

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Dharwad tops Karnataka with maximum area-wise crop loss 1
- Center sets up two panels to reduce crop insurance premium 2
- Centre considering plans to waive off farmers' crop insurance premium 2
- Centre's doorstep distribution drive for crop insurance to start 2
- Non- Life insurance industry sees good growth in Jan 2022 3
- Crop loss due to rain 3
- Overcast weather not good for Rabi crop, say experts 3
- Farmers seek hike in relief for crop loss 4
- Nod to crop loss compensation in Barmer dist 4
- Unexpected rainfall damages paddy crop in Nagapattinam 4
- Rain, hailstorm damage crops in Ambala villages 4
- Rain, hailstorm affect Rabi crops sown on 2 lakh hectares in state 5
- Farmers losing mustard due to January rain to be compensated 5
- Climate crisis has cost India 5 million hectares of crop in 2021 5
- Mustard crop faces maximum damage 6
- Extreme weather becomes the new normal in India's main monsoon season 6
- Heavy rains caused major losses for cotton farmers in Tamil Nadu 7
- How excess North-East monsoon rainfall is affecting agriculture across India 7
- Rain, hailstones damage crops in Bundelkhand 7
- Rain, hailstorm hit Rajasthan; crop damage reported 8
- Unseasonal rain, hailstorms hit crops on over 28,000 hectares, many houses damaged 8
- India lost crops on 18 million hectares to extreme floods from 2017-2019 8
- Rs 443 crore crop loss relief for rain-hit farmers in Karnataka 8
- Farmers in Ganjam district stare at extensive crop loss 9
- Haryana govt increases compensation amount for crop damage 9
- Unseasonal rains and hail affect Rabi crops in North India 9
- Who will pay for the kisan drone? 10
- Farmers in dire straits as crop insurance claim distribution hit due to fund crunch 10

Dharwad tops Karnataka with maximum area-wise crop loss :Heavy rains in October, November damage both Kharif, Rabi crops

Though Dharwad district does not have major rivers that cause serious flood situations (except streams like Bennihalla) and is also not a very big district geographically the district faced the most severe crop loss, in terms of the extent of area, in Karnataka due to heavy rains this year.



The number of farmers growing rain-fed crops on black cotton soil is more in the district which lacks irrigation facility in the majority of the areas. Excess rains during the harvesting time of Kharif crops, and during the initial stage of Rabi crops are the causes for continuous and huge damage of crops in October and November.

Crops on a whopping 1.55 lakh hectare of land in the district have been lost this year. Out of this, crop loss in 1.32 lakh hectare of land took place in October and November alone, as per the official figures.

With regard to the maximum area affected (crop loss) due to heavy rains this year, Belagavi stands second after Dharwad, with crops damaged in 1.50 lakh hectare of land, while Tumakuru is in third position with crop loss in 1.30 lakh hectare of land.

Crop loss due to October and November rains was less in Belagavi district, compared to the loss during the initial phase of the monsoon. However, total crop loss in Tumakuru took place in October and November itself.

Loss value highest in Belagavi

In total, the estimated value of crop loss this year is highest in Belagavi district with Rs 1,245 crore. House damage is also highest in Belagavi (11,912 houses), but infrastructure damage is maximum in Uttara Kananda district (worth Rs 829 crore). Heavy rains caused huge crop loss and other damages in other districts too across the State.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1c7J0d-Hpbvg-XydpfwyERHOJns54e2yC/view?usp=sharing>

Source: DECCAN HERALD



Center sets up two panels to reduce crop insurance premium

Under the flagship Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, the Centre has appointed two separate groups of experts to suggest suitable working models with cost-benefit analysis that will lower crop insurance premiums and technology in crop yield estimation (PMFBY). This follows the withdrawal of several states from the scheme, including Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar, and West Bengal, citing high premiums.

"There are now two subcommittees that will submit their report to the working group, which was formed in September to examine alternate risk management mechanisms for rationalizing premiums," a government official said. On November 29 & December 2, the two subcommittees were formed.

According to the official, a ten-member committee led by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) scientist KR Manjunath will investigate the feasibility of adopting various technology-based approaches developed through pilot projects by ISRO and its arm National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), as well as Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) of the Union Agriculture Ministry.



Use of Drones

According to the NRSC, regular temporal intervals of satellite data enable monitoring of natural resources for effective management. However, the government has been considering the use of drones to capture yield data, as satellite images are also deemed ineffective in the presence of fog or cloud.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/10Qk7bSGTnFdcRCs6TnEvLs4Q9Oz0Tzas/view?usp=sharing>

Source: KRISHI JAGRAN

Centre considering plans to waive off farmers' crop insurance premium

While many states have expressed their dissatisfaction with the flagship Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), the Centre is considering various options, including "zero or token premium of Re 1" for the 12 crore small and marginal farmers under the scheme.

