

## Water Statistics FAQ

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### **Q. 1) What is monsoon?**

The seasonal reversal of winds and the associated rainfall. This word is derived from the Arabic word "Mausim".

### **Q. 2) How do we express the quantity of rainfall?**

- Liquid rainfall is expressed as the depth to which it would cover a horizontal projection of the earth's surface, if there is no loss by evaporation, runoff or infiltration.
- It is expressed in terms of mm or cm.
- It is assumed that the amount of precipitation collected in the gauge is representative of a certain area around the point where the measurement is made.
- The choice of the instrument and the site itself, the form and exposure of the measuring gauge, the prevention of loss of precipitation by evaporation and the effects of wind and splashing are some of the important points to be considered in the correct measurement of precipitation.

### **Q.3) What causes the monsoon?**

- The annual oscillation in the apparent position of the Sun between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn causes the annual oscillation in the position of the thermal equator (region of maximum heating) on the Earth's surface. This is associated with the annual oscillation of temperature, pressure, wind, cloudiness, rain etc.
- On the Earth's surface, there are asymmetries of land and Ocean. The differential heating of land and Ocean cause variations in the intensity of the annual oscillation of the thermal equator and hence regional variations in the intensity of monsoon.

### **Q. 4) What is southwest monsoon?**

The south-westerly wind flow occurring over most parts of India and Indian Seas gives rise to southwest monsoon over India from June to September.

### **Q.5) Which satellites are being used to monitor the weather of Indian region ?**

- Kalpana-1
- Insat-3A

### **Q.6) What is Rainfall distribution on All India scale?**

- Normal -percentage departure of realised rainfall is within +/- 10 % of the Long Period Average

- Below Normal -percentage departure of realised rainfall is < 10% of the Long Period Average
- Above Normal -percentage departure of realised rainfall is > 10% of the Long Period Average
- All India Drought Year- When the rainfall deficiency is more than 10% and when 20 to 40% of the country is under drought conditions, then the year is termed as All India Drought Year
- All India Severe Drought Year -When the rainfall deficiency is more than 10% and when the spatial coverage of drought is more than 40% it is called as All India Severe Drought Year

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