



Pakistan Meteorological Department

National Drought Monitoring Centre (NDMC)

Meteorological Headquarters

Islamabad, Pakistan

Islamabad, 18th February, 2021

SUBJECT: DROUGHT ADVISORY-I

As predicted by Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), the country overall received below normal (-31.0%) rainfall during (Oct-20 to Jan-21). The main thrust was in Balochistan (-73.2%) and Sindh (-70.2%) while, it remained above normal during November throughout the country. The rainfall departure (%) detail is as under:

Table-1 Area weighted rainfall departure (%) during October 2020 to January, 2021

	2020			2021	Oct-2020 to Jan-2021
	October	November	December	January	
Balochistan	-100.0	98.5	-74.2	-100.0	-73.2
Sindh	-100.0	68.8	-54.9	-100.0	-70.2
KP	-94.8	246.5	-29.2	-73.7	-12.9
Punjab	-100.0	153.3	-14.1	86.7	9.8
GB/Kashmir	-100.0	54.2	-11.3	46.9	4.3
Pakistan	-98.3	157.3	-43.6	-45.9	-31.0

2. The most districts of west to south west Balochistan are winter rainfall dominant and rainfall amount lies between 71 to 231mm. Due to deficient winter rainfall, moderate drought like condition has emerged over most of the central and southern districts of Balochistan (Fig-1). The mild to moderate drought is prevailing in most parts of Balochistan (**Chagi, Gawadar, Harnai, Kech, Kharan, Mastung Nushki, Pishin, Panjgur, Kalat, Quetta and Washuk**). According to the climatological normal (1981-2010), Sindh province remains dry during October to May, whereas, the rainy season prevails from June to September. The mild drought conditions are prevailing in south eastern parts of Sindh (Fig-2).
3. Keeping in view the climatology and current seasonal forecast of PMD for these areas, drought conditions may exacerbate and affect the agriculture and live stocks and its adjacent districts. Dry conditions will cause water stress in the cultivated lands/areas of the country due to limited supply of irrigation water for Rabi crops.
4. It is advised to all stakeholders to take pre-emptive measures for disaster prone districts. Farmers/agriculturists are advised to keep themselves updated from PMD website <http://www.pmd.gov.pk>.
5. NDMC is continuously monitoring drought situation over the country and keeping the stakeholders and general public updated by issuing drought information on fortnightly and monthly basis.


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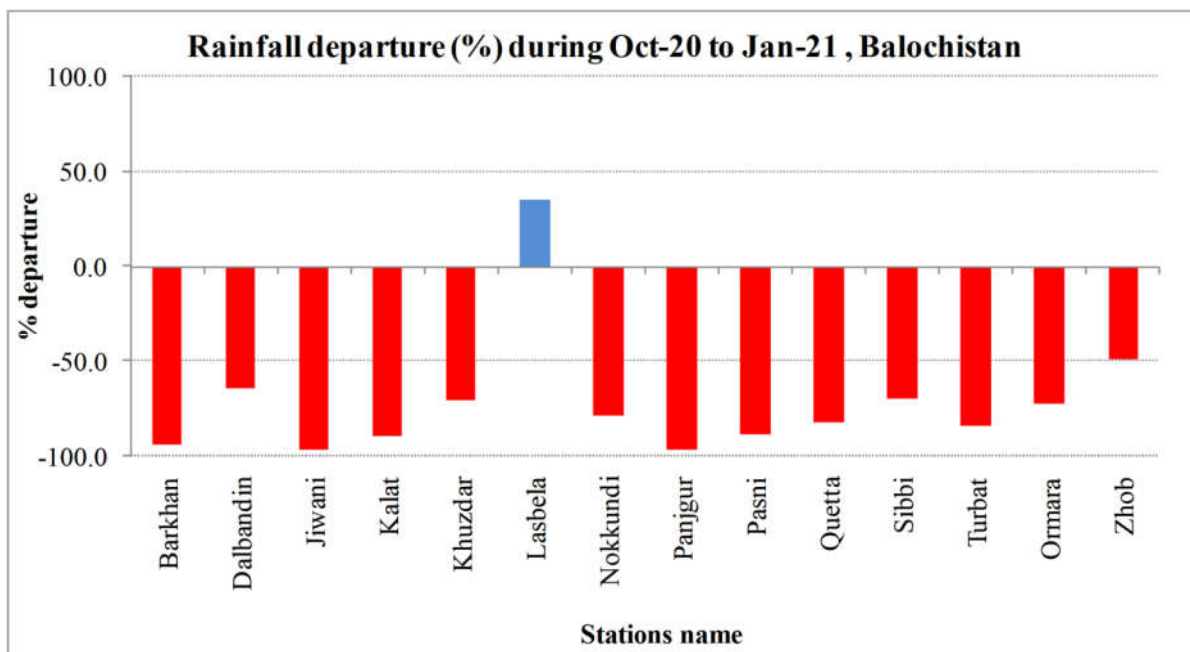