"We are open to any option that will improve the scheme. The working group has been set up for the purpose and they will draw up financial projections on various options," said a senior official of the agriculture ministry.

The state portion of premium subsidy, on the other hand, is a big source of concern, as it would increase with more farmer involvement, according to present norms, the official noted.

Two Premium Options:

Another alternative under consideration by the group is to charge a dual premium for the insured amount, easing the financial load on states and farmers alike, according to sources. "If the insurer's liability is set at 50% of the claim amount, the premium will drop dramatically, and the farmers' part can be fully waived off," an industry source familiar with the discussions said. However, he added, there will be a mechanism in place to pay the full amount of the claim.

Given that roughly 17% of agricultural land is leased out, with a high of 42% in Andhra Pradesh, the government may relax laws to allow tenant farmers to take advantage of crop insurance. Though they are allowed to enroll under PMFBY if they can show documentary proof of contract farming, many farmers prefer to do so without documentation.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CrRE9D9xnizYG-BDvHxvEFZaCRuW9Peb/view?usp=sharing>

Source: KRISHI JAGRAN

Centre's doorstep distribution drive for crop insurance to start

The doorstep campaign will be launched in all implementing states in the upcoming Kharif season beginning June, the ministry said in a statement.

As the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) enters the seventh year of implementation with the upcoming Kharif season, the government on Friday said it will launch a doorstep distribution drive to deliver crop insurance policies to farmers.

The doorstep campaign 'Meri Policy Mere Hath' aims to ensure all farmers are well aware and equipped with all information on their policies, land records, the process of claim and grievance redressal under the PMFBY, the Agriculture Ministry said. The doorstep campaign will be launched in all implementing states in the upcoming Kharif season beginning June, the ministry said in a statement.

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PMFBY, launched in February 2016, aims to provide financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of natural calamities. According to the ministry, over 36 crore farmer applications have been insured under the PMFBY, with over Rs 1,07,059 crores of claims have already been paid under the scheme as of February 4, this year.

The crop insurance scheme has been able to provide financial assistance to the most vulnerable farmers as around 85 per cent of the farmers enrolled with the scheme are small and marginal farmers.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AngPTcRq2mVQWPcqN1KZIT7PPafOjsH4/view?usp=sharing>

Source: BUSINESS STANDARD



Non- Life insurance industry sees good growth In Jan 2022

The non-life insurance industry reported a five-month high growth rate of 15.9% in January 2022 and was nearly 2.5 times the rate reported in January 2021, according to a report by CareEdge.



"Non-life insurance premium reached Rs. 21,401.1 crores for January 2022 compared to Rs. 18,457.6 crores in January 2021. The growth has continued to be driven by the health segment; crop insurance has contributed significantly to the growth for the month of January 2022. Crop insurance has recorded a growth in monthly premiums after several months," CareEdge has said in a report.

General Insurers grew at subdued 2.3% in January 2022 which was nearly half the rate reported in December 2021 but was roughly 30% of the growth rate of 8.1% reported in January 2021. The YTD numbers grew at 8.4% for 10M FY22 vs a marginal growth of 0.5% in 10M FY21.

"The General Insurance segment continues to maintain the highest share; however, its continued growth can primarily be attributed to health insurance, with motor and fire also accounting for some growth.

Standalone Pvt Health Insurers (SAHI) have reported a sustained premium y-o-y growth of 36.3% in January 2022 (higher than the last January's growth rate of 27%) to Rs. 2,019.1 crores which was also higher sequentially higher than the December numbers. Similarly, 10M FY22 numbers which reached Rs 16,216.9 crore from Rs 11902.7 crores in 10M FY21, a jump of 36.2% vs. a growth of 2913% in 10M FY21, indicative of the robust growth in the retail and group health premiums.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KsSvUQqYxBRr5ZPZ3-811MNzb2NAH-N7/view?usp=sharing>
Source: THE HINDU BUSINESS LINE

Crop loss due to rain

That the unusually heavy rains have caused extensive damage to crops in several districts in the country's north does not augur well for the nation. A few tuber crops apart, this region also specialises in cultivating maize and wheat. There is a proverb that makes round among the farming communities,

according to which if there is rain at the end of Magh (the last month of winter on Bangla calendar), it is a blessed land under a highly acclaimed king. But here the rain has unfortunately been responsible for a reversal of farmers' fortunes. The reasons are for all to see: first, the heavier than the rains experienced before in winter have this time continued for one and a half days. Usually there are short spells of rain during this season. More importantly, cropping patterns have radically changed. Not only have wheat and maize been introduced to agriculture but high yielding varieties of paddy developed in laboratories such as IRRI and Boro have almost elbowed out the traditional Aman, Aus and Deegha.

