

Monthly Bulletin National Agromet Centre Pakistan Meteorological Department



Vol: 02-2017

FEBRUARY, 2017

Highlights...

- ❖ Normal to below normal rainfall with snowfall over the hills was reported from most of the agricultural plains of the country.
- ❖ Thermal regime in this month remained mostly normal to slightly above normal in the agricultural plains of the country.
- ❖ ETo and R.H remained normal to below normal in most of the agricultural plains of the country.
- ❖ Agricultural soils showed mostly warmer trend in the country due to below normal rains during the month.
- ❖ Spraying/manual Weedicides operations on wheat and other Rabi crops and preparation of land/transplantation of summer vegetables nursery were the major field activities in most of the agricultural plains of the country during the month.
- ❖ Farmers are advised to protect standing crops from excess of weeds growth and other diseases.
- ❖ The outlook for the month of March shows that above normal rainfalls are expected over the northern half of the country including GB, Kashmir, northeastern Punjab and upper PK. Whereas, the rest parts especially the northwestern Baluchistan may receive slightly below normal rainfall during this month.

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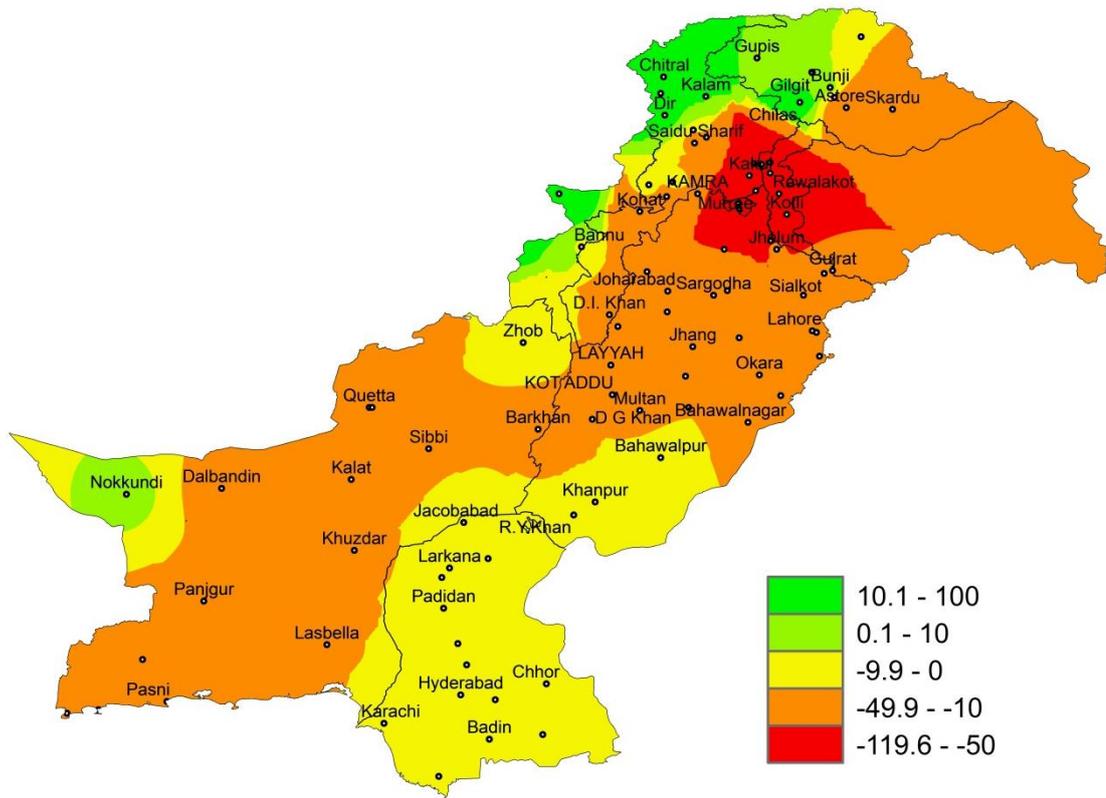
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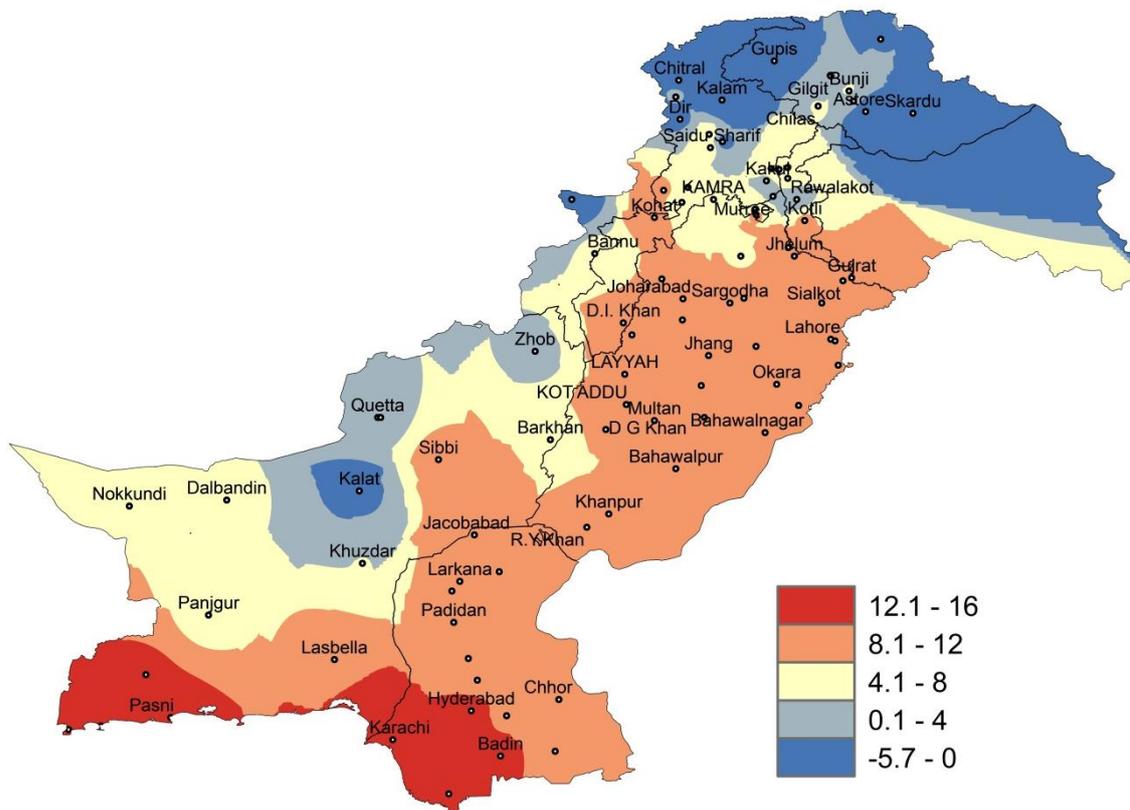
EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. This Agrometeorological bulletin is prepared on the basis of data from 15 stations of Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD). These stations, selected in consultation with the agricultural authorities, represent major agricultural areas of the country. There are still important agricultural areas which are not represented by the stations included in the bulletin. This may be (a) because there are no PMD stations in these areas and /or (b) the fact that we had to limit the number of stations due to the requirement of speedy data communication and processing (both of which are important for producing and dispatching timely Agrometeorological bulletins).
2. Due to the above, all inferences and conclusions hold true primarily for the above areas and not for Pakistan territory which include areas that may not be very important from the agricultural point of view and the climate of which may not bear directly on agriculture in the major producing areas.
3. The normally expected weather of next month is prepared on the basis of premise of normal or near normal weather prevailing during the coming month. As such it should not be confused with synoptic weather of the next month.
4. Summer Season/ Kharif remains from April/May to October/November and Rabi season from November to April. Mean Daily Maximum Temperature images are included in summer and Mean Minimum Temperature images are included in winter in the Bulletin.
5. In the tables, the values in the parentheses are based on 1981 to 2010 normal. Normal values (in parenthesis) of Soil Temperatures are based upon 10 years data. Dotted line (---) means missing data. Solar radiation intensities are computed from sunshine duration using coefficients developed by Pakistan Meteorological Department.

