

## **Annex 2: Climatic, environmental and agricultural features of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka**

**Tamil Nadu:** Tamil Nadu has a coastline of about 1,000 kilometres which forms about 18% of the country's coastline. Tamil Nadu's coastline bore the brunt of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami when it hit India. Tamil Nadu is dependent heavily on monsoon rains, and thereby is prone to droughts when the monsoons fail. The climate of the state ranges from dry sub-humid to semi-arid<sup>1</sup>. The State can broadly be divided into two natural divisions, that are 1) the coastal plains; and 2) the hilly western areas. The climate of Tamil Nadu is basically tropical. Due to its proximity to the sea, the summer is less hot and winter is less cold. The State is exposed to both South West and North East Monsoons. In generally it can be said that the South West Monsoon helps Tamil Nadu in taking up rain fed cultivation. The predominant soils of Tamil Nadu are red loam (iron content) and laterite black (rich soils, clayey with a little titanium), alluvial (coastal soils) and saline soils (poor drainage and high evaporation)<sup>2</sup>.

**Andhra Pradesh:** also defined as the "Rice Bowl of India. Agriculture has been the chief source of income for the state's economy. Two important rivers of India, the Godavari and Krishna, flow through the state, providing irrigation. Rice, sugarcane, cotton, mirchi (chilli pepper), mango and tobacco are the local crops. Recently, crops used for vegetable oil production such as sunflower and peanuts have gained favor. There are many multi-state irrigation projects in development, including Godavari River Basin Irrigation Projects and Nagarjuna Sagar Dam, the world's highest masonry dam<sup>3</sup>.

**Karnataka:** Karnataka is an agrarian state known worldwide for its production of coffee, raw silk and sandalwood. 59% of total coffee produced in the country comes from Karnataka whereas the state is also a major producer of ragi. The major crops grown in the state are: rice, ragi, jowar, maize, and pulses besides oilseeds and number of cash crops. Cashew, coconut, areca nut, cardamom, chillies, cotton, sugarcane and tobacco are among the other crops produced in the state<sup>4</sup>. The state has three principal geographical zones: the coastal region, the hilly region, a region comprising of plains. The winter in January and February is followed by summer between March and May, the monsoon season between June and September and the post-monsoon season from October till December. Meteorologically, Karnataka is divided into three zones: coastal, north interior and south interior. Of these, the coastal zone receives the heaviest rainfall<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamil\\_Nadu#Geography\\_and\\_climate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamil_Nadu#Geography_and_climate)

<sup>2</sup> [www.agriculture.tn.nic.in/int.html](http://www.agriculture.tn.nic.in/int.html)

<sup>3</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andhra\\_Pradesh#Geography](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andhra_Pradesh#Geography)

<sup>4</sup> [karnatakaonline.in/Profile/Agriculture](http://karnatakaonline.in/Profile/Agriculture)

<sup>5</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karnataka#Geography>