The Bogura, Rajshahi, Rangpur and Pabna belt has by now made steady progress in cultivation of tuber crops such as potato, onion and garlic. As potato is experiencing market slumps over the past few years and onion fetching exorbitant prices almost every year, the preference for cultivation of the latter is a foregone conclusion. Farmers have naturally made their best choice and no wonder the country is on the verge of producing enough onion to meet its consumption need. Now stagnant water in potato, onion and garlic fields will damage or destroy the crops which are a fortnight to three weeks away before harvesting. Some potatoes can be saved, although those have to be harvested before maturity. But immature onion and garlic cannot be preserved even if those are harvested before time.



Read More: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1B8vBeZGUXNhJWTHB55p4_q2rA9YqmKTy/view?usp=sharing
Source: THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

Overcast weather not good for Rabi crop, say experts

Light to moderate rain, which was continuing in most parts of the state, particularly in the Malwa belt for the past 24 hours, is worrying farmers as it may harm Rabi crops. It has affected the growth of wheat plants, delayed the harvesting of potatoes and also raised the fears of pest attack on other horticulture crops.

Agro-scientists say that cloudy and foggy weather conditions, which led to insufficient sunshine in the past one month has already affected the development of wheat plants, which were at the middle stage of growth.



Dr Jaswinder Singh Brar, a state-award winner agro-scientist of the Agriculture Department, said: “Insufficient sunshine in the past one month has reduced photosynthesis, which will undoubtedly affect the growth of wheat plants”.

He said excessive rainfall also leads to water stress on plants, which decreases the rate of net photosynthesis per unit leaf area. Moreover, suspended particles of clay, silt, or free-floating algae could also make it hard for plants to synthesise the sugar they need to grow, he said.

Dr Brar said: “Proper soil aeration accelerates the growth of plants and increases the crop yield, but higher amount of water in soil results in poor aeration of soil, which retards the metabolic activities and reduces the respiration process in the root cells of the plants.”

Read More: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_S34TmG2LT9QU-UygpIz-xzms7e2S_wQ/view?usp=sharing
Source: THE TRIBUNE

Farmers seek hike in relief for crop loss

Farmers under the banner of All-India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) staged a demonstration at the Divisional Commissioner's office for enhanced compensation for damaged crops, disbursement of pending compensation for 2020 and other issues in Hisar on Friday.

The farmers gathered at gate number four of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agriculture University (HAU) and marched to the mini secretariat. The administration, however, deployed heavy police force and closed the main gate of the mini secretariat. Additional Deputy Commissioner RS Patil went to meet the farmers at the gate of the mini secretariat and accepted their memorandum of demands.

The farmers said that they had given some time to the administration to consider their demands. “We will soon meet the Commissioner to press for the demands. We have chalked out a strategy for prolonged agitation in case the government fails to listen to our demands,” said Shamsher Numbardar, district president of the Kisan Sabha.

Addressing the farmers, state president of AIKS Phool Singh Sheokand said that the government had announced a compensation of Rs 561 crore for farmers who suffered losses in Kharif season 2021, but it is not adequate.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ikpPLK00QqYaZWv5dRCDRjaAC4-l5gRR/view?usp=sharing>
Source: THE HINDU

Nod to crop loss compensation in Barmer district

Administrative approval for compensation of Rs 126.70 crore was issued for crop damage in Vikram Samvat 2078 in Barmer district. It is to be mentioned that in Samvat 2079 (in Kharif crop 2021) too there was crop loss in Barmer and 5.40 lakh farmers are affected and water and fodder has to be arranged for 52 lakh cattle. Three days ago, the Central study team visited Barmer and took stock of the situation.

Barmer collector Lok Bandhu said that for crop damage in Samvat 2078 in Dhorimanna, Barmer, Samdadi, Ramsar,

Gadra road, Baytu, Gudamalani, Nokhra, Pachpadra and Sheo tehsil areas in Barmer, the disaster management, relief and civil defence department has issued administrative approval to give Rs 126,70,16,280 to 1,19,074 farmers as agricultural input subsidy.

Source : <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NSTjZ5gwRLXOaGY-nOyiellrHeDBsRDG/view?usp=sharing>
Source: THE TIMES OF INDIA

Unexpected rainfall damages paddy crop in Nagapattinam

Two days of continuous rainfall has resulted in submergence of paddy crop raised in thousands of acres of land and in a 'ready for harvest' stage in the district.

The damage to the crop has pushed farmers into relying on insurance compensation to sustain their livelihood.

The submergence of the paddy field, farmers fear, will cause substantial loss in yield. They are trying hard to drain out the water stagnating in their fields. At some places, the harvested crop has got drenched. The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation does not procure paddy with high moisture content.

