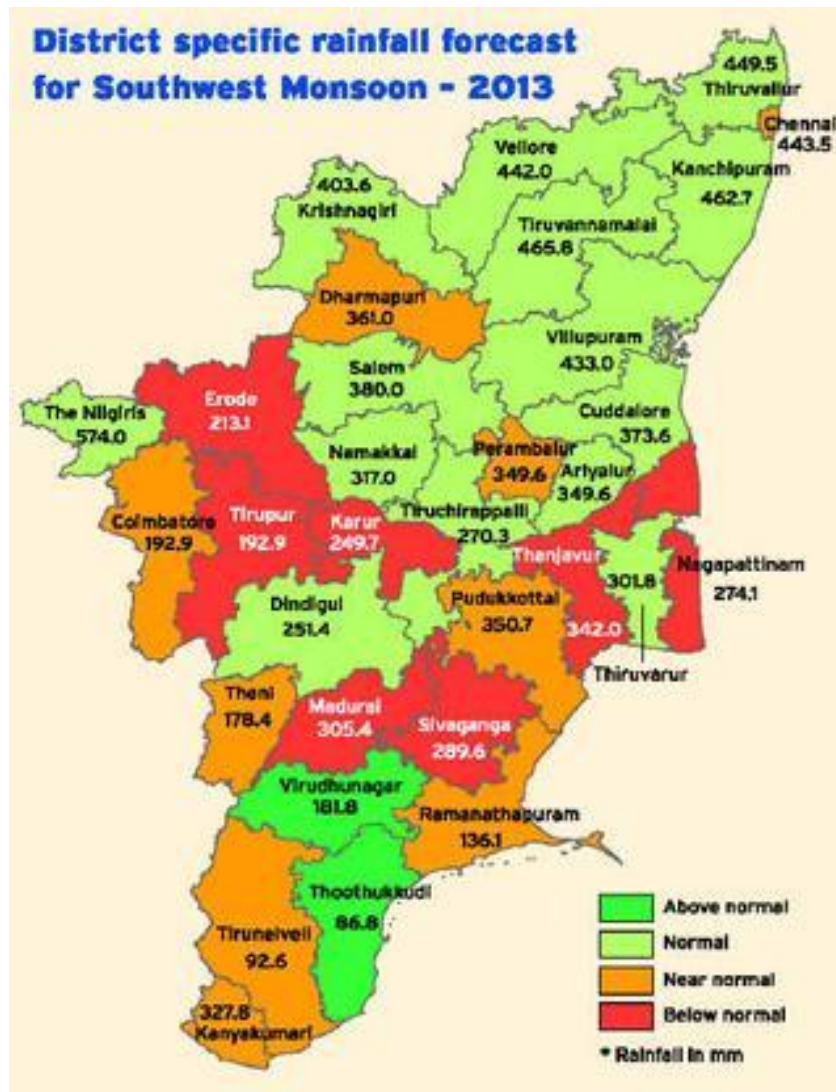


It will be largely normal rainfall in Tamil Nadu: TNAU

The Monsoon is expected to hit the State in the first week of June



The South West Monsoon is expected to bring normal to near normal rainfall for a large part of the State from July-September. Barring a few districts, the others will enjoy this forecast, which has a 60 per cent probability level, according to the Agro Climate Research Centre of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

The centre arrived at the district-level rainfall forecast based on the Southern Oscillation Index and sea surface temperature values using Version 4.2 of the Australian Rainman International software, Head of the Centre N. Maragatham said.

Hilly regions

The centre had also developed seasonal rainfall forecast of the South West Monsoon separately for hilly regions and high rainfall zones.

Forecast

“Though it is a little early to arrive at concrete figures, the preliminary prediction shows that this Monsoon will be better compared to last year throughout the State as well as for Coimbatore. The Monsoon is expected to hit the State in the first week of June. Mid-June will be an ideal time to come up with figures that will give a better forecast about the trend of the Monsoon, its period and intensity continue till the end of the season in September,” she said.

Summer rain

Referring to the rain that Coimbatore received in the last couple of days, she said that this was a summer rain and there was no way to predict summer and winter rain.

These rain did not signify any new trend and should be seen only a passing phase, she added.

Crop planning

The Centre would send the forecast to Commissioners of Agriculture and Horticulture, TNAU campuses and research stations, and District Joint Directors of Agriculture and Horticulture, for assisting farmers in crop planning.