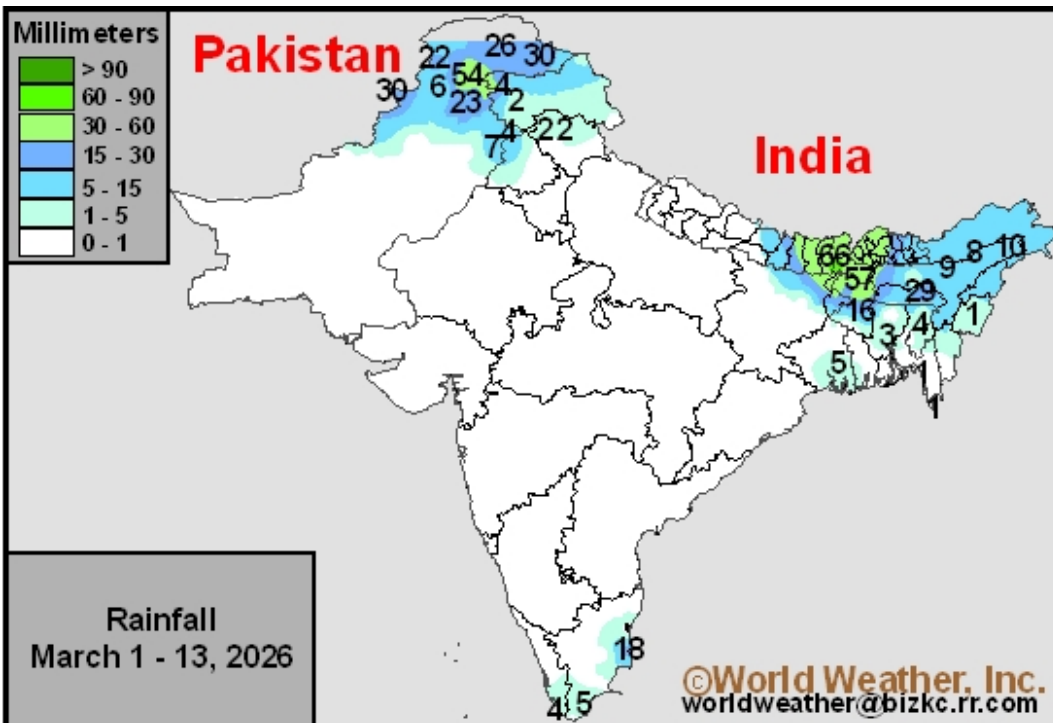


India Rainfall Welcome For Filling Winter Crops

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, March 13 (World Weather Inc.) – India’s winter crops are filling and maturing with a little early season harvesting possibly beginning as well. *Spotty rain in February was welcome for some crops, though many locations went without rain and the same has been true for much of this month, so far. Yields are likely variable depending on the region.* Rain will be scattered across the country next week with periods of significant rain slated for extreme northern and far eastern India. The shower activity will be welcome for immature winter crops and may help hold the temperature back a bit which is very important in years like this when rain is quite limited.