The paddy cultivators are a worried lot since compensation for the damage caused by an earlier spell of rainfall has not been paid so far. The harvesting activity was in progress in Voimedu and other tail-end areas when the rainfall came unexpectedly, representatives of farmer welfare organisations said.

Villages in Kilvelur and Vedaranyam were the worst affected.

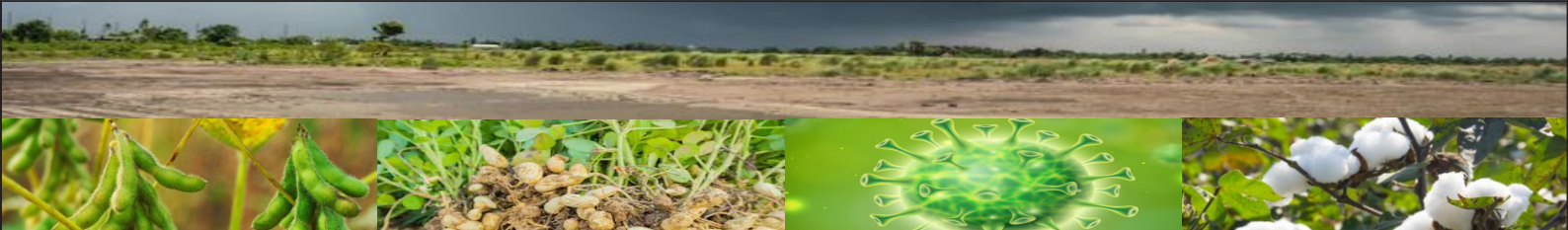


Read More: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CXMJzCrepwH2TtcR0CB2e39UgU1_T2Vkv/view?usp=sharing
Source: THE HINDU BUSINESS LINE

Rain, hailstorm damage crops in Ambala villages

Almost an hour of rainfall mixed with heavy hailstorm has damaged several acres of crops in a number of villages on the foothills of the Shivalik hills in Ambala on Wednesday

This is the fourth time in the last 30 days that the weather disturbances have destroyed wheat, potato, sugarcane and other crops in the region. During the earlier instances, the maximum damage was reported in Ambala-1 block (City), while this time the rain was reported in Naraingarh, Shahaz-adpur, Saha and Mullana areas, officials said.



Farmers said the hailstorm continued for 15 minutes in villages in the Raipur Rani belt and the maximum damage was reported in Bhurewala, Khanpur Rajputana, Laha and other villages along the Haryana-Himachal Pradesh border.



Yadvender, a farmer from Laha village along the NH-344, said he was on his fields when it started raining with a hailstorm. “My family’s wheat, potato and sugarcane crops on over 20 acres have been damaged. Several farmers like us need urgent help,” he said.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1t6NHHnraP8CVMzcU3cmp7sT80xwppkM6/view?usp=sharing>

Source: HINDUSTAN TIMES

Rain, hailstorm affect Rabi crops sown on 2 lakh hectares in State

The final report on exact assessment will be notified after the panchanamas are recorded across the districts, which witnessed unseasonal rains accompanied by hailstorms.

The Unseasonal rains and hailstorms have damaged crops sown on more than two lakh hectares of land in Vidarbha, Marathwada and parts of the North Maharashtra region of the state. The final report on exact assessment will be notified after the panchanamas are recorded across the districts, which witnessed unseasonal rains accompanied by hailstorms.

State Agriculture Minister Dadasaheb Bhuse has directed district officials to complete the panchanamas and submit a detailed report on crop loss due to unreasonable rain and hailstorm within 15 days. Bhuse said, “Our primary information is that unseasonal rain and hailstorm have badly affected parts of the Vidarbha and the Marathwada region, and a couple of districts in north Maharashtra. The exact loss in terms of crop loss and financial loss will be tabulated once the panchanamas are completed.”

Moreover, the reports of newer districts hit by unseasonal rains will make the exercise more cumbersome. Based on the information gathered from district agriculture officers it is noted that crops sown on more than two lakh hectares have been adversely hit by rains and hailstorms.

In the Vidarbha region, the districts badly affected are Wardha, Gondia, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Nagpur, Amravati. The Naxal-hit Gadchiroli is among the worst-hit districts

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ju4d9G57dg2afvrtGM1GFssuVLJGkomD/view?usp=sharing>

Source: THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Farmers losing mustard due to January rain to be compensated

Farmers in the city who suffered losses due to rain damaging their mustard crop earlier this month will also be given compensation. This was stated by chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday.

Taking a dig at the Congress government in poll-bound Punjab, where AAP is a serious contender, Kejriwal alleged that farmers in the state were promised a meagre Rs 12,000 per acre as compensation when pink bollworm infested cotton crop, but even that amount was not paid.