Rainfall Departure from Normal (mm) during February, 2017



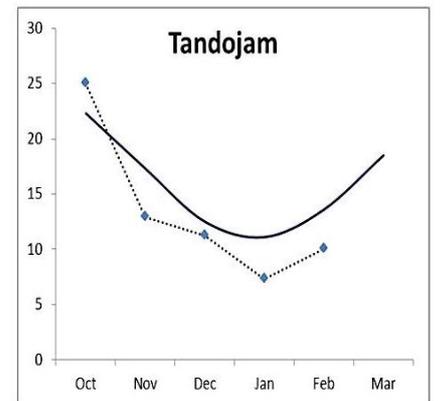
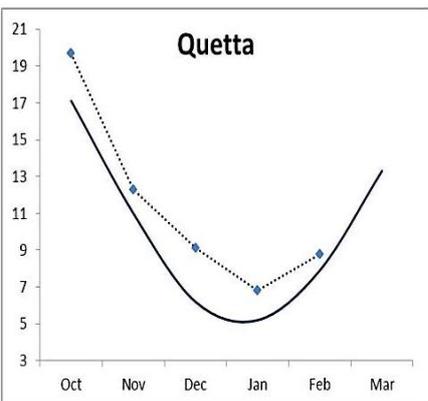
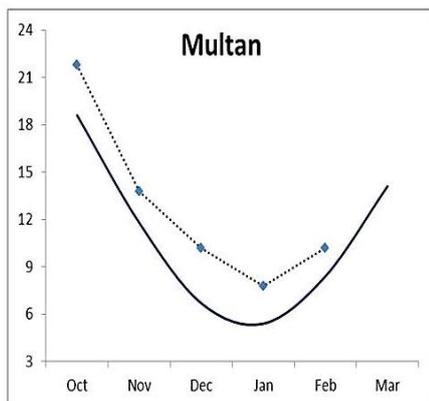
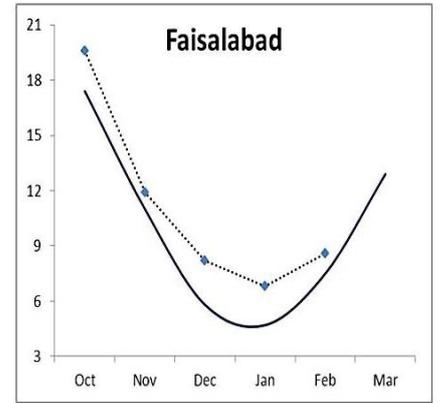
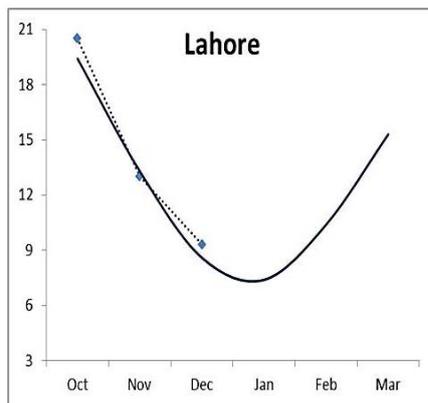
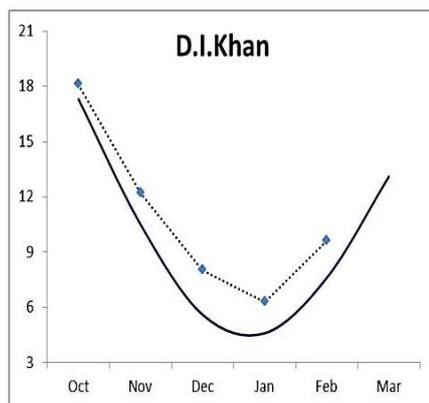
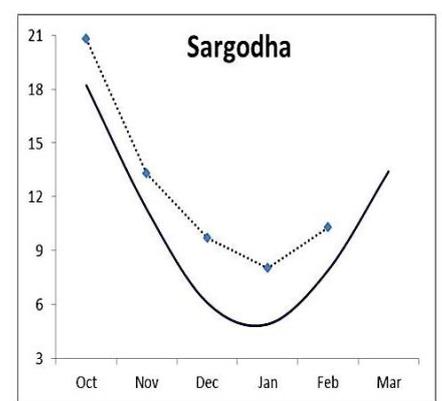
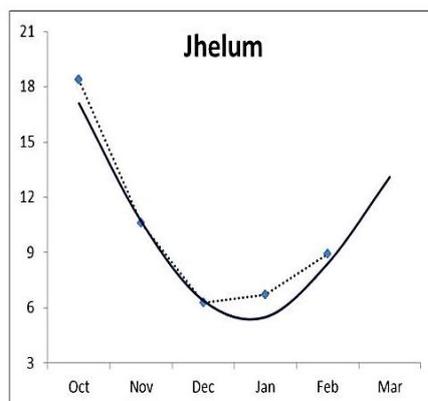
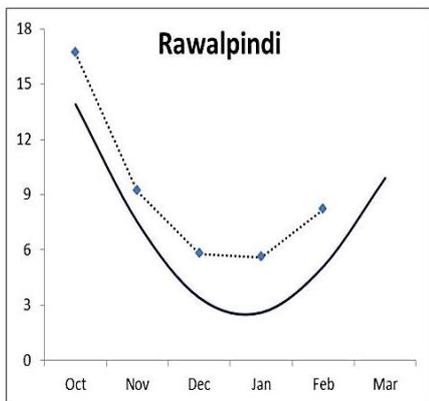
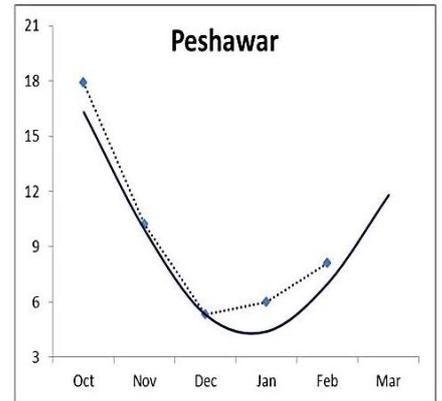
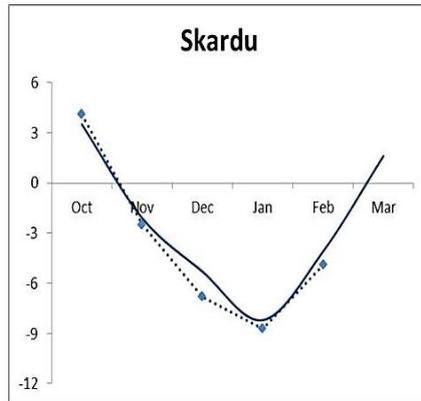
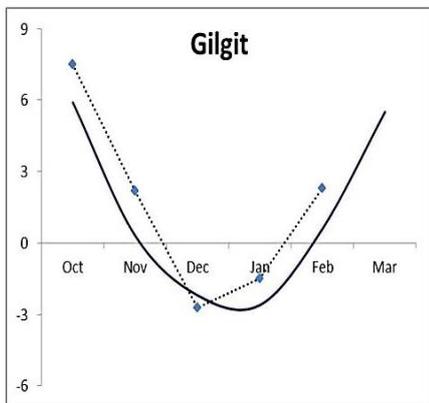
Minimum Temperature (°C) during February, 2017



Minimum Temperature (°C) during Rabi Season (Febuary-2017)

Dotted Curve: Current Season (Febuary-2017) in °C

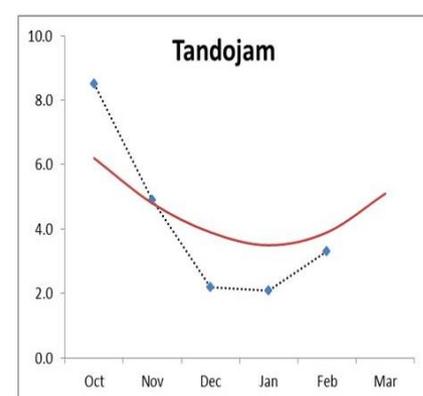
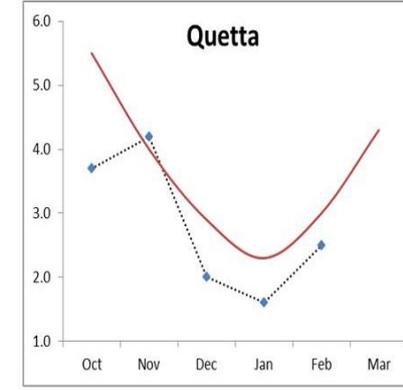
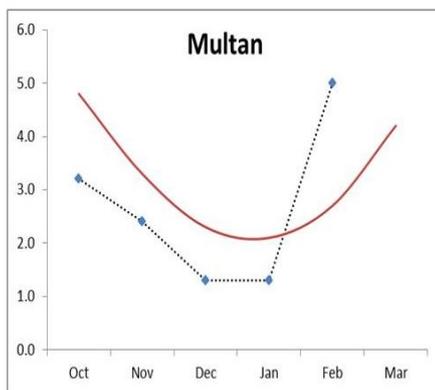
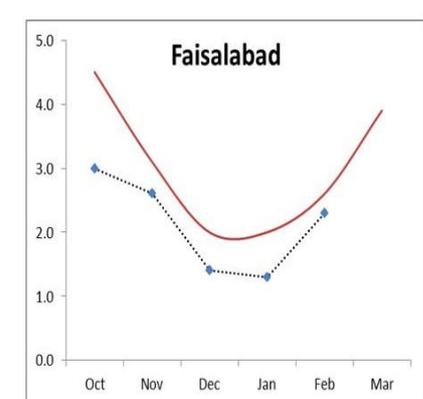
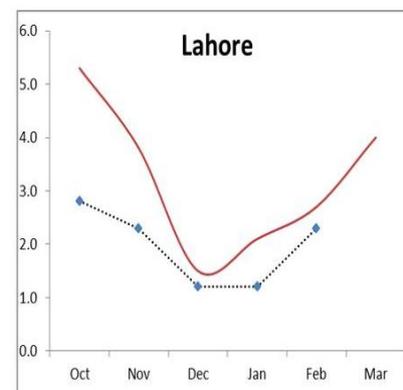
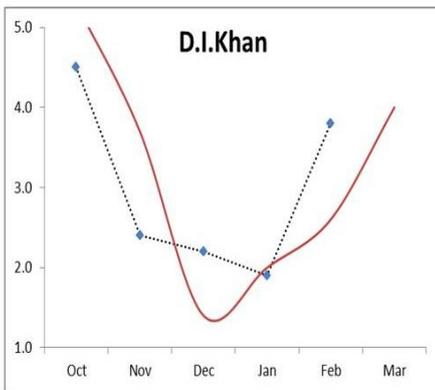
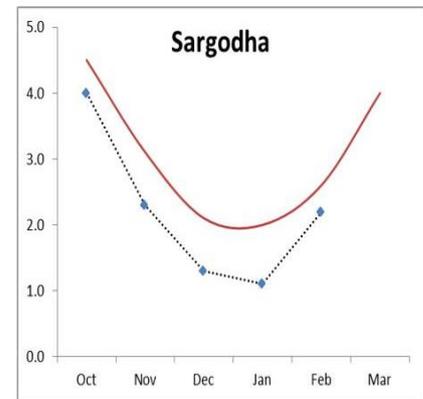
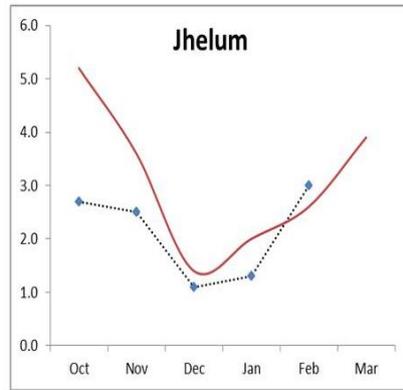
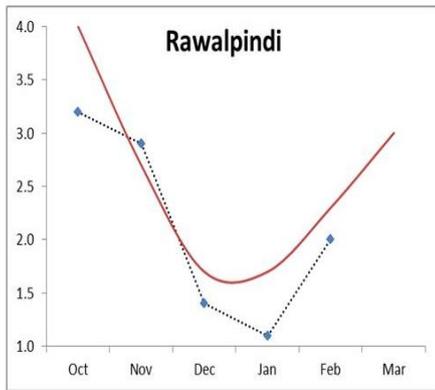
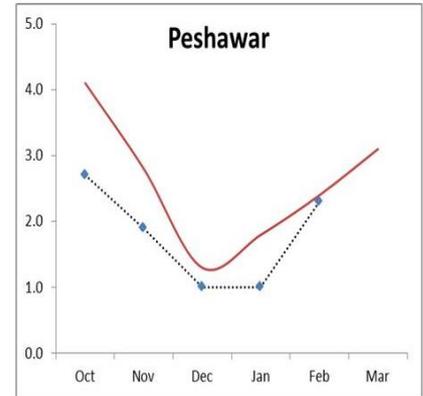
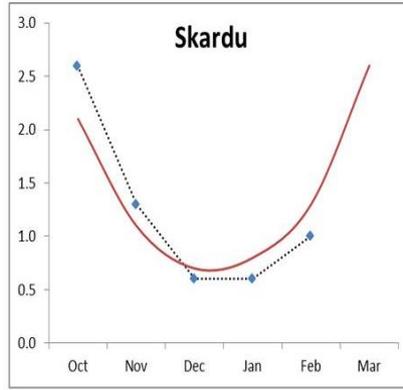
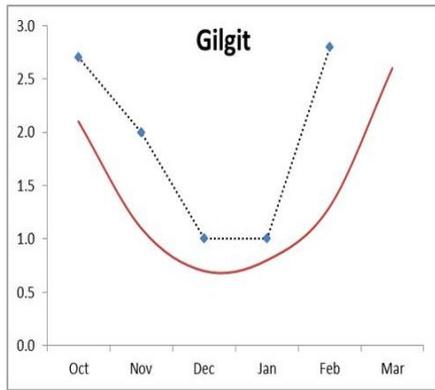
Smooth Curve: Normal values of Rabi Season