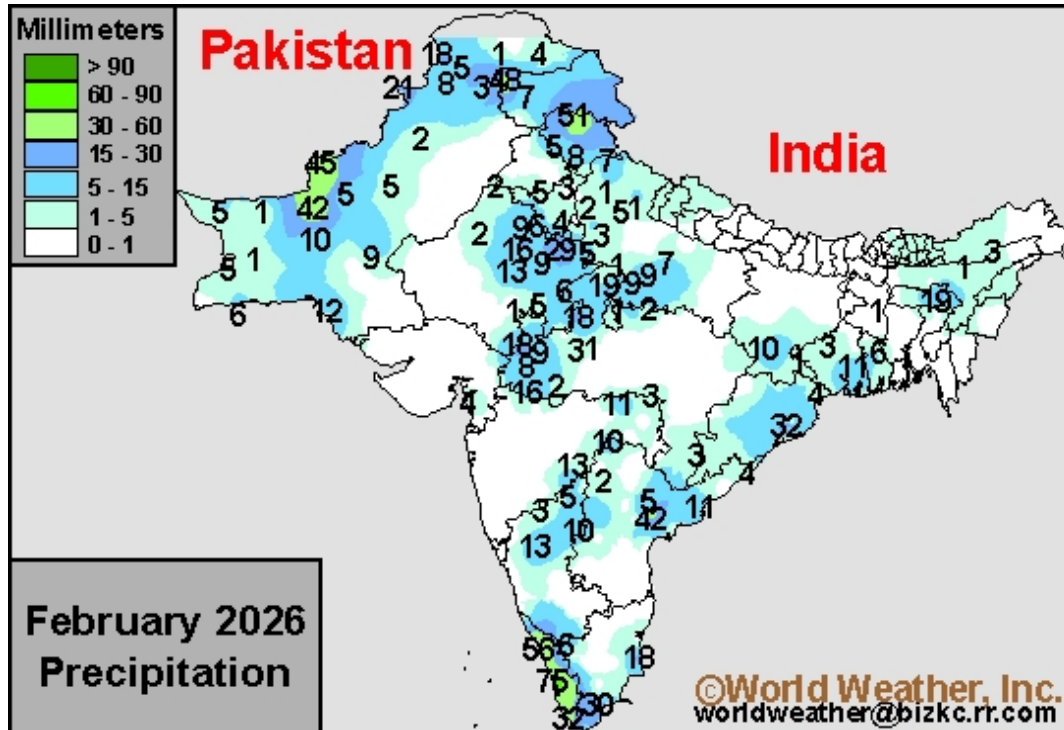
From March 1 - 13, only a few locations in the Eastern States and pockets in Tamil Nadu received 0.16 to 1.14 inches of rain. Other locations in India were dry or did not receive enough rain to counter evaporation. In February, Kerala received some of the most significant rain with totals ranging from 1.26 to just under 3.00 inches for the month. Several areas in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, eastern Maharashtra, western Madhya Pradesh, eastern Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Bangladesh received 0.20 to 1.26 inches of rain with local amounts up to 2.00 inches. Other locations were dry or received minimal rainfall in February.



Despite some rain over the winter, a large section of India was drier than usual in January and February. Only Karnataka and Kerala received above normal rainfall. While India does not usually receive significant amounts of rain over the winter, timely precipitation is still needed to supplement irrigation and support ideal growth for the rabi

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crops. Many crops underwent reproduction in February under less than favorable conditions due to the lack of rain, especially in rain fed fields. Overall yields will likely vary across the country this season due to the uneven distribution of rainfall and overall drier than normal environment. Maturation and harvesting otherwise advanced swiftly since the start of March due to the lack of rain and periods of warm to hot weather.