The CM was speaking at an event to hand over compensation cheques to 11 farmers who lost their crops due to the prolonged monsoon last year. In all, Rs 55.35 crore will be paid to farmers for crop damage, while a fresh survey has been ordered to assess losses due to rain this month.

“I have been informed that the mustard crop has been affected due to rain this month. We have decided to compensate farmers for this loss. Officials have been directed to start the survey soon,” said Kejriwal, adding that Delhi farmers got the highest amount of compensation for damage to their crops due to weather.

Referring to Punjab, Kejriwal said the pink bollworm blighted crops last October. “The (Punjab) government announced a compensation of Rs 12,000 per acre despite the costs for farmers being higher. But even the promised amount has not been given to the affected farmers,” he added. He further stated that in Delhi farmers were being given Rs 20,000 per acre compensation.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tepvNya4678zxoC-zFsWqjReZyV9XVeE/view?usp=sharing>

Source: THE TIMES OF INDIA

Climate crisis has cost India 5 million hectares of crop in 2021

Around 36 mha agricultural area was affected due to hydro-meteorological calamities since 2016

In 2021, extreme weather events wrought yet another distressing year for Indian farmers. Cyclone Tauktae and Cyclone Yaas wreaked havoc in several states in the first few months, especially in Odisha, West Bengal and Karnataka where lives and livelihoods were affected beyond redemption.

In July, floods in Maharashtra damaged standing crops.

This was followed by a 24 per cent nationwide rain deficit in August and 35 per cent excess rain in September. In October, heavy rains destroyed harvest-ready crops in many districts of Kerala.

The devastation continued even towards the end of the year. In November, unprecedented rainfall caused huge loss of life and property in south Indian states of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka.

Overall, India lost 5.04 million hectares (mha) crop area to cyclonic storm, flash floods, floods, landslides and cloudbursts



till November 25, 2021, Narendra Singh Tomar, Union minister of agriculture and farmers' welfare, told the Lok Sabha November 30.

2020 was not different - huge swarms of locusts ate away standing crops in states like Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh

Extreme weather events throughout the year have become the new normal. The decade spanning 2010–2019 was the most turbulent for disasters, Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) assessment showed. In India, around 36 mha agricultural area was affected due to hydro-meteorological calamities, including heavy rain and floods since 2016 – 6.65 mha in 2016, 5.08 mha in 2017, 1.70 mha in 2018, 11.42 mha in 2019, 6.65 mha in 2020 and 5.04 mha in 2021.

The above data has been aggregated from government replies in the parliament on crop loss and damage in recent years. This has led to repeated losses for farmers, especially small and marginal ones who comprise over 85 per cent of the total number of farmers in the country. They are being increasingly put to test, as climate change disturbs everything from sowing operations to harvest.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1r9XvwF3k-CR0pFvXvHYi5PjyNTJIS4F2/view?usp=sharing>

Source: DOWN TO EARTH

Mustard crop faces maximum damage

Continuing hail and rain in large parts of the state caused widespread damage to Rabi crops, especially those of mustard. The mustard bowl of Chambal and Gwalior division, rains have been about 8,000% more than normal.

The maximum damage was caused by the hailstorm that has damaged the mustard crops which had developed to a podding stage at many places. At many places, where the irrigation facilities were less, the rainfall will increase productivity, agriculture scientists said.

For the 8 districts of Gwalior and Chambal division, mustard is the main crop in Rabi season. Some districts like Ashoknagar are also known for their wheat production.

But there has been unprecedented winter rains- almost 8,000% more in Guna and 6,000% more in Shivpuri. At many places,

the rains were accompanied by hailstorms. Waterlogging and accumulation of hail in the farm fields caused widespread damage to the crops.

Dr Manoj Kannoja, scientist at agriculture college Sehore said, "at many places where the mustard plant had grown to a podding stage, the hail caused extensive damage. But at many places where the irrigation facilities were limited the production will go up by 30% to 40%."

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/17z2mpJGXCpnKNhtTQ9WkH5UtkSGt4Jn/view?usp=sharing>

Source: THE TIMES OF INDIA

Extreme weather becomes the new normal in India's main monsoon season

The India Meteorological Department's announcement of a 'normal' 2021 southwest monsoon does not reveal the complex regional and temporal variations that the granular rainfall data reveals.

A slew of extreme weather events between June and September shows that variable rainfall led to long dry spells in some places, and cloudburst and flooding in others, a trend that has been strengthening in recent years.

The increasingly erratic rainfall, caused by climate change affects agriculture and thereby the GDP of the country.

Aggregate numbers sometimes hide more than they reveal. On September 30, the India Meteorological Department announced that the southwest monsoon was normal in 2021 since the country received 870 mm of rainfall between June and September.