Evapotranspiration (mm/day) during Rabi Season (Febuary-2017)

Dotted Curve: Current Season (Febuary-2017) in °C

Smooth Curve: Normal Values of Rabi Season



Crop Report during February, 2017

Spraying/manual Weedicides operations on wheat and other Rabi crops and preparation of land/transplantation of summer vegetables nursery were the major field activities in most of the agricultural plains of the country during the month. Operations of chemical spraying against pest attacks on fruit orchards due to cloudy/moist atmosphere during the month were also in progress. Pace of growth and development of the crops in rainfed as well as irrigated areas due to good rains reported in upper half of the country.

In **Punjab**: Growth of wheat crop is reported satisfactory in both rainfed and irrigated areas due to satisfactory rainfall throughout the month. The crop is reported at shooting/heading stage in most of the agricultural plains of the province. Sowing of spring maize crop has been started. Growth of gram and lentil has also been reported satisfactory and the crops are at flowering/pod formation stage. Harvesting of oilseed crop has been started at some areas of the province. No serious pest attack has been reported on these crops. Harvesting/crushing of sugarcane has almost been completed and good yield is reported. Sowing/land preparation for summer vegetables is in progress.

In **Sindh**: Growth and development of wheat crop in the province is reported satisfactory. The crop is at wax/milk/full maturity stage. No pest attack has been reported on the crop. Castor oil is growing satisfactory and its first picking is in progress. Safflower is at vegetative stage and growth has reported good. Growth of linseed has been reported well and the crop is at capsule formation stage. Mangoes are at flowering stage. The growth of other seasonal fruits like guava, banana, Cheeko is in good condition.

In **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**: Overall growth and development of wheat crop in the province is reported satisfactory. Crop is at shooting/heading/flowering stage. No pest attack has been reported on the crop. Harvesting/crushing of sugarcane has almost completed and good yield has been reported. Sowing/land preparation for summer vegetables has started.

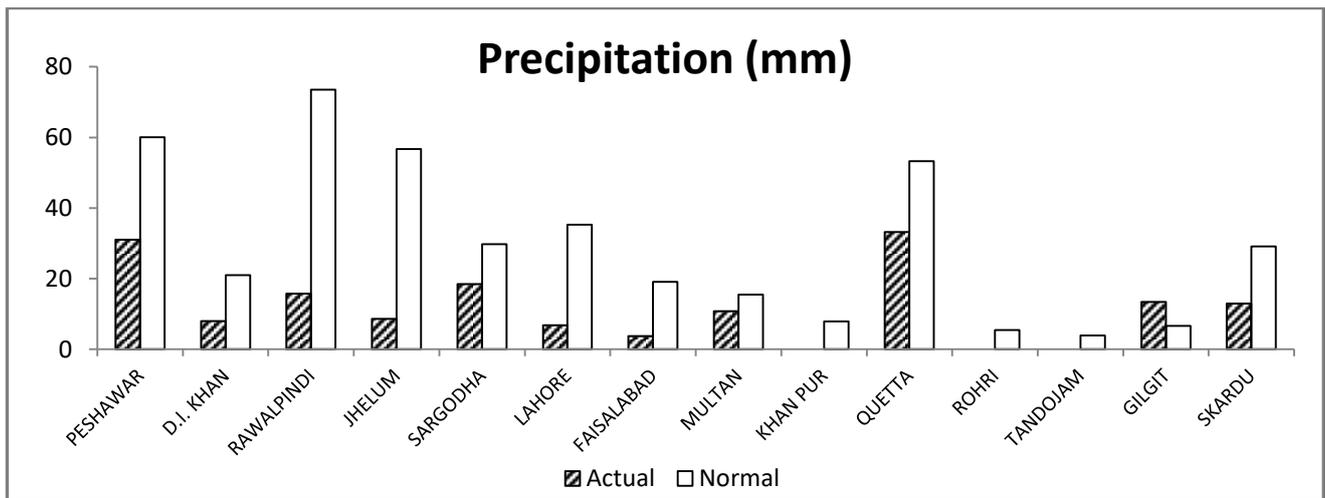
In **Balochistan**: Condition of standing crops like wheat, maize and canola has been reported satisfactory. All these crops are at their early growing stage. Growth of fruit orchards and that of seasonal vegetables is satisfactory and harvesting/picking is in progress.

In **Gilgit-Baltistan**: Most of the agricultural activities stop during the winter season in the area.

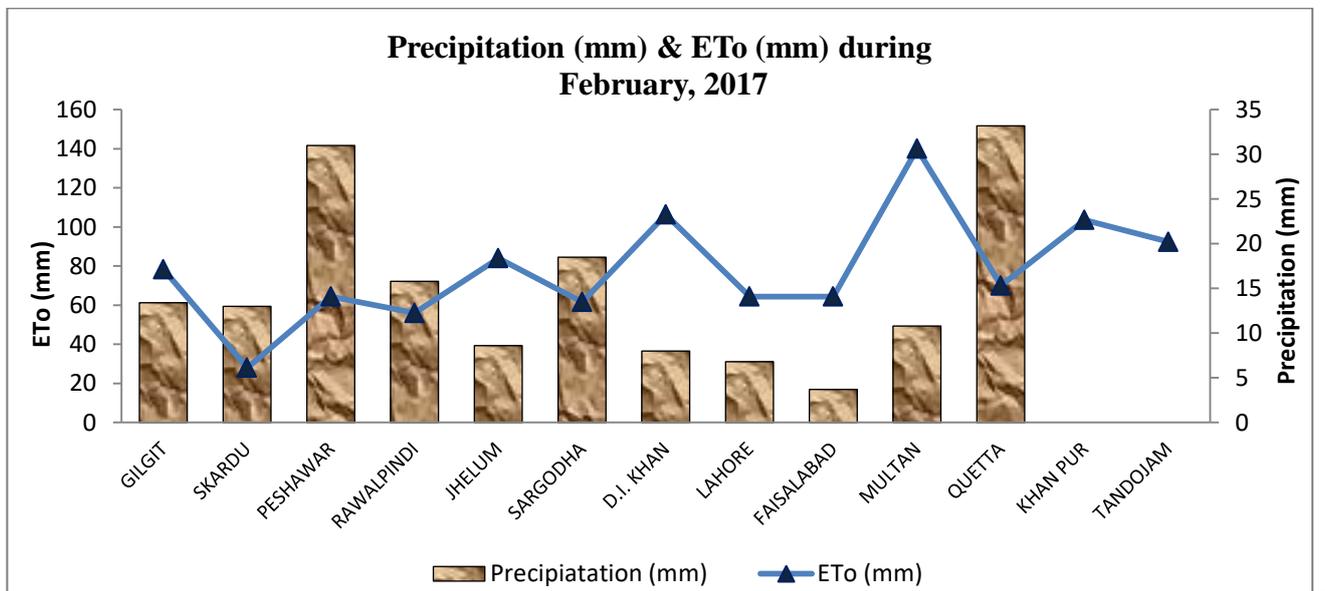
Moisture Regime during February, 2017

Winter rains generally continue from December to March in Pakistan. During the month of February below normal rainfall was reported from agricultural plains of the country. The highest amount of rainfall was recorded as 190 mm at Dir followed by 168 mm at Kalam, 162 mm at Chitral, 146 mm at Pattan and 133 mm at Malam Jabba.

Numbers of rainy days recorded in the country ranged between 1 to 11 days. The maximum number of rainy days in the country was observed as 11 days at Kalam followed by 10 days at Chitral, Drosh and Quetta each and 09 days at Gilgit and Mirkhani each.

