

This report identifies the current trends, events, and short-term forecast associated with the 2013 monsoon season.

OVERVIEW

- Monsoon rains experienced in early August and the current spell have triggered riverine and flash floods in vulnerable regions. The current spell is weakening.
- Rising water levels in the rivers Indus and Chenab pose a serious downstream flood threat.
- Water reservoirs in Pakistan and adjoining catchment areas of India are fast approaching their optimum levels, therefore fresh river flows are likely to exacerbate the flood situation.
- Media reports indicate recurring flood-related losses in north-east Punjab and Dera Ghazi (DG) Khan Division, eastern Balochistan, and adjoining regions of Sindh.
- The humanitarian community stands ready to support ongoing Government responses in flood-affected areas.

MONSOON EVENTS AND IMPACT

Rainfall: During the past week, more than 100mm rainfall was recorded in Islamabad (194mm), Lahore (151mm), Sialkot (127mm), Faisalabad (130mm), Mianwali (129mm), DG Khan (100mm), Swat (137mm) and Jhelum Valley in Pakistan-Administered Kashmir (104mm).

The current spell of monsoon rains has affected Rawalpindi, Gujranwala, Lahore, Faisalabad, DG Khan and Sargodha divisions in Punjab; Malakand, Hazara, Peshawar and Mardan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP); Zhob, Naseerabad and Kalat divisions in Balochistan, and adjoining regions of Sindh; and upper Pakistan-Administered Kashmir.

Reports indicate the River Chenab and its channels have caused repeated flooding and extensive losses in Sialkot, Narowal and Sheikhpura districts in Punjab.

Provincial and district authorities in affected areas, particularly in south Punjab and upper Sindh, have alerted, and in some cases evacuated people residing in and along floodplains to safer areas.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) reports the monsoon rains have so far claimed 98 lives, affected 100,000 people, 147,000 acres of crops, and damaged or destroyed about 5,000 houses. Nearly 3,000 people are in 17 relief camps established in Punjab and Sindh.

Response: According to the NDMA, authorities in Balochistan, KP, Punjab and Sindh provinces have so far distributed 23,000 tents, 31,000 food packs, 500 blankets, 22,000 mosquito nets, 17 dewatering pumps and other non-food items to flood-affected people. The army is supporting search and rescue, and other life-saving activities.

River flood situation: The Federal Flood Commission indicates the Indus River is in high flood at Chashma (north-west Punjab), medium flood at Kalabagh (north-west Punjab), Taunsa (south Punjab) and Guddu (upper Sindh).

The River Chenab is in high flood at Maralla, Khanki and Qadirabad (north-east and central Punjab) and the Kabul and Swat rivers (KP) are in low flood.

The Punjab Provincial Disaster Management Authority has issued a flood warning for Jhang, Multan and Muzafargarh districts and the downstream districts of the Sutlej River.

The River Ravi is in low flood at Shahdara and Balloki (north-east Punjab) and the River Sutlej is in low flood in Sulamainki (eastern Punjab). Extensive population intrusions pose a flood risk.

Experts indicate the Indus and Chenab floods are not likely to peak cumulatively at the Kot Mithan upstream of Guddu Barrage (in upper Sindh), but they are closely monitoring the situation.

However, media reports indicate a heavy quantum of flood water is likely to flow through upper Sindh between 20 and 21 August.