According to the department's long-period average (LPA) calculated on rainfall data collected between 1961 and 2010, the summer monsoon, which accounts for about 70 percent of India's annual precipitation, is pegged at 880 mm. At 99 percent of the average, the Met Department called the season 'normal,' as it does when the range is between 96 and 104 percent of LPA.



Although the aggregate shows normalcy, the wide regional and special variations in precipitation in the four months reveal that the rainfall was anything but normal this year.

Read More: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cJ9r4ZMrdsYr09bdWrTK0Mw48GJ67p__/_view?usp=sharing

Source: MONGABAY



Heavy rains caused major losses for cotton farmers in Tamil Nadu

Heavy incessant rains and water-logging have led to huge losses for cotton farmers of Tamil Nadu, especially those in Tiruchi district, which is considered the hub of the crop in the State.

The Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department teams that conducted an inspection of cotton farms have come to a report that almost 60% of the cotton farms in Tiruchi were destroyed, leading to heavy losses for farmers.

The department has assessed that cotton cultivated in about 5,500 hectares has been totally destroyed in the rains. In Tiruchi, cotton was cultivated in more than 10,000 hectares. Farmers were expecting a good season as cotton prices had touched an all-time high and in Tamil Nadu, the market price was Rs 76 per kg during the commencement of the season.

Talking to IANS, Velmurugan, a cotton farmer at Thurayur in Tiruchi, said: "We were expecting a good profit and the rains came when we were about to harvest the cotton. Now almost all is lost and we have appealed to the state government to provide good compensation. I have cultivated cotton expecting that I could square off my liabilities with this year's crop, but things have turned upside down and I have fallen into more debt."



In Madurai also, several cotton farmers have lost their whole crop leading to huge losses. A senior Agriculture Department official told IANS that they have done a field study on the estimated losses of cotton and will make a compilation based on the studies they conducted and file a report with the Department.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oC3pW63cEqrS7NGP0v7vBsyRrCdgd76w/view?usp=sharing>

Source: THE TIMES OF INDIA

How excess North-East monsoon rainfall is affecting agriculture across India

India has received 52 per cent excess rainfall to date during the current North-East monsoon with north-west parts receiving double the normal showers and the southern peninsula 69 per cent more than normal, according to India Meteorological Department (IMD) data.

The onset of the North-East Monsoon this year witnessed hectic weather activities both over the Arabian sea and the Bay of Bengal, the centre of action for the monsoon. At least 47 per cent of the country has received "large excess rainfall" (60 per cent more than normal), 16 per cent excess rains (20-59 per cent more than normal) and 16 per cent normal rains.



Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/114fgQWHHy8y5xQCXZOEzXhZINBbQGM/view?usp=sharing>

Source: BUSINESS LINE

Rain, hailstones damage crops in Bundelkhand

Rain and hailstorm continue to wreak havoc, now in the Bundelkhand region of the state. Standing crops of gram (chana) and pulses were damaged completely as the white layer of hail covered the fields.

Hail pounded the standing crops in the districts of Sagar, Chhatarpur, Tikamgarh, Damoh and Niwari on Sunday. Accompanied by heavy showers, lemon-sized hailstones hit the villages damaging the huts of large number of poor.



Savitri Bai, an elderly woman, and mother of a farmer, was seen weeping bitterly in Prithvipur town of Niwadi district. She said she had lost everything in the overnight hailstorm. On Sunday morning, when the farmers reached to their farm fields to ascertain the damage done by the inclement weather they found heaps of hail.

Jeevanlal Kushwah, a farmer growing vegetables said, "nothing is left intact. The green peas crop was completely damaged."

Read More: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ct03N61bMi40Bn7IEOV3_FCI8iJbei/view?usp=sharing

Source: THE TIMES OF INDIA



Rain, hailstorm hit Rajasthan; crop damage reported

Jaipur, Jan 8 (PTI) Normal life was affected in parts of Rajasthan as rainfall with hailstorm triggered by the western disturbance lashed many parts of the state in the last 24 hours, officials said on Saturday.

Light to moderate rainfall occurred at several places in eastern Rajasthan and in almost all regions of the state's western part since Friday. A couple of places in eastern Rajasthan witnessed heavy rainfall too, the MeT department stated.

Kishangarh-Renwal in Jaipur district recorded the maximum 8 cm rainfall while Behror and Neemrana in Alwar saw 7 cm rain. The rainfall at other places was below 7 cm.

Hailstorms also occurred at several places in the state which damaged standing mustard crops. Meanwhile, the state recorded a minimum temperature between 7 degrees Celsius (Jaisalmer) and 17 degrees Celsius (Dungarpur) on Friday night.