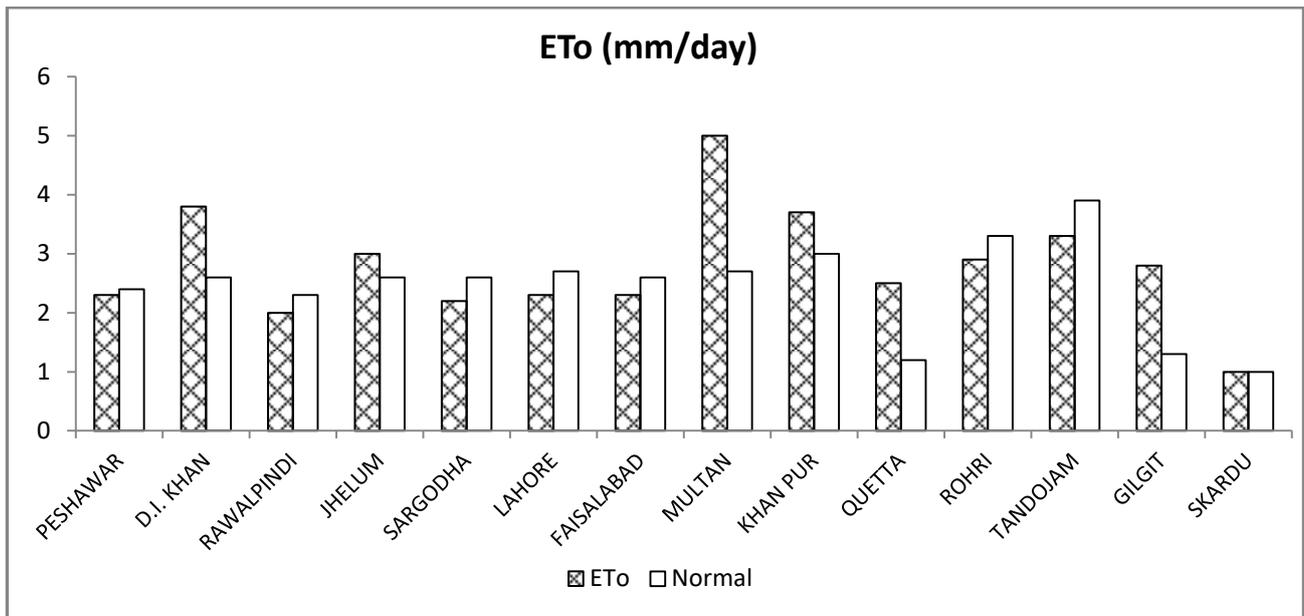


Comparison of Actual Precipitation (mm) during the month of February, 2017 with Normal values for Major Agricultural plains of the Country



Precipitation (mm) & ETo (mm) during the month of February, 2017 for Major Agricultural plains of the Country

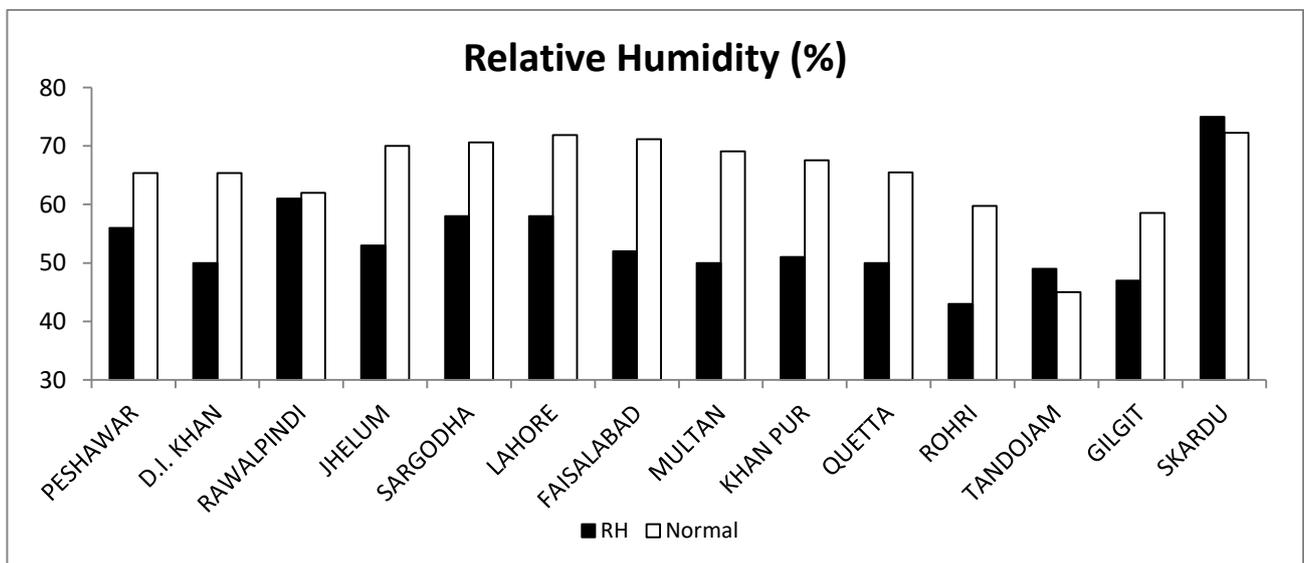
The evaporative demand of the atmosphere represented by reference crop evapotranspiration (ETo) remained normal to slightly below normal in most of the agricultural plains of the country except lower KP, Multan & Khanpur in Central Punjab, upper GB and Quetta valley in Balochistan where it remained above normal. The highest value of ETo was estimated in Multan in Central Punjab.



Comparison of Actual ETo (mm/day) during the month of February, 2017 with Normal values

The mean daily Relative Humidity (R.H) remained normal to below normal in most of the agricultural plains of the country except Skardu where it was recorded above normal.

Maximum value of mean Relative humidity was observed 75% at Skardu followed by 61% at Rawalpindi and 58% at Sargodha & Lahore each. The minimum value was observed at Rohri as 43% due to its dry climate during the month.



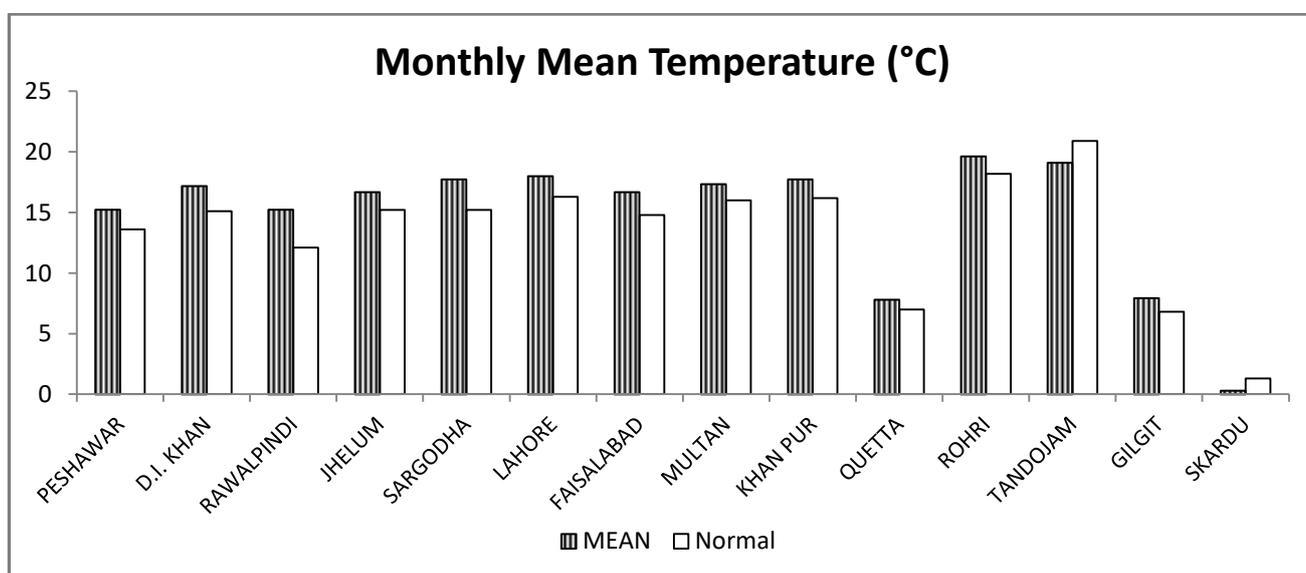
From overall analysis, it is evident that due to fewer rains reported in February, mostly below normal moisture conditions observed in most of the irrigated and rainfed areas especially in upper half of the Rains.

Temperature Regime during February, 2017

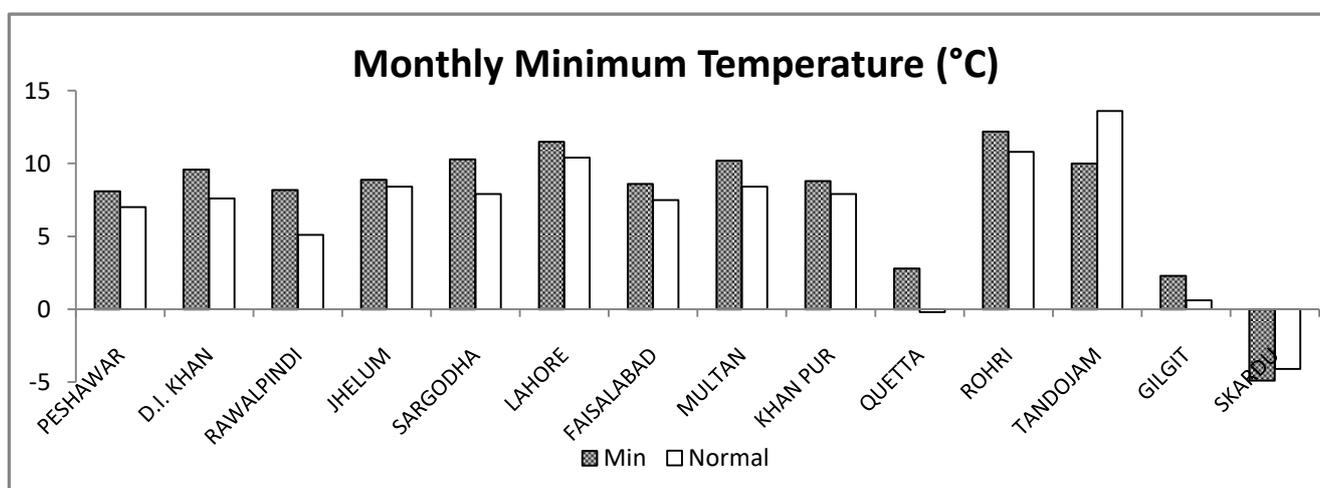
Temperature plays vital role in the growth and development of crops. Thermal regime in this month remained normal to above normal in most agricultural plains of the country.