Figure 1 Seasonal rainfall departure (%) during October-20 to January 2021 of Balochistan

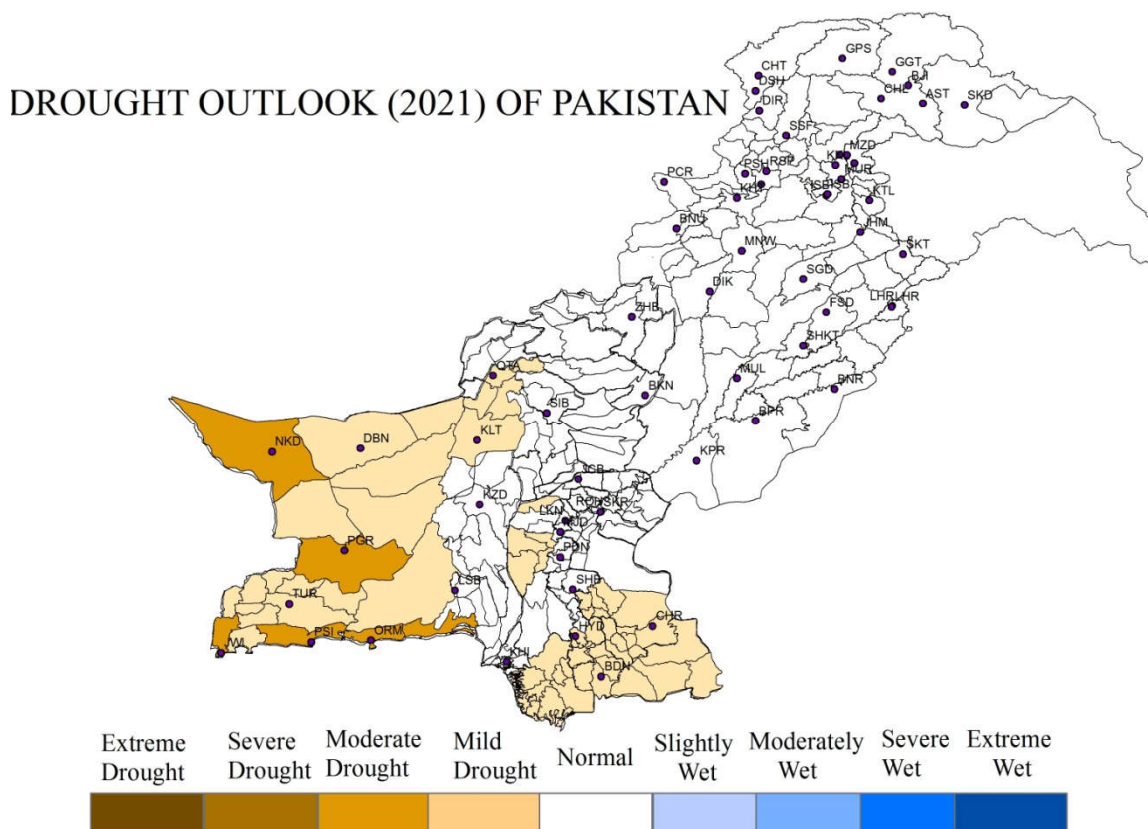


Figure 2 Drought condition of Pakistan January 2021