The department has predicted light to moderate rain at a few places in Bharatpur, Kota and Jaipur divisions on Saturday and in Bharatpur and Jaipur divisions on Sunday. The weather will be mainly dry in western parts, it said.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tjDyQv1oVOHIP0ob0quswz3EvJLFFHqm3/view?usp=sharing>

Source: THE PRINT

Unseasonal rain, hailstorms hit crops on over 28,000 hectares, many houses damaged

Crops grown on more than 28,000 hectares of land bore the brunt of unseasonal rain and hailstorms in Maharashtra's Nagpur division in the last few days, officials said on Thursday.

Besides, nearly 70 houses were damaged in the division's Wardha district and 27 in Nagpur district. One person also died after being struck by lightning in Nagpur, they said.

Various districts in the east Vidarbha region witnessed showers and hailstorms between January 8 and 11.

As per preliminary reports, the inclement weather affected over 28,000 hectares of agriculture land in 1,272 villages in Nagpur, Wardha, Bhandara, Gondia, Chandrapur and Gadchiroli districts, an official told PTI.



Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CkBCRG2aGOXq8d3JnV-xNLYSkRuj73a8/view?usp=sharing>

Source: THE TIMES OF INDIA

India lost crops on 18 million hectares to extreme floods from 2017-2019: Madhya Pradesh hardest-hit; figures show gross underestimation of crop losses due to floods

India has suffered a huge crop loss on 18.176 million hectares (mha) of land, roughly 8.5 per cent of the total gross cropped area due to floods from 2017-2019, according to data shared by the government in the Lok Sabha February 11, 2021.

Of this, 10.68 mha was affected in 2019 alone. In 2018 and 2017, 2.515 mha and 4.973 mha of cropped area was lost in India. The intensity of extreme floods has increased in the country, affecting newer areas that were not flood-prone earlier.

The flood-prone states of Assam, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh saw extreme floods. They were also witnessed in Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan due to 'excess' or 'large excess' rainfall in these states, combined with extremely heavy rainfall in a short span of time.



Madhya Pradesh was the hardest-hit among all. It had zero crop loss in both 2017 and 2018. However, it suffered the highest loss of 6.047 mha among all states in 2019 due to extreme rainfall, according to the reply given by Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti Rattan Lal Kataria.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mw9GeuLTdenxcHe73q4e-9nHFw0iwDmG/view?usp=sharing>

Source: DOWN TO EARTH

Rs 443 crore crop loss relief for rain-hit farmers in Karnataka

While farmers across Karnataka are crying foul over the poor and delayed disbursement of compensation for crop losses due to unseasonal rain, the government has allocated Rs 443 crore under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). The state has already paid compensation to about 6.6 lakh eligible farmers.

"We had distributed about Rs 132 crore in instalments among the affected farmers before November. Recently, the government released another Rs 311 crore," said Tushar Girinath, principal secretary, revenue department.

He said the compensation was directly credited to farmers' accounts through direct benefit transfer (DBT) after they uploaded crop loss details on the Parihara portal. Girinath



added the state government is expecting a claim of another Rs 150 crore in the coming days towards crop losses due to untimely rain.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MHItP8TXIgDweSkALhoEaHoxhzzaa7W/view?usp=sharing>

Source: THE TIMES OF INDIA

Farmers in Ganjam district stare at extensive crop loss

Unseasonal rain induced by Cyclone Jawad for the last three days has shattered the hopes of farmers expecting a bumper crop to recover from the loss they had suffered in November.

Hundreds of acres of standing crops like paddy, chilli and vegetables have been submerged in Ganjam district due to heavy rain under the influence of Jawad, while farmers in several areas are struggling to drain out water from the fields.

Khallikote recorded the highest rainfall of 158 mm in the state in the past 24 hours followed by Chhatrapur (86.6 mm), Polasara (74.8 mm), Kodala (71.4 mm), Ganjam (68 mm), Gopalpur (60 mm), Digapahandi (58 mm), Hinjili (56 mm) and Rangeilunda (51.2 mm).

"I have already harvested from two acres and paddy is lying in a threshing yard. As there was no option to store it in a safe place, the harvested crop was damaged in the rain," said Santosh Pradhan of Aska. "As we could not harvest paddy, around two acres of the crop was submerged," said Hara Das of Beguniapada. Like Santosh and Hara, several farmers in the district bore the brunt of the cyclone induced rain, which ruined their hopes of a bumper harvest.



Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/119-EU7CzdpwScOcYdfNXcE0x9aDH-yT/view?usp=sharing>

Source: THE TIMES OF INDIA

Haryana Govt increases compensation amount for crop damage

The Haryana government on Monday announced to increase the compensation amount given to farmers for crop damage caused, including due to the vagaries of weather.

Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said that for the welfare of farmers, the compensation amount given for more than 75 per cent of the crop damage has been increased from Rs 12,000

per acre to Rs 15,000 per acre.



"For another slab, the compensation of Rs 10,000 which was given earlier has also been increased to Rs 12,500 now, while a 25 per cent increase has been effected for the remaining slabs (for compensation amounts below Rs 10,000)," Khattar said.

