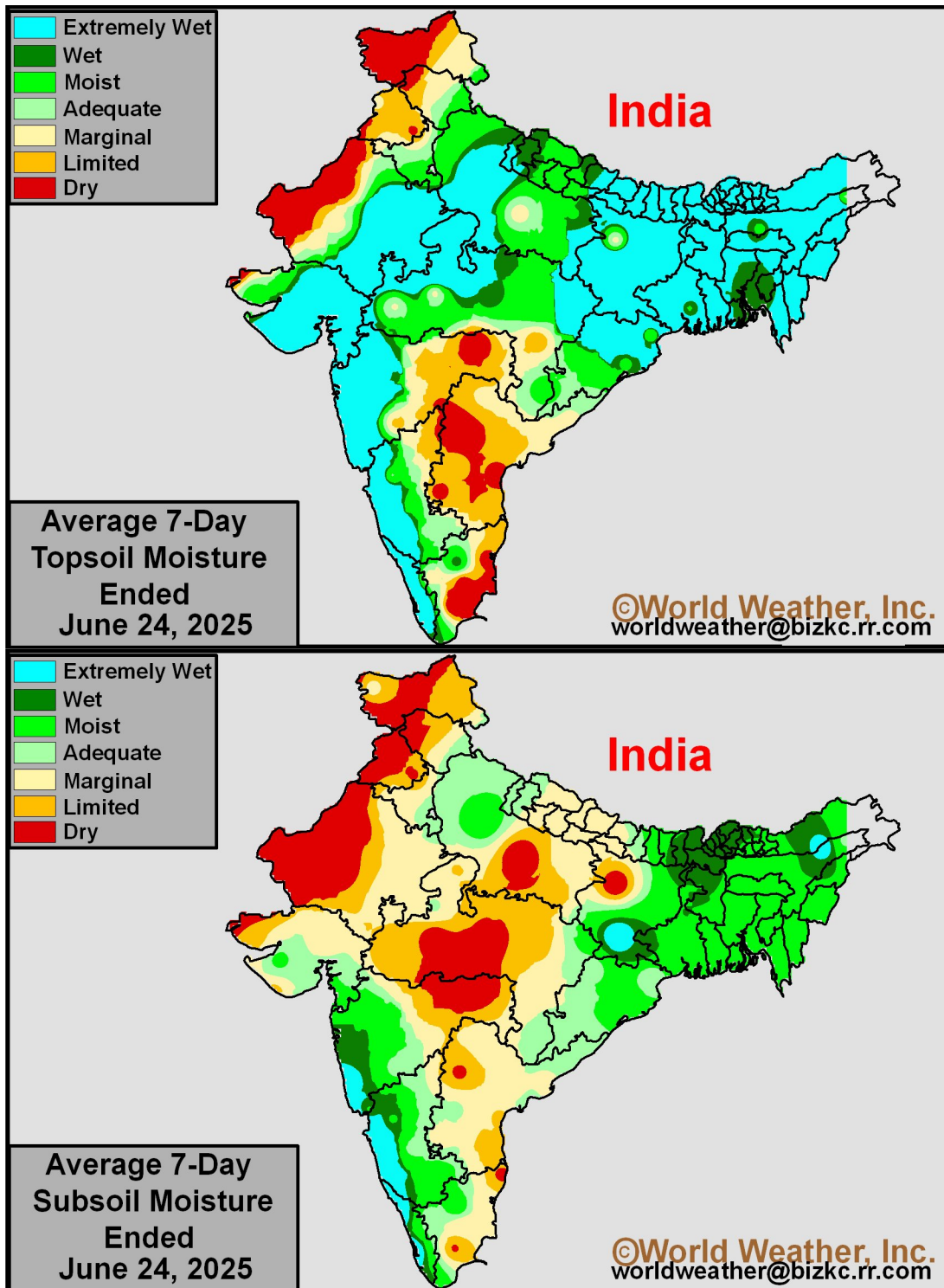
Other production areas in India have ample moisture to support aggressive establishment and growth. Localized flooding in eastern India may have slowed planting and establishment, most notably in Jharkhand, Bangladesh, and the Eastern States. Recently planted crops may need to be reseeded in areas that experienced flooding as well.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

Drier-than-normal conditions will prevail from Tamil Nadu, southern Andhra Pradesh, and interior Karnataka into Telangana and portions of Maharashtra during the coming week. Some rain will occasionally reach Maharashtra and Telangana, though resulting precipitation will be too light to counter evaporation or impact long-term soil conditions. The ground will continue to firm across these locations. Planting, establishment,

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and general development conditions may deteriorate in the driest fields. The need for significant rain will increase during the first half of July to improve long-term crop conditions.



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The remaining production areas in India will have several opportunities for monsoonal rain during the coming week. The most frequent and significant rain will occur from eastern India into Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, eastern Rajasthan, and much of northern India, along with coastal sections of Maharashtra and Karnataka. Moisture totals by next Tuesday morning will range from 2.00 to 6.00 inches and local amounts of 10.00 inches or slightly more. Chhattisgarh, eastern Gujarat, central Rajasthan, and Kerala will receive 0.50 to 3.00 inches of rain and locally greater amounts. Western fringes of Gujarat and Rajasthan will only receive 0.10 to 1.00 inch of rain.

Northwestern Rajasthan and immediate neighboring locations will remain too dry for ideal establishment and early-season growth. Other production areas in Rajasthan and Gujarat, along with northern, central, and eastern India, will have ample moisture to support aggressive development. Planting and general fieldwork may advance slowly at times, most notably the wettest locations of eastern India.

There is potential the Madden-Julian Oscillation becomes active over the western Pacific Ocean late this month and early July. This phase of the MJO tends to suppress rainfall for portions of India. The reduction in precipitation could continue to enhance drying for portions of southern India, Telangana, Maharashtra, and immediate neighboring locations, which could raise concerns for production impacts.

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