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No. DR-5/DRT/ADV/ALERT/2021-22

Islamabad, 24th March, 2025

DROUGHT ALERT-1

This drought alert is the continuation of Drought Advisory-II issued dated 21.01.2025. Recent rainfall spells in the country have improved drought conditions in central and upper parts of the country but drought conditions are still continued in Sindh, southern parts of Balochistan and lower eastern plain areas of Punjab. Overall, **below normal** rainfall (-40%) is observed across Pakistan from 01st Sept 2024 to 21st March, 2025. The major rainfall deficits were observed in Sindh (-62%), Balochistan (-52%) and Punjab (-38%). The details of the (%) age departure of rainfall is given as:

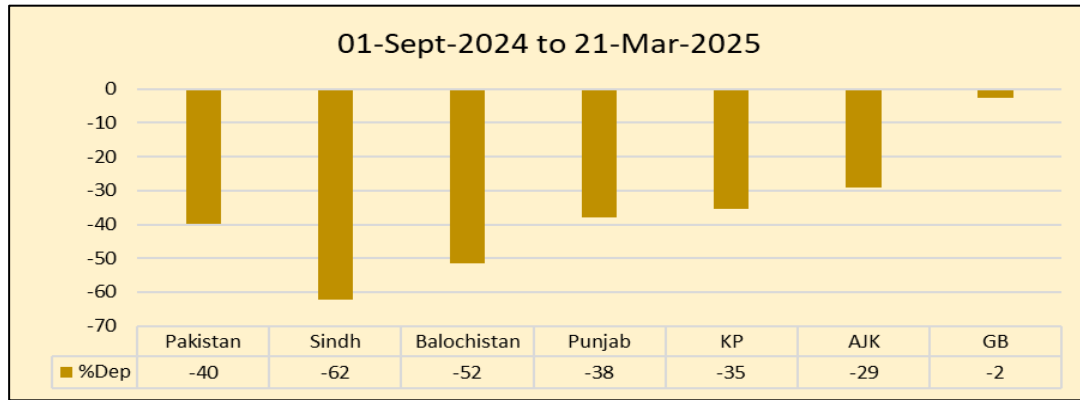


Figure-1: Rainfall Departure (%) across Pakistan

2. There is acute shortage of stored water in the Tarbela and Mangla dams and water in different rivers is flowing at extreme low level (Figure-2). The mean temperature during March 2025 in the lower half of the country is 2-3 °C above than normal. The consecutive dry days in some of the southern parts have even exceeded 200 days.
3. Keeping in view the current weather situation and seasonal climate outlook, the drought situation may exacerbate and intensify in the following drought affected areas of the country.

S.No.	Sindh		Balochistan		Punjab
	Moderate	Mild	Moderate	Mild	Mild
1	Padidan	Ghotki	Gawadar	Chaghi	Bahawalnagar
2	Shaheed Benazirabad	Jacobabad	Kech	Jaffarabad	Bahawalpur
3	Dadu	Larkana	Lasbella	Jhal Magsi	Rahim Yar Khan
4	Tharparkar	Sukkur	Panjgur	Sibbi	
5	Umerkot	Khairpur	Awaran	Nushki	
6	Hyderabad	Sanghar		Washuk	
7	Thatta				
8	Badin				
9	Karachi				

4. The National Drought Monitoring & Early Warning Centre (NDMC), Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) is continuously monitoring the meteorological conditions over the country. The emergence of flash drought is also anticipated in upcoming months in light of the lasting rainfall deficit as well as the increasing temperatures in months to come, as per the climatology of the country.

5. Hence, it is advised to all stakeholders to take pre-emptive measures for drought prone areas. Farmers/agriculturists are advised to keep themselves updated from PMD website <http://www.pmd.gov.pk>.

