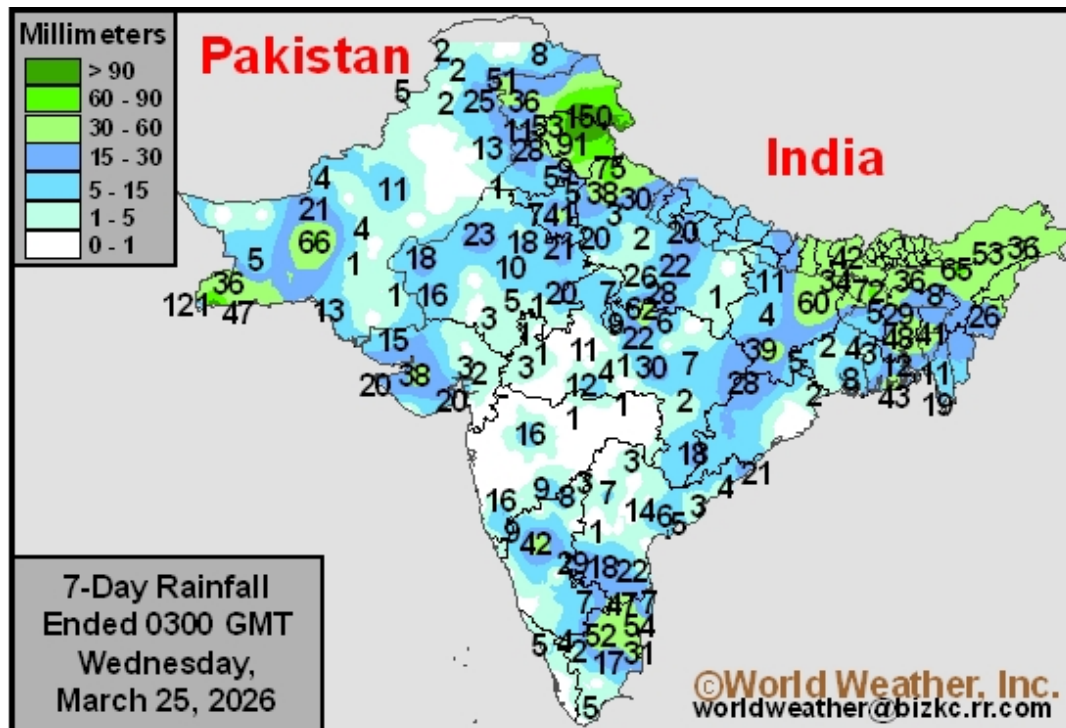


India Unseasonal Rain Improves Winter Crop Yields, Quality

By Andrew Owen

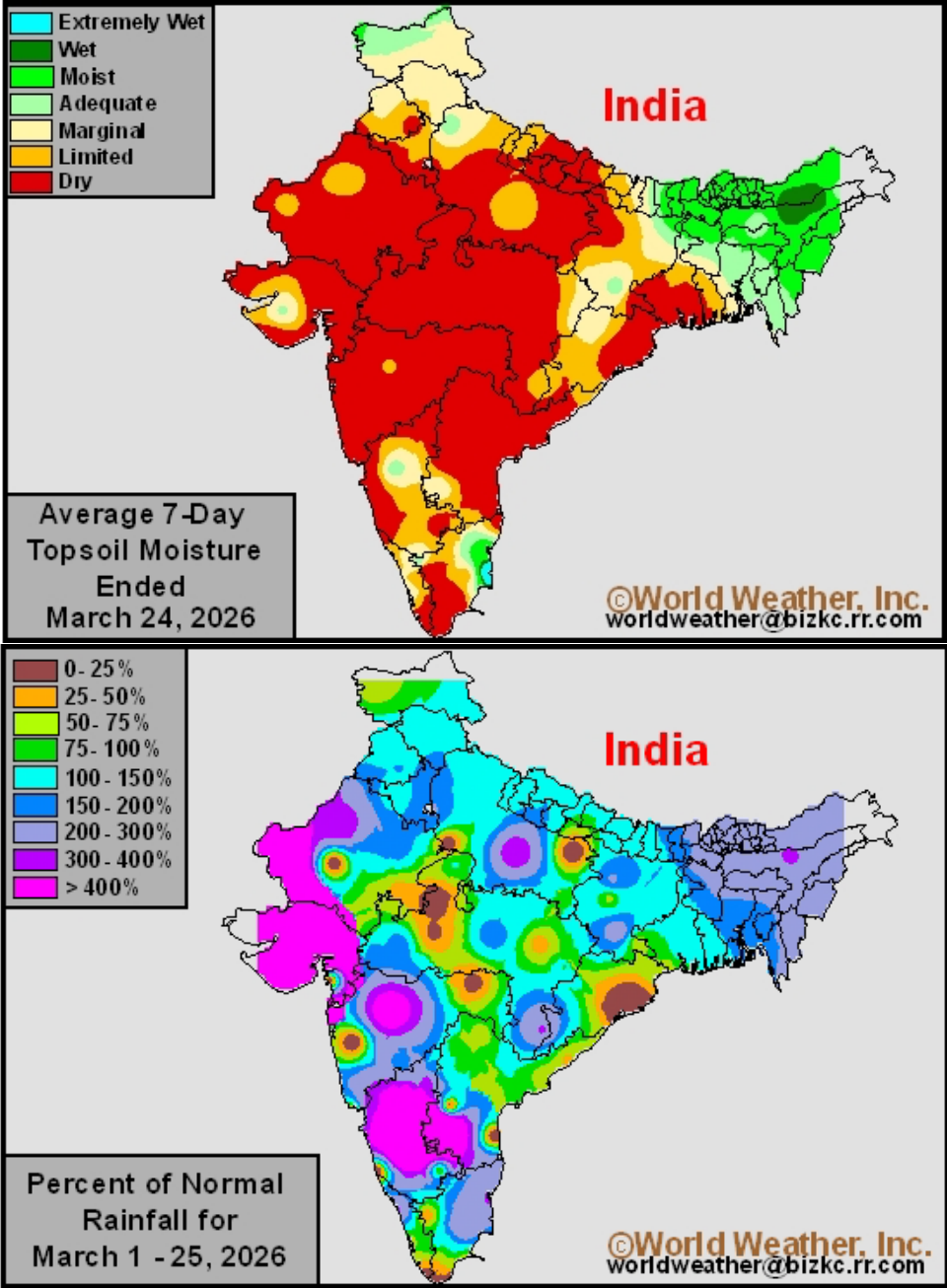
Kansas City, March 25 (World Weather Inc.) – [Late winter crop yields and quality improvements were suspected because of recent rainfall in portions of India. The moisture and associated cloudiness also helped keep temperatures to a seasonable range also contributing to better crop development.](#) The rain came too late for the bulk of reproduction, although some of the late crop should experience some production improvement. Only a small amount of crop in India was advanced enough for harvesting making the recent rain of little concern from a harvest perspective. [Minor damage was noted in pockets of northern and central India due to hail,](#) though the extent of the losses was not known. India will continue to be impacted by a few disturbances as they advance over the country through the middle of next week. [Additional rain may slow maturation and harvesting at times, though no major delays or quality impacts are expected.](#)

Rainfall varied across India during the past week. Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand received some of the most significant rain with totals ranging from 1.50 to just under 6.00 inches for the seven-day period ending this morning. Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana, Bangladesh, the Eastern States, and several areas in Tamil Nadu, Bihar, and eastern Madhya Pradesh received 0.43 to 2.91 inches of rain. Portions of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Gujarat received 0.20 to 1.65 inches of moisture. Pockets in Maharashtra, Telangana, western Madhya Pradesh, and West Bengal received 0.12 to 0.63 inch of rain. Other locations were dry or received minimal rain.



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Pockets in western, central, and southern India warmed slightly above 100 degrees Fahrenheit at times during the past week. However, much of India experienced seasonable temperatures with daytime highs often reaching the 80s and 90s. Portions of extreme northern and eastern India also only warmed to the 60s and 70s at times during periods of more significant rain.