Mean daily temperature remained normal to slightly above normal (by 1-2°C) in most of the agricultural plains of the country. Mean daily temperature ranged 15-17°C in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 15 to 17°C in Potohar plateau, in remaining parts of Punjab it ranged 15-18°C, in Sindh it ranged 19-20°C, in Gilgit-Baltistan region it ranged 0 to 8°C and was observed 8°C in the high elevated agricultural plains of Balochistan represented by Quetta valley.

Maximum number of stress days with minimum temperature less than or equal to 0°C was observed for 25 days in Skardu, followed by 09 days in Gilgit and 06 days at Quetta. Number of stress days with maximum temperature greater than or equal to 40°C and R.H. less than or equal to 30% was not observed in the agricultural plains of the country.

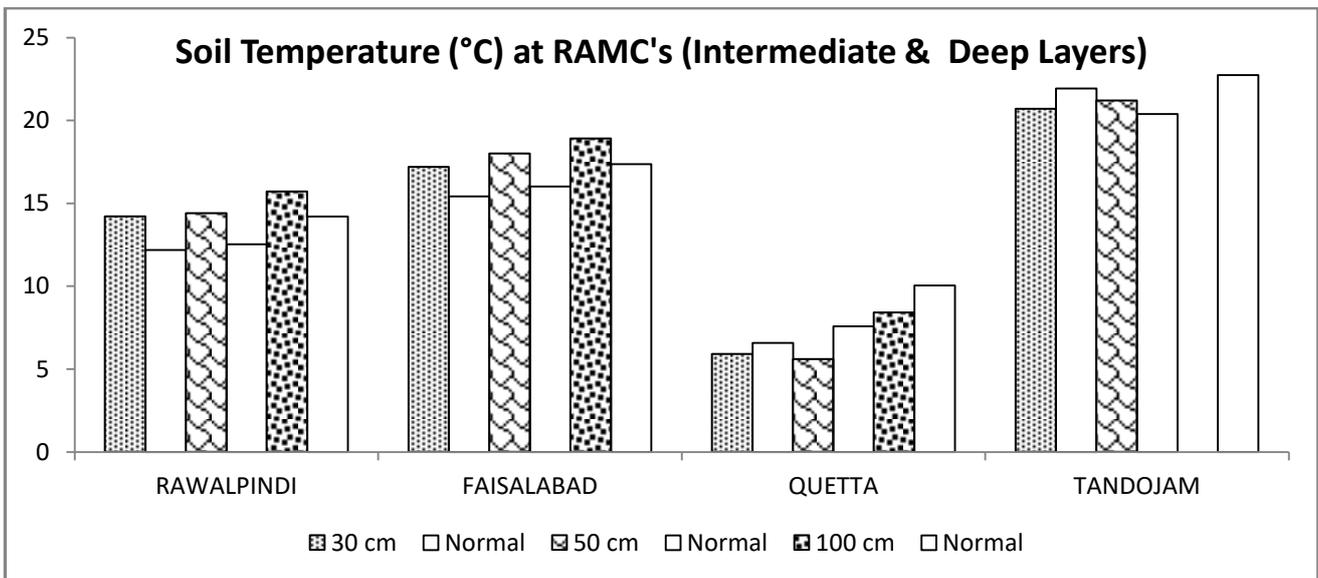
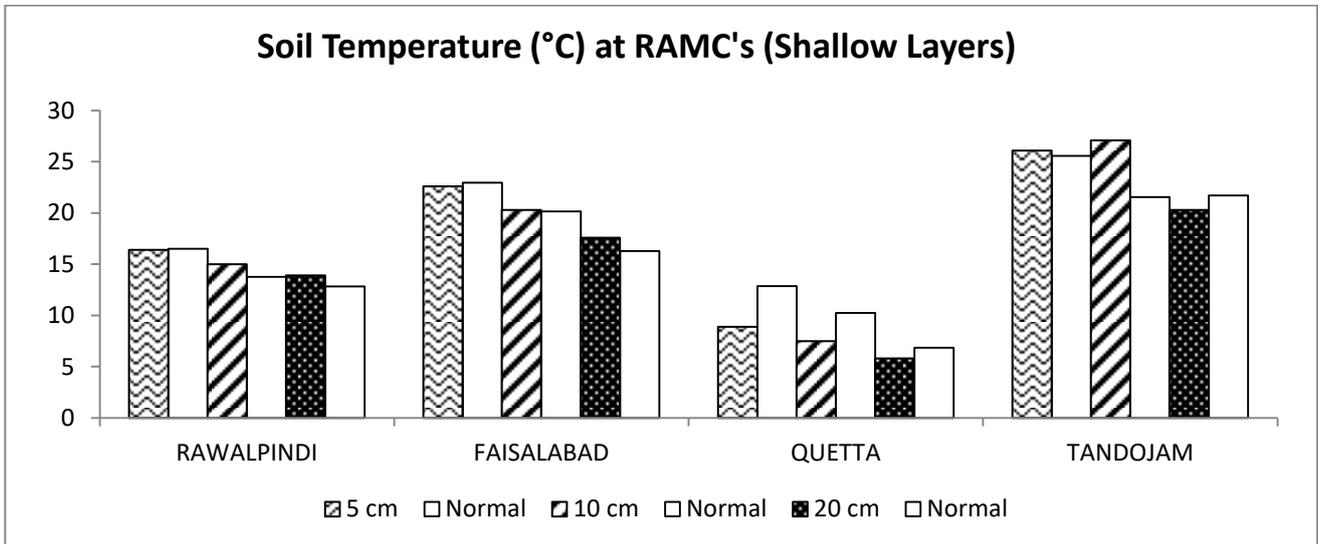


The night time temperature represented by mean minimum remained normal to above normal by 1-3°C in most of the agricultural plains of the country during the month. The lowest minimum temperature was recorded -14.2°C at Skardu.



Agricultural soils showed mostly normal to above normal trend at shallow, intermediate and deep layers in the major agricultural areas of the country.

At shallow, intermediate and deep layers, below normal trend of soil temperature is observed in Balochistan represented by Quetta valley. However, no significant moisture stress exists in the agriculture soils in the country.

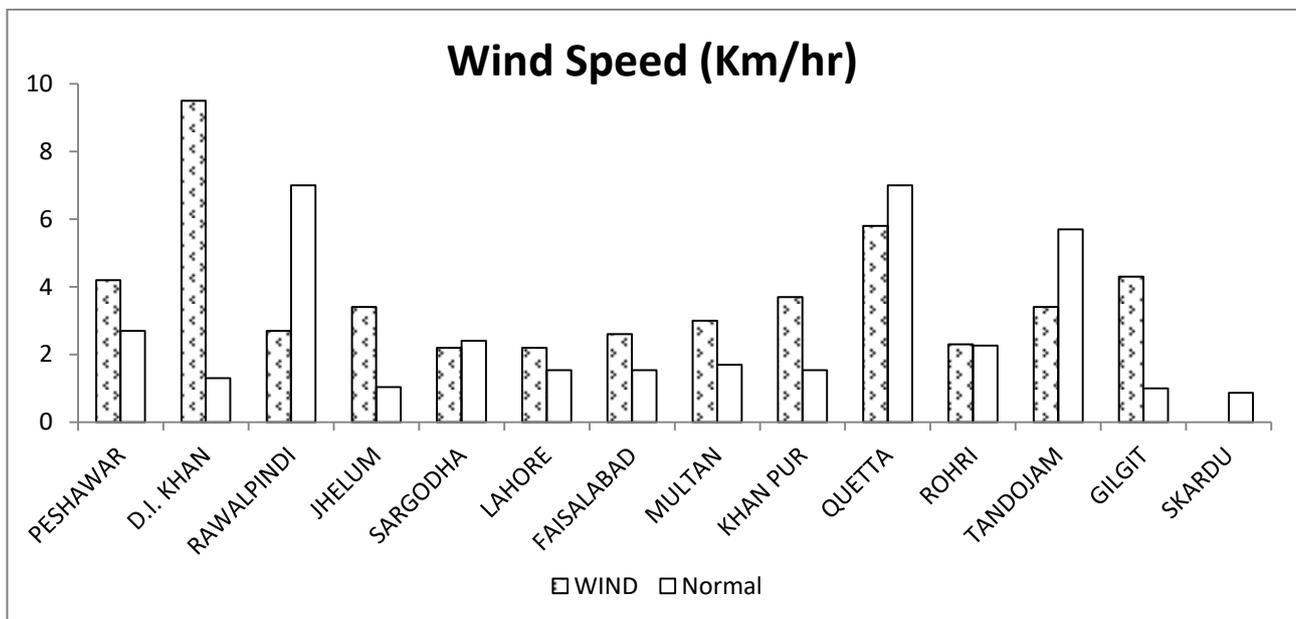
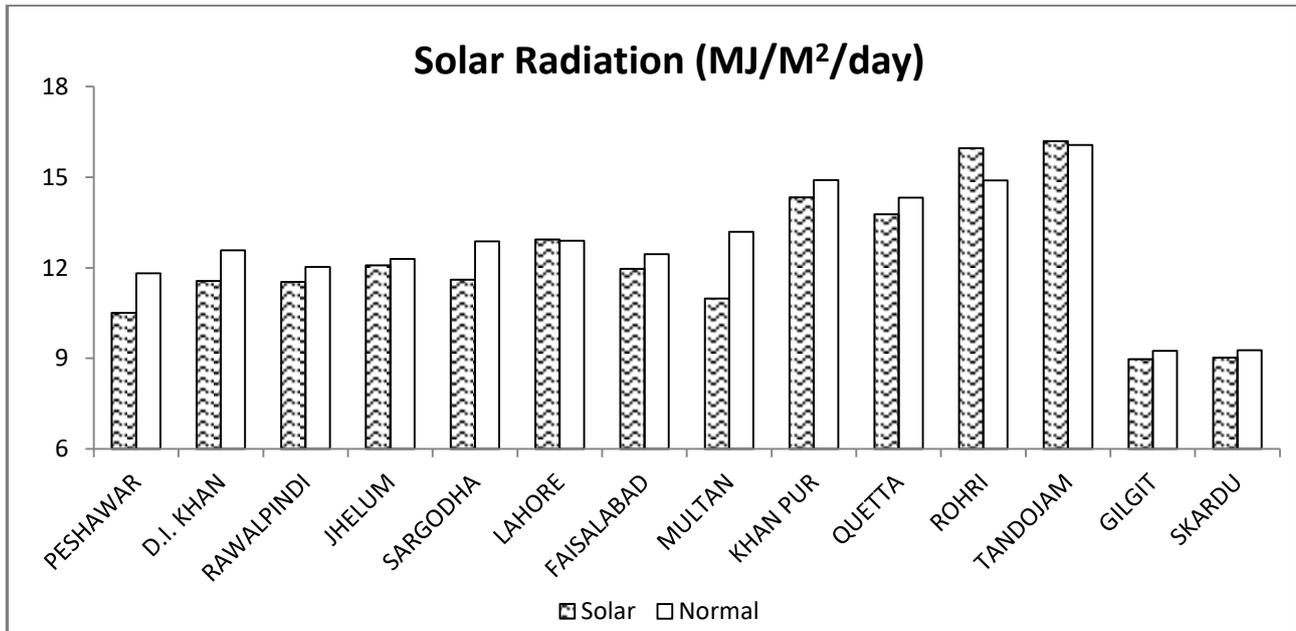


From the general analysis of soil behavior in this month, it is concluded that moisture has satisfactory status in the irrigated as well as rainfed areas in upper and central parts of the country.

