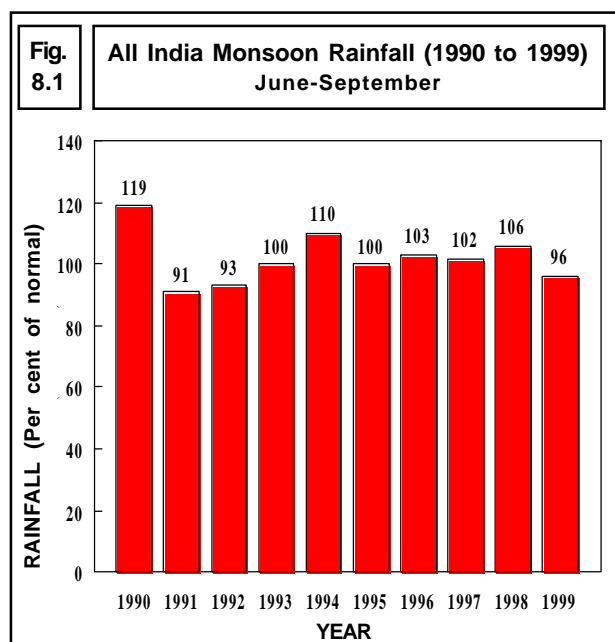


Monsoon 1999

8.2 The performance of agriculture sector is closely related to the performance of monsoon in the country. The year 1999-2000 experienced several setbacks related to weather. During the monsoon season of 1999 (June to September), 28 out of 35 meteorological sub-divisions covering 81 per cent of the area and 67 per cent of the districts of the country, received normal to excess rainfall, the highest deficiency being over Saurashtra and Kutch. The seven meteorological sub-divisions which received deficient rainfall were Saurashtra, Kutch & Diu (-58 per cent); Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry (-36 per cent); Andaman & Nicobar Islands (-29 per cent); Kerala (-25 per cent); Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi (-25 per cent); Gujarat Region (-24 per cent); and West Rajasthan (-24 per cent).

8.3 For the country as a whole, the total rainfall during the entire season was 96 per cent of the annual normal rainfall. This year, there were two spells of subdued rainfall activity, one from end of June to mid-July and another from mid-August to end of August. The monsoon rainfall in September was widespread, which compensated to a large extent the deficiency upto August. During the phase of weak monsoon activity, the monsoon trough of low pressure, which normally runs across the



northern parts of the country, shifted to the foot hills of the Himalayas. This caused heavy rain and led to floods in Bihar, West Bengal and north-eastern States. The Figure 8.1 and Table 8.1 shows south-west monsoon performance.

TABLE 8.1
Monsoon Rainfall
(June – September)

Year	Number of Meteorological Sub-divisions			Percentage of districts with normal/excess Rainfall	Actual rainfall as % of normal rainfall (All India)
	Excess/normal Rainfall	Deficient/Scanty Rainfall	Total		
1988	32	3	35	88	119
1989	29	6	35	72	101
1990	32	3	35	88	119
1991	27	8	35	68	91
1992	32	3	35	65	93
1993	31	4	35	78	100
1994	25	10	35	77	110
1995	33	2	35	79	100
1996	32	3	35	82	103
1997	32	3	35	81	102
1998	33	2	35	81	106
1999	28	7	35	67	96

8.4 Rabi agriculture production prospects also depend to some extent on post-monsoon rainfall. The cumulative rainfall during post-monsoon season 1999 (Oct-Dec) was excess or normal in 26 out of 35 meteorological sub-divisions as compared to 33 sub-divisions in 1998 (Table 8.2). Rainfall for the country as a whole was 18 per cent above normal during October-December 1999.

TABLE 8.2
Post Monsoon Rainfall (October-December)
(Number of Meteorological sub-divisions)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Excess/Normal	16	26	27	33	26
Deficient/Scanty	19	9	8	2	9
Total	35	35	35	35	35