

SEASON AND CROP REPORT

2005 - 06

INTRODUCTION

The Union Territory of Puducherry consists of four regions viz. Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam, which are not geographically contiguous. Puducherry region is located in the East Coast bounded by Cuddalore and Villupuram Districts of Tamil Nadu State, while Karaikal region, which is also situated in East Coast, bounded by Nagapattinam and Thiruvarur Districts of Tamil Nadu State. Mahe region is located in the West Coast near Cannanore District of Kerala State and Yanam region is located in the East Godhavari District of Andhra Pradesh State.

The Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry is declared as the State Agricultural Statistics Authority and the scheme viz " Collection of Agricultural Statistics" is being implemented in Puducherry Region since 1961-62 and in phases this scheme was extended to the other three regions of the Union Territory of Puducherry. The Field Supervisors of this Directorate, are responsible for the collection of field level statistics in the three seasons of an agricultural year . These primary workers visit each and every plot and collect " Land Utilisation Statistics" with the help of village maps supplied by the Revenue Department, Puducherry. The supervisory staff of the Directorate provide able guidance to the primary enumerators in carrying out their work successfully and scientifically.

POPULATION

According to 2001 Population census, the total population of the Union Territory of Puducherry is 9,74,345 persons. Of this 4,86,961 are males and 4,87,384 are females, with a sex ratio of 1001 females to 1000 males. The regional break up figures with density of population is given below.

Region	Population 2001 Census			Density per Sq.Km
	Males	Females	Total	
Puducherry	3,69,428	3,65,904	7,35,332	2,536
Karaikal	84,487	86,304	1,70,791	1,061
Mahe	17,153	19,675	36,828	4,092
Yanam	15,893	15,501	31,394	1,570
U.T. of Puducherry	4,86,961	4,87,384	9,74,345	2,030

The rural population is 3,25,726 persons (33.43%) whereas the urban population is 6,48,619 persons which constitutes 66.57% of the total population.

The following table reveals the available working force in U.T. of Puducherry as per 2001 Census.

Region	Total workers	Agricultural Workers (Cultivators and Agricultural labourers)	Percentage of Agricultural workers to total workers.	Net area sown (in Hectares) 2005-06	Per-capita Net Area Sown (in Hectare)		
					Total Population	Agricultural workers	Density of Agricultural workers per 100 Hectare of net area sown
Puducherry	2,65,660	44,569	16.78	12950	0.018	0.291	344
Karaikal	57,497	12,937	22.50	6489	0.038	0.502	199
Mahe	9,292	173	1.86	624	0.017	3.607	28
Yanam	9,903	1,867	18.85	650	0.021	0.348	287
U.T. of Puducherry	3,42,352	59,546	17.39	20713	0.021	0.348	287

The total Population of the Union Territory of Puducherry is 9,74,345 and out of this 3,42,352 (35.14%) are classified as workers. Agriculture is the main economic activity of the U.T. of Puducherry and this section had employed 59,546 persons who are either Cultivators or Agricultural workers. The above table gives the clear picture of workforce of the Territory on Agricultural Sector.

RAINFALL AND SEASONAL CONDITION

The Union Territory of Puducherry receives rainfall both from "South – West monsoon" and "North–East monsoon."

The monsoon period (June to May) is divided into four seasons

- i) South–West monsoon
- ii) North–East monsoon
- iii) Winter period
- iv) Hot weather period.

SOUTH–WEST MONSOON (JUNE 2005 TO SEPTEMBER 2005)

This season's rainfall is vital as regards to the production of Khariff Crops . Mahe region , which is located in the West coast of Kerala State receives its major rainfall during this season.The region –wise rainfall during the above season is given below.

<i>Name of the Region</i>	<i>Number of Rainy days</i>	<i>Total rainfall (in m.m)</i>	<i>Normal rainfall (in m.m)</i>
Puducherry	15	253.1	378.5
Karaikal	11	235.0	258.7
Mahe	82	2196.0	2729.8
Yanam	39	820.1	691.3

It may be noted that Yanam region has recorded a high level of rainfall while compared to normal rainfall, while Karaikal region had received 90.84% rainfall over and above the normal rainfall and the other regions recorded a low level as compared to the normal rainfall.

NORTH–EAST MONSOON (OCTOBER 2005 TO DECEMBER 2005)

The region-wise rainfall during the season is shown in the following table:

<i>Name of the Region</i>	<i>Number of Rainy days</i>	<i>Total rain fall (in m.m)</i>	<i>Normal rainfall (in m.m)</i>
Puducherry	33	1168.0	849.4
Karaikal	29	1436.1	993.2
Mahe	11	430.6	367.2
Yanam	17	373.0	450.3

The three regions viz Puducherry, Karaikal and Mahe have recorded a high level of rainfall when compared to Normal rainfall. The Yanam region only has recorded low level of rainfall.

WINTER (JANUARY 2006 AND FEBRUARY 2006)

The region – wise rainfall during the winter season is presented in the following table:

<i>Name of the Region</i>	<i>Total Rainy days</i>	<i>Total rainfall (in m.m)</i>	<i>Normal rainfall (in m.m)</i>
Puducherry	0	2.0	46.0
Karaikal	4	45.1	66.5
Mahe	1	10.2	10.4
Yanam	0	0	27.1

Puducherry and Yanam regions did not get any rainfall during the winter season while Karaikal and Mahe regions have recorded significant rainfall even though the figures are slightly lower than the normal rainfall of the respective regions.

HOT-WEATHER PERIOD (MARCH 2006 TO MAY 2006)

The above season's rainfall details are given in the following table.

<i>Name of the Region</i>	<i>Total Rainy days</i>	<i>Total rainfall (in m.m)</i>	<i>Normal rainfall (in m.m)</i>
Puducherry	5	129.0	64.3
Karaikal	7	104.5	68.4
Mahe	16	784.2	279.7
Yanam	10	189.0	70.1

During the above season, Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam regions recorded high level rainfall which are fairly above the normal rainfall of the respective regions.

RAINFALL ABNORMALITIES

The rainfall abnormalities are classified as follows

- i) Excess (+) 20% and above normal
- ii) Normal (-) 19.9% to (+) 19.9%
- iii) Deficient (-) 20% to (-) 59.9%
- iv) Scanty (-) 60% to (-) 99.9%
- v) No rain (-) 100%