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Flood situation and Crop Contingency Plans in Bihar and Odisha (as on 12th September 2011)

Bihar

Nine districts of Bihar viz., Patna, Bhojpur, Vaishali, Katihar, Bhagalpur, Begusarai, Samastipur and Khagaria are reeling under flood waters due to torrential rains and sudden release of water from Bansagar Reservoir. All major rivers in the state are flowing above the danger mark with flood waters spreading to many areas and inundating fields. In Bhagalpur district and some parts of Munger district standing crops like maize, paddy, banana and vegetable crops are affected. Farmers are advised to drain out excess water from the fields as early as possible as the current floods are of moderate intensity.

Odisha

Flood waters from Mahanandi and other rivers like Brahmani, Baitarani and Subarnarekha in Odisha have submerged about 2600 villages spread over 19 districts. The flood situation is severe in Puri, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Sambalpur, Boudh, Sonepur, Jaipur, Bhadrak, Balasore, Dhenkanal, Angul, Bolangir and Mayurbanj. The districts Kendrapara and Puri are the worst hit.

Main feature of weather forecast up to 15th September 2011

The weather is likely to be dry over central, north and coastal areas of Odisha. The inflow in Mahanandi is slowly receding and flood waters are likely to recede in the next three days.

Advisories for flood affected regions

Paddy crop in the majority of the flood affected districts of Odisha is completely submerged. Farmers are advised to drain out excess water from the fields as early as possible. Paddy crop is likely to survive complete submergence up to three days. However, complete submergence for more than a week may lead to total crop failure. In such a situation the farmers are advised to go for *rabi* paddy in the month of October. Paddy varieties like Swarna and Surendra may be chosen for *rabi* sowings. Farmers are advised to immediately raise paddy nurseries after the withdrawal of flood waters.