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Interactive comment on “Trend of standardized precipitation index during Indian summer monsoon season in agroclimatic zones of India” by S. Jha et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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This manuscript uses CRU data set to calculate trends in seasonal precipitation over Indian region for past 56 years. A well-known index, termed as Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) was used for quantitative analysis of the data set. While analysis of climatic trends in might be important from the perspective of climate change scenario, this study looks incomplete from several angles for publication in a reputed journal. My specific comments are listed below.

Comments: 1. Authors used CRU data set for the period 1951-2006. However, more reliable data set (based on rain gauge) is available from IMD for past 100 years and more. There was no attempt, at least, to compare these two products and justify the use of CRU data set. Moreover, a longer time series should be better for this kind of

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study of climatic trends. 2. Table A1 describing land-atmospheric features of agro-climate zones of India. However, no attempt was made to connect the mean or trend in those features to the trend obtained in precipitation. In short, the manuscript lacks any in-depth analysis that can lead to a scientific conclusion.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Dynam. Discuss., 4, 429, 2013.

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