The chief minister made this announcement during the launch of a modern cooperative sugar mill in Karnal built at a cost of Rs 263 crore. Khattar said the Haryana government is giving the highest crop compensation across the country. However, as there was no increase in this amount since few years, so it has been enhanced further, he added.

The chief minister called upon the farmers to get their crop insured. He said that two days ago, the government had announced that the farmers having up to two acres of land will not have to pay crop insurance premium, while for the farmers having land between 2-5 acres, the government has decided to pay half the premium.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KQgw9X2OXAKNjMiaHNfR9-J2iHHhZFNY/view?usp=sharing>

Source: INDIA NEWS

Unseasonal rains and hail affect Rabi crops in North India

Unseasonal rains and hailstorms over the past few days in northern India have impacted Rabi crops like mustard, wheat, gram and potato. Mustard crop, which should have come to the market in the first week of February, will now be delayed by three weeks as harvesting will not start till the fields dry up.

Sensing that the crop arrival will be delayed, wholesale prices of mustard oil have shot up by Rs 5 per litre over the last one week. The unseasonal rainfall that started from the second week has been beneficial for some crops, while impacting the growth of few others.

For mustard and gram crops, especially in Rajasthan, hailstorms this month has been detrimental specially in districts like Bharatpur, Dholpur and Kota due to which there has been significant damage to the standing crop, said Hetal Gandhi, director, Crisil Research.

However, at this stage of crop for gram and mustard, rainfall is considered quite beneficial for their growth. But any prolonged rains, during the harvesting stage of mustard and gram may impact the oil content and crop quality respectively.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OFyQGvIPtCGFcCOox63dqV8PNdaioIhK/view?usp=sharing>

Source: THE ECONOMICS TIMES



Who will pay for the kisan drone?

Would unmanned aerial vehicles or drones be hovering over millions of hectares of farmlands in India? Would they become as commonplace as tractors or power tillers on the ground? In her 2022 Budget speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman highlighted the government's resolve to promote what are being called kisan drones.

Drones have flown into India's fields pretty fast. It was only in August 2021 that the ministry of civil aviation liberalised the drone use policy, allowing certain types of drones to fly without prior permission. Soon after, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare published the standard operating procedure (SOP) for the use of drones in spraying pesticides in agricultural, forestry and non-cropped areas.



Read More: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hL2w4yk28aPIwiMskUE7eX4GkJ4_eH/view?usp=sharing

Source: THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Farmers in dire straits as crop insurance claim distribution hit due to fund crunch

The distribution of compensation to farmers in Kerala as part of the crop insurance scheme has been delayed again. The Agriculture Department claimed that the non-release of funds by the State Finance Department has led to the present crisis. The farmers, who have already become debt ridden due to the destruction of crops, are now facing a deep crisis due to the non-receipt of their crop insurance claims.



The State Government has to give almost Rs 24 crore to the farmers as insurance claim. According to the farmers, the Agriculture Department had collected a total of Rs 2 crore as insurance premium from them.

Read More: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gZHj1eAxWyxx5sehbYtx3uh10e2nGx/view?usp=sharing>

Source: KRISHI JAGRAN



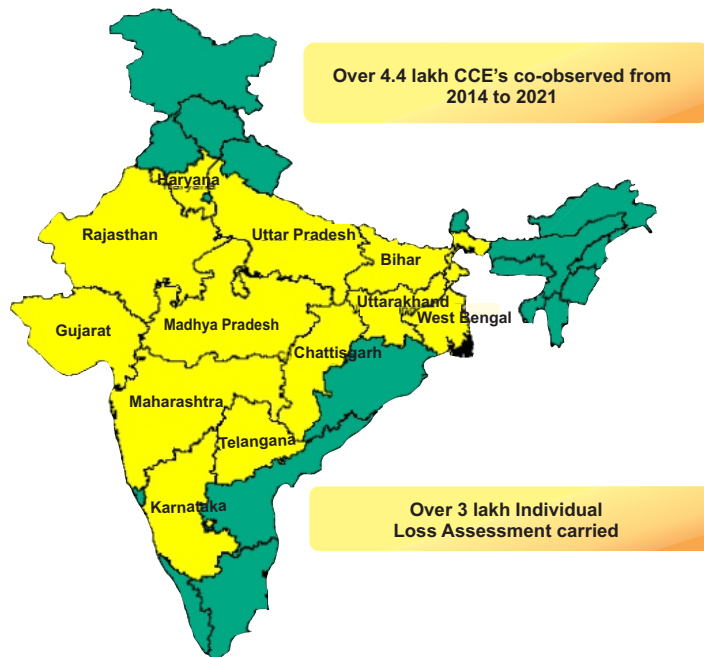
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