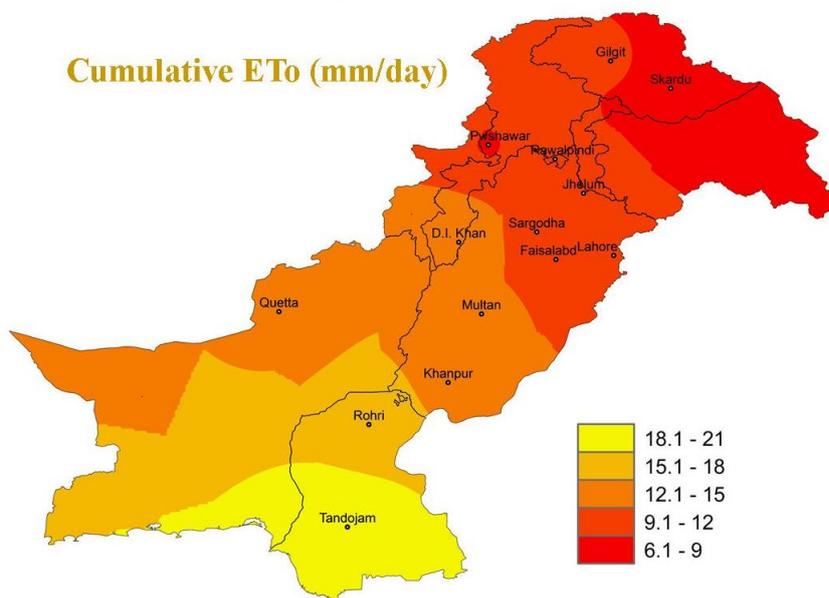
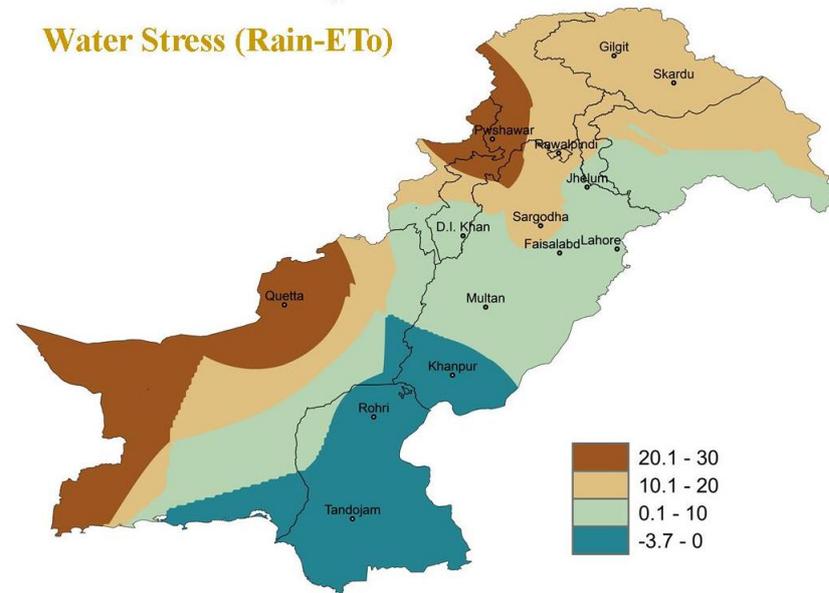
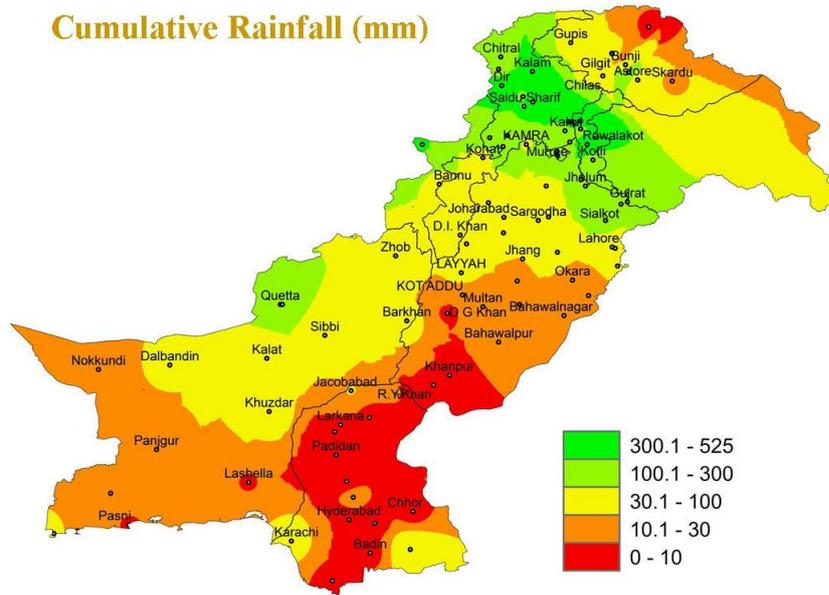
Solar Radiation and Wind Regime during February, 2017

Total bright sunshine hours and solar radiation intensity showed falling trend in most of the agriculture plains of the country.

Mean wind speed throughout agricultural plains of the country ranged between 1 to 7 km/h with North to North-West trend. Maximum wind speed observed as 9.5 km/h in D.I.Khan.



Cumulative Rainfall, ETo and water stress for Rabi Season (October to February)



Normally Expected Weather during March, 2017

March is normally the wettest month of winter season. Heating starts over the subcontinent due to increasing solar angle and the sun shine over the equator during last decade of the month. Heating trend triggers energetic weather systems, which resulted in increasing number of dust / wind storms and precipitation. March marks substantial addition to Rabi season precipitation and rising temperatures contribute significantly in photosynthesis process. The probability of occurrence of rainfall during March over Potohar plains is given below:-

Amounts/ Dates	Percentage Probability of Occurrence of different Amounts of Rainfall in March					
	1-5	6-10	11-16	17-20	21-25	26-31
10 mm	26	30	29	51	43	40
15 mm	22	23	21	36	35	23
25 mm	13	18	16	21	22	14

Potohar plateau and northern KP may receive precipitation ranging from 160mm to 190mm depending upon location. However, remaining parts of Punjab, KPK and high agricultural plains of Balochistan are likely to experience precipitation between 125mm and 150mm. The rainfall amounts in rest parts of the country would also be significant.

The level of mean daily relative humidity is expected to drop as compared to January/February and would range between 45% and 60%. The daily evaporative demand of the atmosphere will increase with increasing temperature trend and mean daily values averaged over the month would vary from 3mm to 4mm in KP, Punjab and high plains of Balochistan. However, ETo values would rise to 5mm/day in Southern Sindh and lower Balochistan.

The mean daily temperature would follow an increasing trend from north towards south and will vary between 17°C and 26°C whereas in Quetta valley it would be around 11°C. The daily maximum is likely to make monthly average as 24 to 34°C and minimum as 10 to 18°C from north towards south. The occurrence of freezing temperature is likely in Quetta valley, whereas daytime temperature may approach to 40°C in lower Sindh.

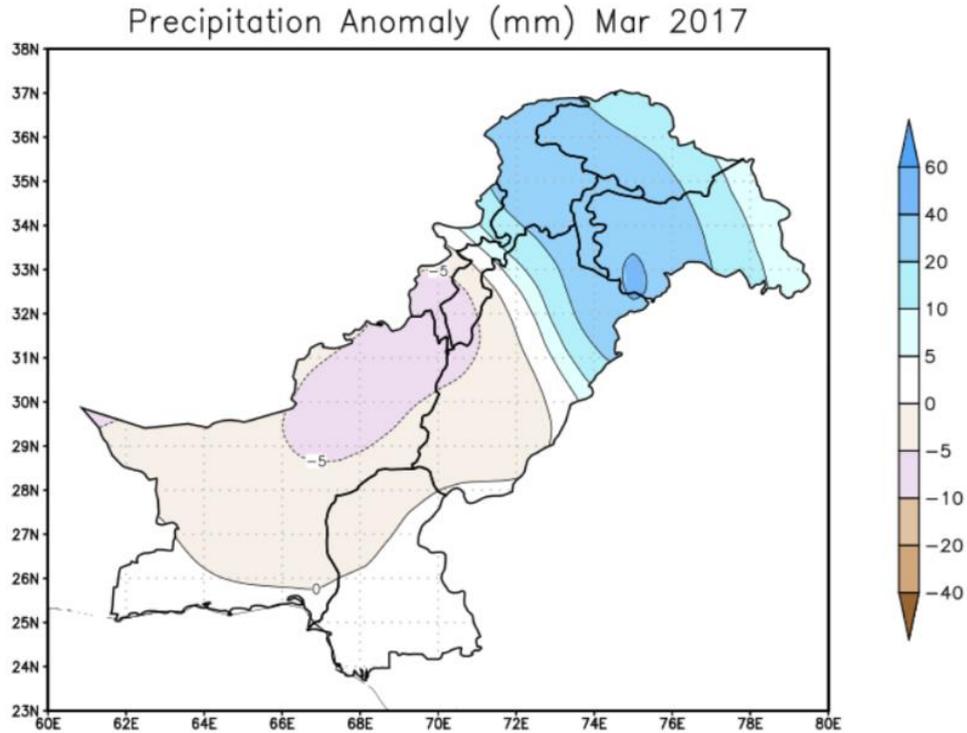
The mean daily duration of bright sunshine is likely to range from 7 to 9 hours following an increasing trend from north towards south. The mean daily wind speed may vary between 4 to 10 km/hr and would prevail mainly from north and west direction.