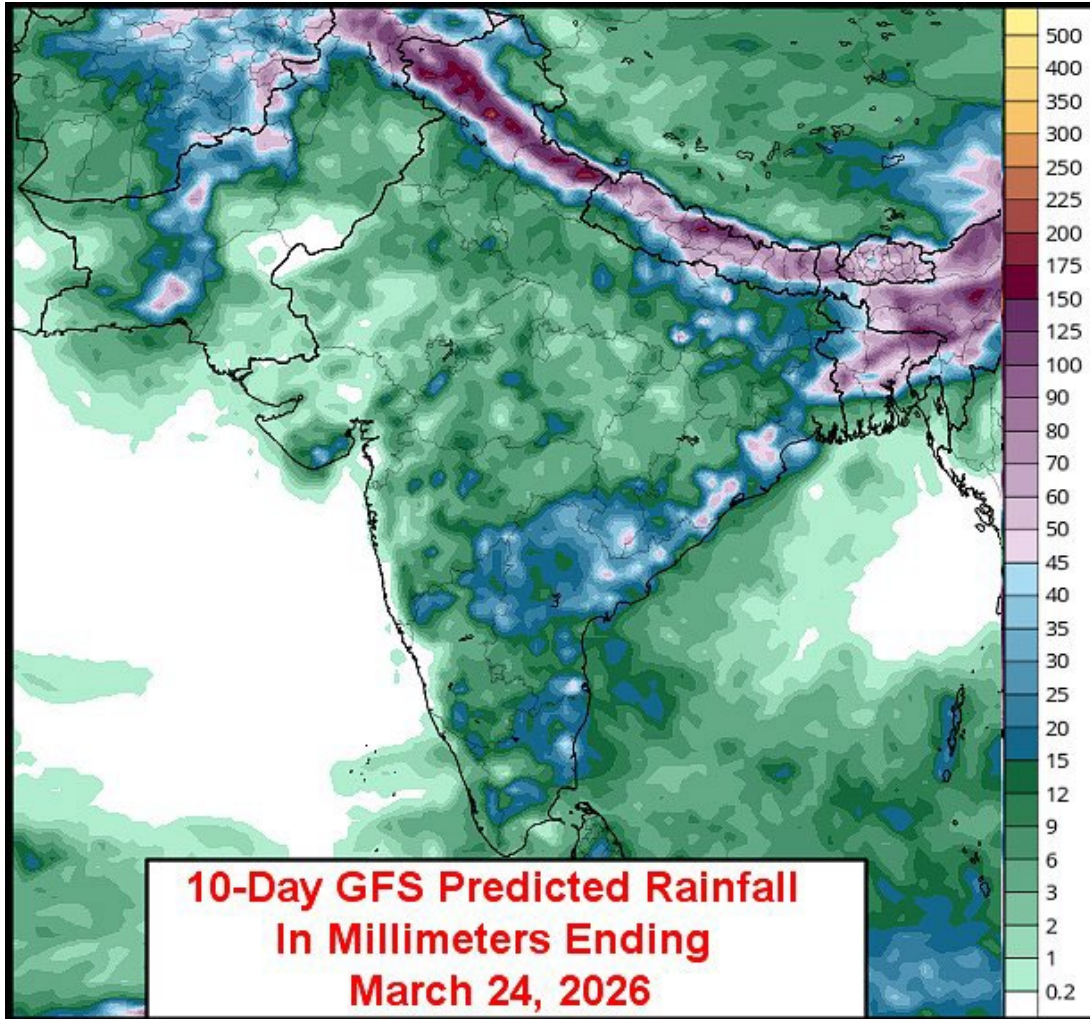
India will experience an unusually wet weather pattern through the end of next week. The most frequent and significant rainfall will occur for extreme northern India, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand in particular, along with the Eastern States and portions of Bangladesh. Rainfall will occur on a near daily basis with totals ranging from 2.00 to 6.00 inches and locally greater amounts by next Friday morning. Spotty rain will also occur in portions of southern, central, and the remaining portions of eastern and northern India this weekend into next week. These areas will receive 0.10 to 0.75 inch of rain with locally greater amounts by next Friday morning. Western India will either miss out on the rain or not receive enough to counter evaporation. Periods of spotty rain will continue March 21-27, most notably for eastern and northern India. However, rain totals will be lower compared to the first week of the outlook.

Temperatures will be warm to hot for much of India through the end of next week. Daytime highs will peak to the 80s and 90s Fahrenheit most often with portions of western and central India often warming above 100 degrees. Portions of eastern and northern India will also only warm to the 60s and 70s during periods of more significant rain. Seasonable to seasonably warm weather will persist March 21-27.

Periods of rain through the end of next week will be welcome to crops still filling and maturing. The moisture may disrupt some early season harvesting; though the impact will be very low. Yield potentials for much of the rabi crop will remain unchanged. In the

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meantime, rain in northern and eastern India will be welcome for winter season rice, sugarcane and early-planted cotton that begins next month.



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