

## Agriculture

### Production and growth

#### Monsoon – 2005

The South–West monsoon (June–September 2005) arrived late over peninsular and eastern India but early over the northwestern parts. India Meteorological Department (IMD) had predicted in April 2005 and early July 2005 that the rainfall for the country as a whole would be near normal, at 98 per cent of the long period average (LPA) with a model error of  $\pm 4$  per cent. The season ended with the all-India area-weighted rainfall at 99 per cent of the LPA although its regional spread was not uniform. The uneven distribution of the precipitation resulted in North-East India being the worst affected region with a rainfall deficiency of

20 per cent followed by North-West India with a deficiency of 9 per cent. Rainfall was above normal in Central India and the Southern Peninsula by 10 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively. Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, monsoon rainfall was normal in 25, excess in 8 and deficient in the remaining 3 sub-divisions (Table 8.1). At the end of the monsoon season, only two meteorological sub-divisions, namely, Jharkhand and Assam & Meghalaya experienced moderate drought conditions (seasonal rainfall deficiency of 35 per cent and 27 per cent respectively). Out of 499 meteorological districts, 126 districts (25 per cent) experienced moderate drought and 10 districts (2 per cent) experienced severe drought conditions at the end of the season.

**Table 8.1 : Monsoon Performance — 1998 to 2005  
(June – September)**

Year	Number of meteorological sub-divisions			Percentage of districts with normal / excess rainfall	Percentage of long period average rainfall for the country as a whole
	Normal	Excess	Deficient / scanty		
1998	20	13	2	83	105
1999	25	3	7	67	96
2000	23	5	7	66	92
2001	28	1	6	68	91
2002	14	1	21	39	81
2003	26	7	3	75	102
2004	23	0	13	56	87
2005	25	8	3	73	99

Excess: +20 per cent or more of LPA; Normal: +19 per cent to –19 per cent of LPA;  
Deficient: -20 per cent to –59 per cent of LPA; Scanty: -60 per cent to –99 per cent of LPA.  
Source : India Meteorological Department.