Wheat is the major Rabi crop in the agricultural plains of the country growing at different phonological phases e.g. at shooting in high agricultural plains of the country and heading to grain formation in low elevation plains during March. The crop water requirement of wheat in different regions is given as under:

S.No	Region	Water Requirement	
		(mm)	Cubic Meter/Hectare
1	Northern KP and adjoining Punjab and high plains of Balochistan.	90-110	900-1100
2	Most of Punjab and Southern KP.	120-140	1200-1400
3	Sindh and lower Balochistan.	140-150	1400-1500

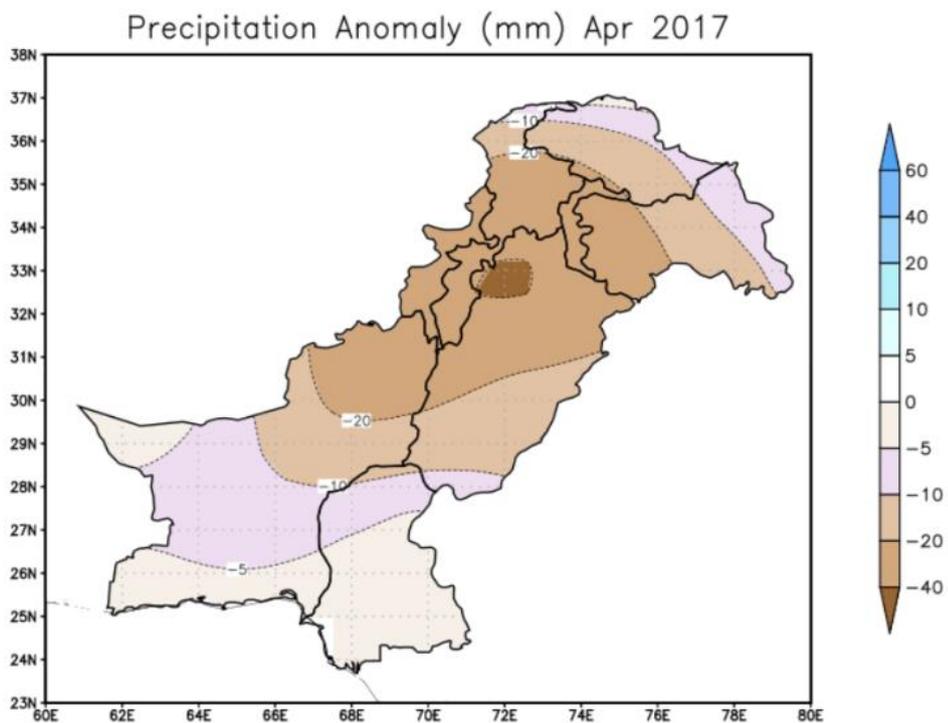
Weather Outlook for March 2017

Precipitation outlook for the month of March shows that above normal rainfalls are expected over the northern half of the country including GB, Kashmir, northeastern Punjab and upper PK. Whereas, the rest parts especially the northwestern Baluchistan may receive slightly below normal rainfall during this month.



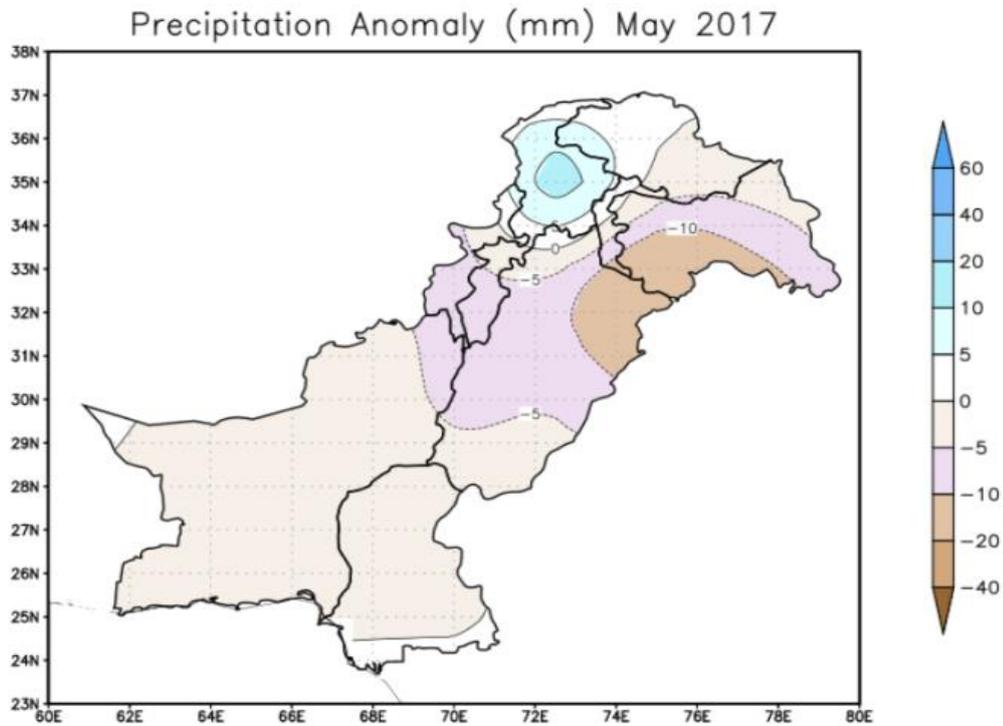
Weather Outlook for April 2017

Precipitation outlook for the month of April shows that overall below normal rainfall may occur all over the country.



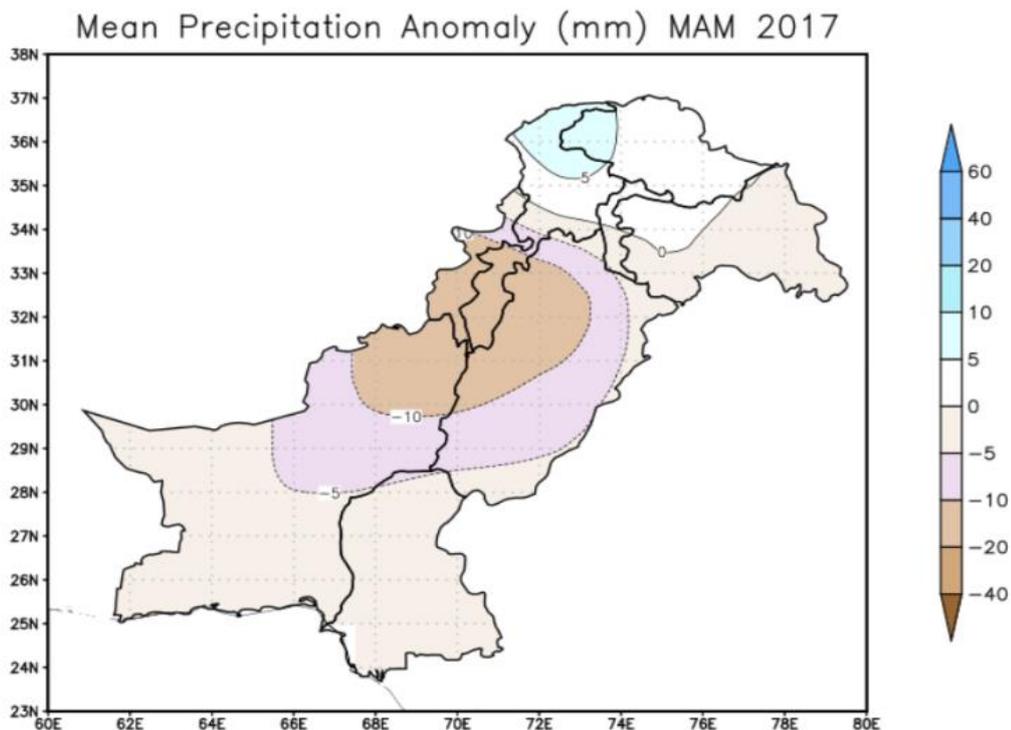
Weather Outlook for May 2017

Precipitation outlook for the month of May shows that below normal rainfall pattern may continue in the country however, slightly above normal rainfall may occur in upper KP and adjoining areas of GB.



Weather Outlook for March-May 2017

Precipitation outlook for the period “March-May” shows that below normal rainfall pattern may prevail in most parts of the country however, slightly above normal rainfall may occur in northwestern KP and adjoining areas of GB.



Findings of AgMIP Pakistan, University of Agriculture Faisalabad

1. There would be significant increase in temperature i.e., 2.8°C in day and 2.2°C in the night during mid-century (2040-2069)
2. There would be significant variability in rainfall patterns (about 25% increase in summer & 12% decrease in winter during 2040-2069)
3. Climate Change will affect the crop yields negatively (about 17% for rice and 14 % for wheat)
4. If there will be no adaptation to Climate Change, majority of farmers would be the economic losers

▽△ With Adaptation to Climate Change (through technology and management), there would be significant decrease in poverty and improvement in the livelihood of farming community.