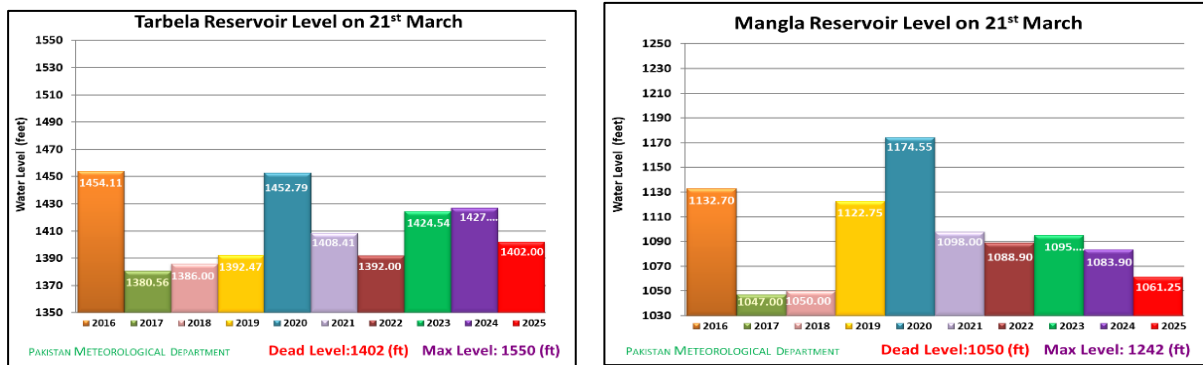


Figure 2 (Water Level at Terbela and Mangla dams)

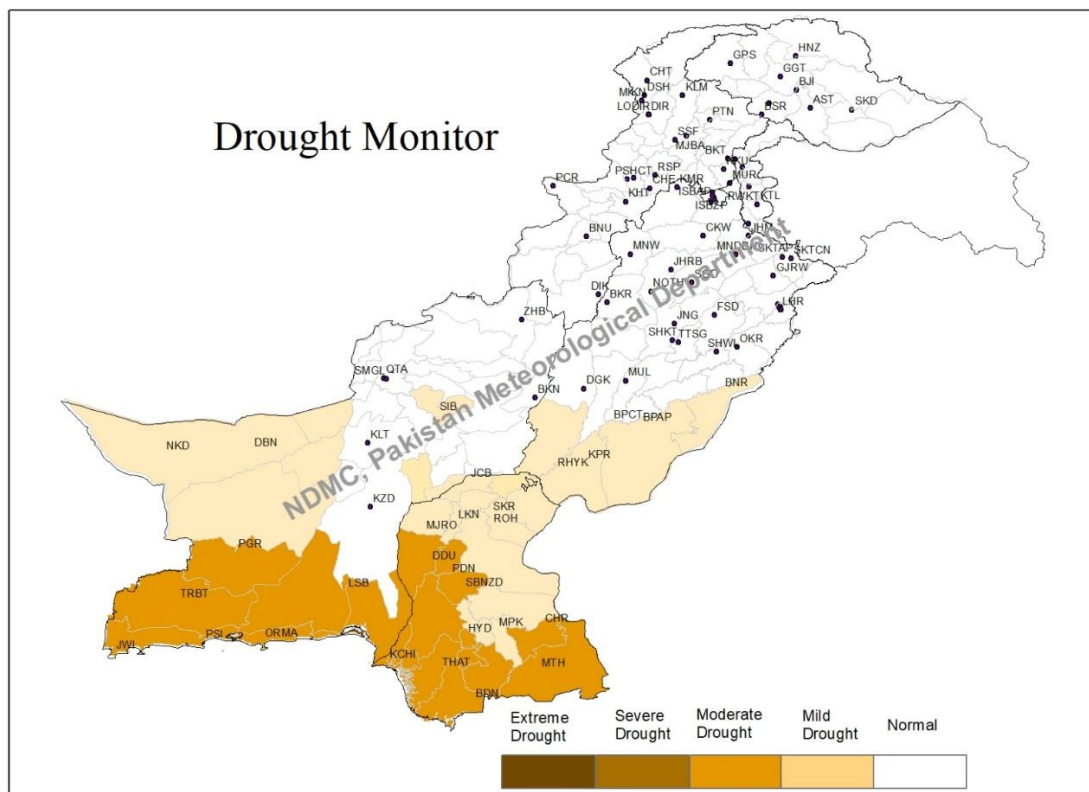


Figure-3: Drought Monitor March 2025

Distribution: -

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