Climate Monitoring and Prediction for the Maldives – July 2024

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PACIFIC SEAS STATE

July 19, 2024

As of mid-July 2024, ENSO-neutral conditions persist in the western equatorial Pacific, and oceanic and atmospheric indicators also align with ENSO-neutral state. The IRI ENSO prediction plume forecast ENSO-neutral for Jul-Sep, and Aug-Oct, 2024. La Niña becomes the most probable category in Sep-Nov, 2024 through Dec-Feb, 2025, while for Jan-Mar, 2025 ENSO-neutral conditions become dominant (50% chance), and remain so during Feb-Apr, and Mar-May, 2025. (Text Courtesy IRI)

INDIAN OCEAN STATE

9 - 15 July, 2024

Between 0.5°C - 1°C above average SST was observed around the Maldives.

Highlights

Monitored:

In June, the northern and central islands received up to 5 mm of rainfall; while remaining islands received less. North-westerly winds prevailed for the Maldives during the month of June.

Predictions:

ENSO-neutral conditions are present. La Niña favored to emerge during August-October and persist into the Northern Hemisphere winter 2024-25.

Summary

CLIMATOLOGY

Monthly Climatology:

In July, the entire country usually receives up to 200 mm average rainfall and the wind direction in July is usually westerly but with low speeds wind speed. In August and September, the rainfall in southern and central islands increases to 250 mm while in northern islands it remains about 200 mm. The wind direction and speed do not change.

MONITORING

Fortnightly Rainfall Monitoring:

Date	Rainfall			
	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands	
21 st July	5 mm	TR	-	
22 nd July	-	5 mm	-	
23 rd July	-	5 mm	-	
24 th July	30 mm	5 mm	10 mm	
25 th July	40 mm	50 mm	5 mm	
26 th July	40 mm	50 mm	-	
27 th July	5 mm	5 mm	TR	
28 th July	10 mm	10 mm	50 mm	
29 th July	TR	TR	5 mm	
30 th July	TR	TR	10 mm	
31 st July	10 mm	-	-	
1 st August	10 mm	-	-	
2 nd August	-	-	-	
3 rd August	5 mm	-	-	
4 th August	10 mm	80 mm	30 mm	

TR - Trace Value

Monthly and Seasonal Rainfall Monitoring: *In June, the northern and central islands received up to 5 mm of rainfall; while remaining islands received less.*

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	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands
T Max	33.0°C	34.0°C	33.0°C
T Min	24.8°C	23.5°C	23.0°C

Dekadal Rainfall Estimates

1-10 July, Dekadal rainfall estimated as; Northern Islands:70 mm rainfall

Central Islands: 70 mm rainfall Southern Islands: 20 mm rainfall

11-20 July, Dekadal rainfall estimated as; Northern Islands: 60 mm rainfall

Central Islands: 10 mm rainfall Southern Islands: 10 mm rainfall

PREDICTIONS

Daily Rainfall Forecast:

Date	Rainfall			
	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands	
7 th August	40 mm	-	TR	
8 th August	20 mm	TR	TR	
9 th August	TR	-	TR	
10 th August	TR	-	TR	
11 th August	-	-	-	
12 th August	-	-	10 mm	
13 th August	TR	-	10 mm	

Biweekly Rainfall Forecast:

NOAA/NCEF GFS model predicts higher probability of above-normal tercile by 60% for the northern and central islands and by 50% for the southern islands between 10^{th} - 23^{rd} August.

Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature Forecast:

Above-normal tercile is 40% probable in the northern islands; below-normal tercile is 40% probable in the southern islands and near-normal in the central islands from August-September-October 2024 and seasonal rainfall forecast is higher likelihood of near-normal range for the Maldives.

MJO Index:

The MJO is predicted by NOAA CPC to be in phases 8 and 1 respectively in the next two weeks (2 - 16 August 2024). MJO in phase 1 usually enhance the rainfall over the Maldives.

Figures in Annexure

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 - Seasonal Predictions from IRI¹