*(Agricultural Model Inter-comparison and Improvement Project (AgMIP)
Pakistan 2012-2014)*

- 1- سال 2040-69 کے دوران درجہ حرارت میں قابل ذکر اضافہ ہو سکتا ہے۔ جو کہ دن کے وقت 2.8°C اور رات کو 2.2°C تک ہوگا۔
- 2- گرمیوں کی بارش میں 25 فیصد اضافہ اور سردیوں کی بارش میں 12 فیصد تک کمی کا امکان ہے۔
- 3- مندرجہ بالا موسمی تغیرات کی وجہ سے دھان کی پیداوار میں 17 فیصد اور گندم کی پیداوار میں 14 فیصد تک کمی ہو سکتی ہے۔
- 4- اگر موسمی تغیرات کا مناسب بندوبست نہ کیا گیا۔ تو کسانوں کی اکثریت کو معاشی نقصان کا سامنا کرنا پڑے گا۔
- 5- موسمی تغیرات کے سبب (بذریعہ نئی ٹیکنالوجی کا استعمال اور بہتر نظم و نسق) سے غربت میں کمی اور کسانوں کی زندگی میں خوشحالی لائی جاسکتی ہے۔

(ایگمپ پاکستان 2014-2012)

مارچ 2017ء میں کاشتکاروں کے لیے زرعی موسمیاتی مشورے

ماہ فروری میں پورے ملک کے زیادہ تر زرعی میدانوں میں معمول سے کم بارشیں ہوئیں۔ مارچ کے مہینے میں ملک کے بالائی زرعی میدانوں بشمول گلگت بلتستان، کشمیر، شمال مشرقی پنجاب اور بالائی خیبر پختونخواہ میں اچھی بارشیں متوقع ہیں۔ اس لئے نہری علاقوں کے ساتھ ساتھ متعلقہ علاقوں میں بھی گندم اور دوسری فصلوں کی نشوونما میں بہتری آنے کا امکان ہے۔

۱۔ مسلسل بارشوں اور مطلع ابر آلود رہنے سے ہوا میں نمی بڑھ جاتی ہے۔ جس کی وجہ سے فصلوں پر بیماریوں یا مضر کیڑوں کے حملوں کا خطرہ بڑھ جاتا ہے۔ کسی بھی بیماری یا زہریلے کیڑوں کے حملے کی صورت میں کسان حضرات کو تھکائی جاتی ہے کہ بروقت محکمہ زراعت کے منظور کردہ کیڑے مارا سپرے کر کے فصل کو نقصان سے بچائیں۔

۲۔ مارچ کے مہینے میں دہجہ حرارت فروری کی نسبت کافی بڑھ جائیں گے اور دہجہ حرارت کے بڑھنے سے فصل کی نشوونما بھی بڑھ جاتی ہے۔ پہاڑی علاقوں میں شدید سردی کی وجہ سے گندم کی فصل کی نشوونما سست ہو رہی تھی جو اب بہتر ہو جائے گی۔ کوئٹہ جیسے بلند زرعی میدانوں میں گندم فروری کے مہینے میں ہونا کرنے کے مرحلے میں تھی جو کہ مارچ کے مہینے میں تباہی کے مرحلے میں داخل ہو جائے گی۔ ہونا کرنے کے مرحلے میں دہجہ حرارت کم سے کم مطلوب ہوتے ہیں اس لحاظ سے پہاڑی علاقوں کے زرعی میدانوں میں فروری کے دہجہ حرارت نہایت سازگار رہے اور گندم کی فصل نے ہونا کرنے کا مرحلہ بخوبی طے کر لیا ہے۔

۳۔ ماہرین زراعت اگر کھاد کے استعمال کا مشورہ دیں تو بارانی علاقوں کے کاشتکار بارش کی پیش گوئی سے ایک دن قبل کھیتوں میں کھاد ڈال دیں۔ مگر اس سے قبل ابھی وقت ہے کہ کھیتوں کو جڑی بوٹیوں سے بالکل صاف کر دیا جائے تاکہ کھاد کا فائدہ صرف اور صرف فصل کے پودوں کو ہو ورنہ جڑی بوٹیاں کھاد سے استفادہ کر کے فصل پر چھا جائیں گی اور فصل کی پیداوار بری طرح متاثر ہوگی۔ جڑی بوٹیاں فصل کے پودوں سے عموماً زیادہ پانی استعمال کرتی ہیں اس لئے جڑی بوٹیوں کا کھیت سے خاتمہ شدید ضروری ہے۔ جڑی بوٹیوں کی تلفی کے لئے محکمہ زراعت کی سفارش کردہ مختلف کیمیائی ادویات استعمال کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ اگر کیمیائی طریقے سے ممکن نہ ہو تو ہاتھ سے جڑی بوٹیاں تلف کریں۔

۴۔ زراعت کی کامیابی میں موسمی حالات کا بہت عمل دخل ہے اور بہتر حکمت عملی سے غیر موسمی حالات سے بھی استفادہ کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ محکمہ موسمیات کی پیش گوئی کو ملحوظ خاطر رکھ کر محکمہ زراعت کے ماہرین کی مشاورت سے اپنے معمولات طے کریں تو پیداوار میں خاطر خواہ اضافہ ممکن ہے۔ موسمی حالات سے متعلق مزید معلومات کیلئے محکمہ موسمیات کے قریبی دفتر سے رابطہ کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ جن کا پتہ درج ذیل ہے۔

۱۔ نیشنل ایگرو میٹ سینٹر نی۔ اوکس نمبر ۱۲۱۴، سیکرٹریٹ ایٹ ٹو، اسلام آباد۔ فون نمبر: 051-9250299

۲۔ نیشنل فورکاسٹنگ سینٹر برائے زراعت، پی۔ او۔ بکس، ۱۲۱۴، سیکرٹریٹ ایٹ ٹو، اسلام آباد۔ فون نمبر: 051-9250363-4

۳۔ ریجنل ایگرو میٹ سینٹر ہزارائی یونیورسٹی، مری روڈ، راولپنڈی۔ فون نمبر: 051-9292149

۴۔ ریجنل ایگرو میٹ سینٹر، ایوب ریسرچ انسٹیٹیوٹ، جھنگ روڈ، فیصل آباد۔ فون نمبر: 041-9201803

۵۔ ریجنل ایگرو میٹ سینٹر، ایگریکلچر ریسرچ انسٹیٹیوٹ، ٹنڈو جام۔ فون نمبر: 022-9250558

۶۔ ریجنل ایگرو میٹ سینٹر، ایگریکلچر ریسرچ انسٹیٹیوٹ، ہریاب روڈ کوئٹہ۔ فون نمبر: 081-9211211

تفصیلی موسمی معلومات کیلئے محکمہ موسمیات کی ویب www.pmd.gov.pk ملاحظہ کریں۔

4) گندم کی فصل کیلئے پانی کی ضرورت اور آبیاری کا شیڈول:

جغرافیائی لحاظ سے پاکستان کے زیادہ تر زرعی میدانوں میں ریلے کے دو ماہ بارش کی کُل مقدار بارش کے دو ماہ وقفہ گندم کی کاشت کیلئے مناسب نہیں اس لئے کہ ملک کے اکثریتی میدانوں میں بارش گندم کے فصل کی ضرورت سے کم ہے۔ پاکستان میں گندم کیلئے پانی کی ضرورت (ETcrop) 271-514mm تک ہے۔ سب سے کم ملک کے شمالی علاقوں جبکہ سب سے زیادہ گرم جنوبی میدانوں کی ہے۔ اس لئے پنجاب اور خیبر پختونخواہ کے زیادہ تر میدانی علاقوں میں 3-5 مرتبہ آبیاری کی ضرورت ہوتی ہے۔ جبکہ جنوبی گرم میدانی علاقوں میں 4-6 دفعہ ہوتی ہے۔ آبیاری پانی کی مقدار اور تعداد کا انحصار فصل کے دو ماہ بارش پر ہوتی ہے۔ اس طرح گندم کے پودے کو پانی کی سب سے زیادہ ضرورت سٹرنٹلے سے لیکر دانے بننے کے دو ماہ ہوتی ہے۔ تحقیق سے یہ بات سامنے آئی ہے کہ اگر کسان سمجھداری سے کام لے تو صرف تین دفعہ پانی دینے سے بھی اچھی پیداوار ممکن ہے۔ یعنی پہلا پانی ٹگوفے نکلنے (Flowering) سے پہلے بوائی کے 20-25 دن بعد (شرط یہ کہ فصل کی کاشت بروقت ہوئی ہو) دوسرا پانی گوٹھری حالت یعنی نئے نکلنے کے دو ماہ یا تھوڑا پہلے (Heading) جبکہ تیسرا پانی دانے بننے کے دو ماہ جب دانے سے دو دن نکلے (Milk maturity) دیا جائے۔ چاروں دفعہ پانی دینے کی صورت میں پہلی دفعہ 20-25 دن بعد ٹگوفے نکلنے سے پہلے یا اس کے دو ماہ دوسری دفعہ سٹرنٹلے کے قریب تیسری دفعہ (Milk maturity) یعنی جب دانہ کپا ہو کر اس سے دو دن نکلے اور چوتھی مرتبہ (wax maturity) یعنی جب دانہ کوڈنا حالت میں ہو گا۔ دو دفعہ پانی میسر ہو تو پہلا پانی 20-25 دن بعد اور دوسرا پانی سٹرنٹلے سے تھوڑا پہلے یا اس کے دو ماہ دینا چاہیے۔

بروقت زائد جڑی بوٹیوں کی تلفی

گندم کی اچھی پیداوار کیلئے کھیت سے بروقت جڑی بوٹیوں کا خاتمہ کرنا چاہئے تاکہ پودے کو باامانی اور پوری طرح سورج کی روشنی، پانی اور زمین سے دوسری نمکیات اور کھاد وغیرہ ملیں۔ ایک انداز سے نمکیات فاضل جڑی بوٹیوں کی وجہ سے پیداوار میں 42-14 فیصد تک کمی واقع ہو جاتی ہے۔ فاضل جڑی بوٹیوں کے مکمل روک تھام کے لئے منظور شدہ اسپرے وغیرہ کیساتھ صاف ستھرے سچ کی کاشت بھی انتہائی ضروری ہے۔ بروقت اور مناسب وقتوں کیساتھ مٹروجن اور فاسفورس والی کھادوں کی مناسب مقدار بھی زیادہ پیداوار کیلئے ضروری ہے۔ تمام کسانوں خصوصاً آبائی علاقے جہاں آبیاری کیلئے ٹیوب ویل کا استعمال ہوتا ہے وہاں کے کسان حضرات سے گزارش ہے کہ فصلوں پر اسپرے، کمیائی کھاد کا استعمال یا فصل کاشت کرنے کے وقت محکمہ موسمیات کے موسمی مشوروں سے باخبر رہیں تاکہ کسان بغیر کسی نقصان کے کم خرچ پر زیادہ سے زیادہ پیداوار حاصل کر سکیں۔

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