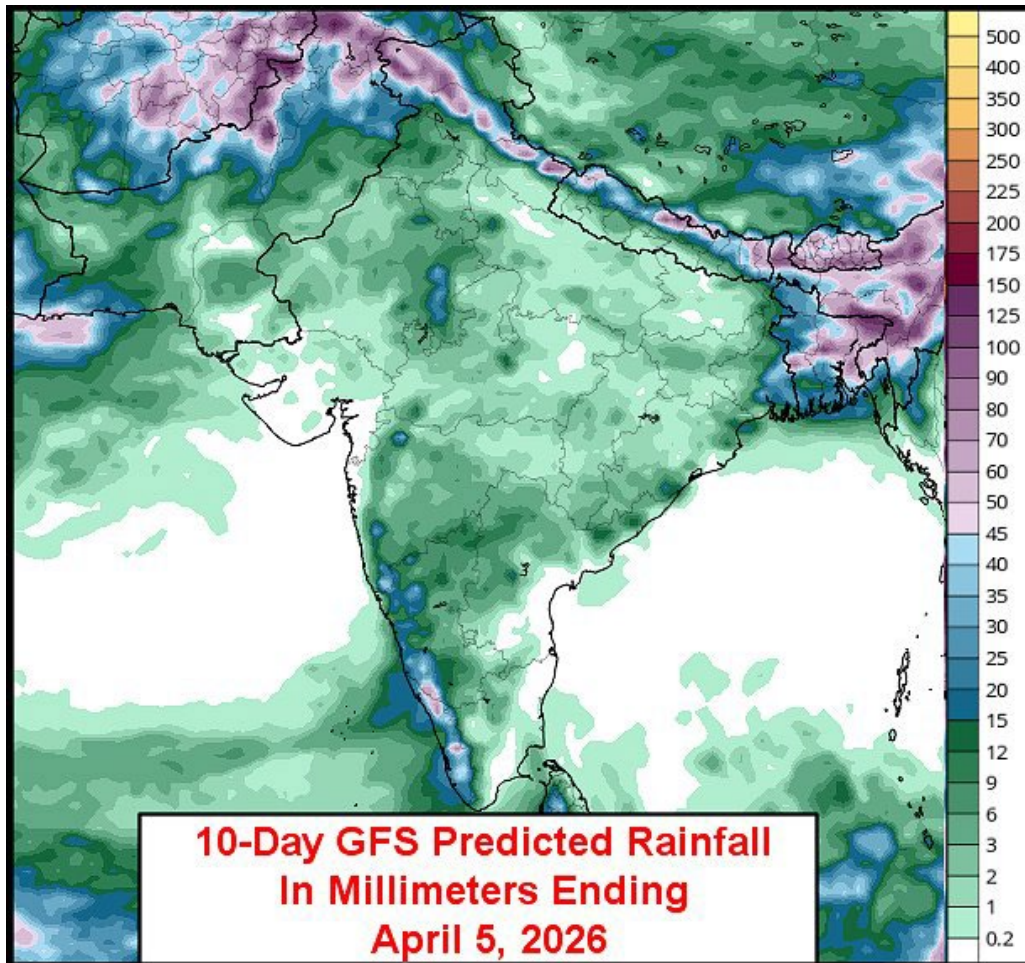


India’s rabi crops are filling and maturing with some early season harvesting beginning. Recent rainfall may have slowed the harvest during the past week, though the impacted was small. Hail was noted in a few locations as well due to thunderstorms, which may have damaged a minor amount of crop. The extent of the losses was not known, though

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overall production impacts should be minimal. Yield potentials remain generally favorable for this season with late season crops benefiting most from recent rain.

Extreme eastern and southern India produces rice this time of year. Recent rainfall helped improved planting and establishment conditions in most locations. There is still a need for additional rain to support ideal long-term development. Rainfall in northern India was also welcome for the cotton that will begin planting in April.



WEATHER OUTLOOK

Waves of rain are slated for extreme eastern and northern India through the middle of next week. Rainfall will occur on a near daily basis. Moisture totals by next Wednesday morning will range from 1.00 to 4.00 inches and locally greater amounts for Bangladesh, the Eastern States, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand. Two western disturbances will also generate spotty rainfall in other production areas of India late Thursday into the first part of next week. Kerala, coastal Karnataka, and portions of West Bengal and Punjab will receive 0.50 to 3.00 inches of rain and locally greater amounts by next Wednesday morning. Several other areas in southern and eastern India into portions of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Haryana will receive 0.10 to 0.75 inch of rain and locally greater amounts. Other locations will either miss out on the rain or not receive enough to counter evaporation. Southern, eastern, and northern India will again have

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opportunities for rain April 2-8. Western and central India will be drier than other production areas, but could see brief periods of light rain as well.

Periodic weather disturbances will help limit excessive heating across India through the middle of next week. Daytime highs will peak in the 80s and 90s most often with many areas in extreme northern and eastern India only warming to the 60s and 70s due to the rain. Pockets in western, central, and southern India will still warm slightly above 100 degrees at times as well. Seasonable to seasonably warm weather will continue April 2 -8.

Additional rain in eastern India will continue to support a good environment for the winter rice and maintain good planting prospects for early-season cotton planting in far northern India. Early season harvesting of the rabi crops will be disrupted at times by the expected showers; though most of the precipitation will be sporadic and light having a low long-term impact.

Hail-producing thunderstorms will again be possible in a few pockets and could damage a minor amount of crop. However, overall production impacts should be minimal. Producers should be able to harvest aggressively between rain events.

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