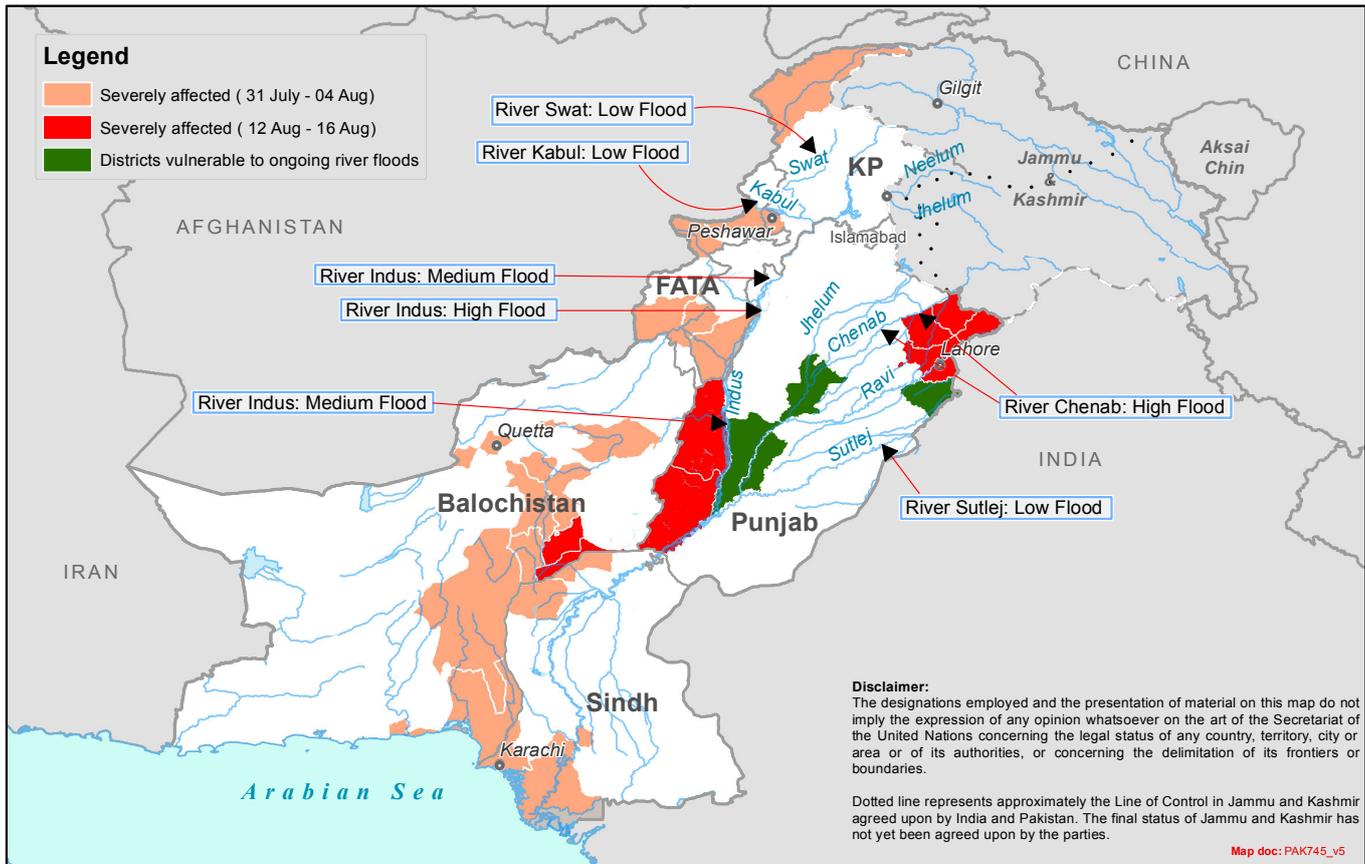
Water reservoir levels: As of 16 August, the Tarbela and Mangla dams are at elevations of 1,547 feet and 1,222.85 feet respectively, 3 feet and 19.15 feet below their respective maximum conservation levels of 1,550 feet and 1,242 feet.

The combined live storage position of Tarbela, Chashma and Mangla reservoirs is 12.428 million acre-feet (MAF), compared with last year's 6.343 MAF.

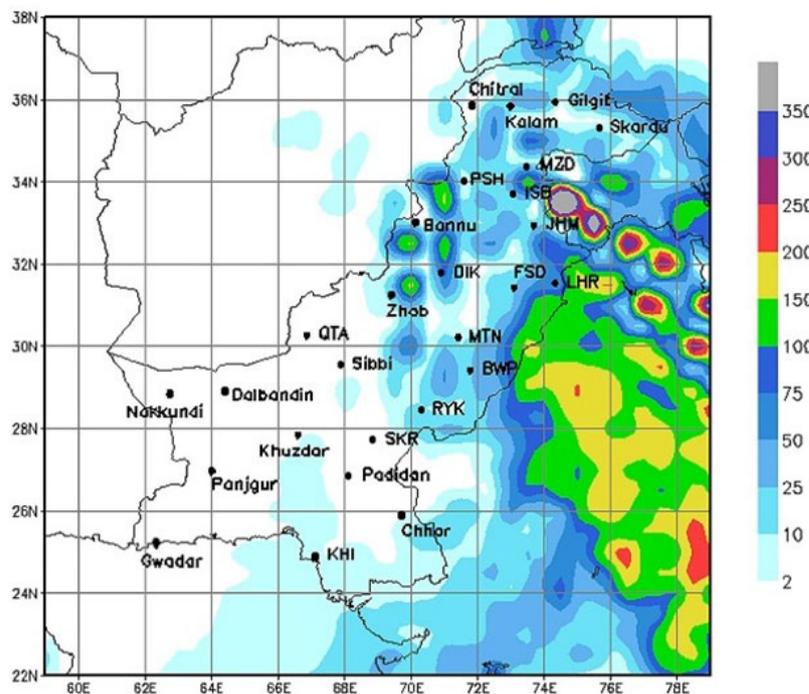
FORECAST

The current monsoon system is expected to retreat during the next 48 to 72 hours. Intermittent rains are expected in northern parts of the country in the coming week.

MONSOON EVENTS & IMPACT



Weekly Quantitative Precipitation Outlook
(16 Aug-24 Aug 2013)



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References:

Pakistan Meteorological Department: <http://www.pmd.gov.pk>
Federal Flood Commission: <http://www.ffc.gov.pk>
NDMA Monsoon Updates
Media reports