CLIMATE MONITORING AND PREDICTION FOR SRI LANKA

HIGHLIGHTS

Rainfall Prediction

• High likelihood of heavy rainfall (100 - 150mm) is predicted for the Western, Sabaragamuwa North Western, Southern Provinces and fairly heavy rainfall (50 - 100mm) is predicted for the rest during 8 - 14 May.

Monitored Rainfalls

- •Half of expected rainfall (65mm) was received during 8 Apr - 7 May.
- Apart from Western region, a big deficit of rainfall was observed during April.

Monitored & Predicted Wind



- •Winds at 850mb (1.5 km) were south easterly from 29 Apr 5 May reaching up to 3 m/s.
- •Winds at 850mb (1.5 km) are predicted easterly from 9 15 May reaching up to 2 m/s.



•Average land surface temperature was 34.4°C in the last week with warmer anomalies of +1-3°C.

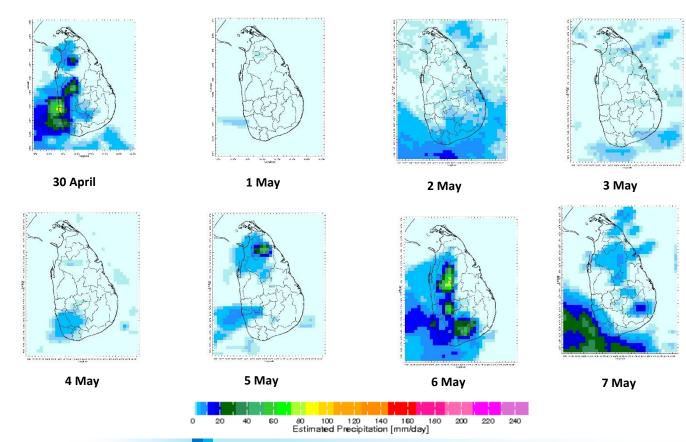
Monitored Sea & Land Temp

•Sea surface temperature around Sri Lanka was 1.0 -2.5°C above normal.

Monitoring

Rainfall

Daily Estimates for Rainfall from 30th April - 7th May 2024





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Ocean State (Text Courtesy IRI)_

Pacific sea state: May 6, 2024

The SST Anomalies for the NINO3.4 region show a +1.2 °C on the week ending 6th May, and a weak El Nino is sustained. Consensus of models predict a continuation of the El Niño event until May 2024 before weakening thereafter.

Indian Ocean State

Sea surface temperature around Sri Lanka was 0.5°C above normal for the country in 16th - 22nd April 2024.

Predictions

Rainfall _

14 Day prediction: NCEP GFS models

From 8th May - 14th May:

Total rainfall by Provinces:

Rainfall (mm)	Provinces
115	Western, Sabaragamuwa
105	North Western, Southern
95	Central
85	Eastern, Uva
65	Northern, North Central

From 15th May - 21st May:

Total rainfall by Provinces:

Rainfall (mm)	Provinces
85	Western, Sabaragamuwa
75	North Western, Southern
65	Central
55	North Central, Uva, Eastern
45	Northern

MJO based OLR predictions

For the next 15 days:

MJO shall slightly enhance the rainfall during 8^{th} - 12^{th} May, moderately enhance the rainfall during 13^{th} - 17^{th} May, and slightly enhance the rainfall during 18^{th} - 22^{nd} May for Sri Lanka.

Interpretation

Monitoring_

Rainfall: During the last two weeks, there had been fairly heavy rainfall over the following area: Yakkalamulla.

Daily Average Rainfall in the Met stations for previous week of (1st May - 8th May) = 3.0 mm

Maximum Daily Rainfall: 70.0 mm & Minimum Daily Rainfall: 0.0 mm.

Region	Average rainfall for last	Average temperature for last 8 days (°C)	
Region	8 days (mm)	Maximum	Minimum
Northern plains	0.9	36.2	27.1
Eastern hills	0.4	30.4	19.7
Eastern plains	2.9	35.7	26.4
Western hills	4.7	31.9	20.4
Western plains	6.1	33.7	26.9
Southern plains	2.7	34.6	26.6

Region	Average rainfall for	Daily maximum rainfall	Daily minimum rainfall
Kegion	last 8 days (mm)	for last 8 days (mm)	for last 8 days (mm)
Hydro catchment	3.4	50.0	0.0

Wind: South easterly winds prevailed in the sea area and around the island last week.

Temperatures: The temperature anomalies were above normal for the country except some parts of the Northern province driven by the warm SST's.

Predictions

Rainfall: During the next week (8th May - 14th May), heavy rainfall (100 - 150 mm) is predicted for the Western, Sabaragamuwa North Western, and Southern Provinces and fairly heavy rainfall (50 - 100 mm) is predicted for the rest.

Temperatures: The temperature will remain above normal for some parts of the Northern, North Central, Eastern, and Uva provinces during 9th - 15th May.

Teleconnections: MJO shall slightly enhance the rainfall during 8th - 12th May, moderately enhance the rainfall during 13th - 17th May, and slightly enhance the rainfall during 18th - 22nd May for Sri Lanka **Seasonal Precipitation:** The precipitation forecast for the May-June-July, 2024 season shows a 70% or more tendency toward above normal precipitation for the country.

Terminology for Rainfall Ranges

	Rainfall
Light Showers	Less than 12.5 mm
Light to Moderate	Between 12.5 mm and 25 mm
Moderate	Between 25 mm and 50 mm
Fairly Heavy	Between 50 mm and 100 mm
Heavy	Between 100 mm and 150 mm
Very Heavy	More than 150 mm

Tropical Climate Guarantee, Federation of Environment, Climate and Technology, Columbia University Water Center, ¹ International Research Institute for Climate and Society, Earth Institute at Columbia University, New York.









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Weekly Climate Bulletin for Sri Lanka

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- g. Weekly Average SST Anomalics

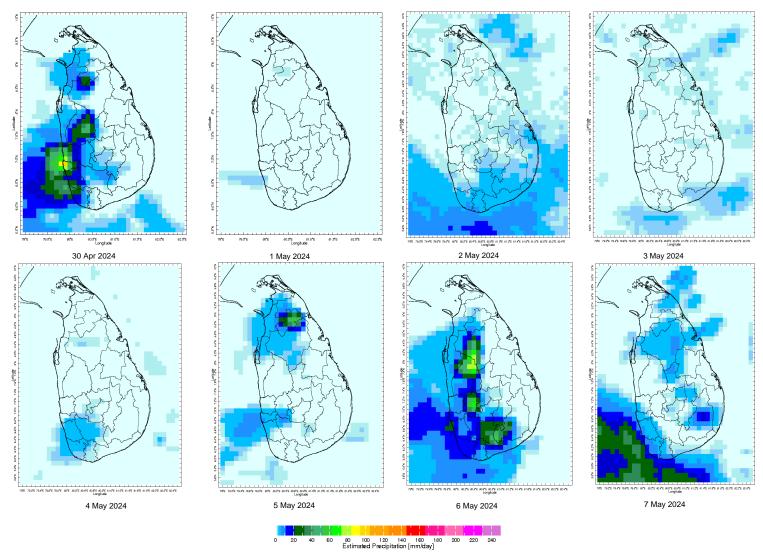
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MONITORING

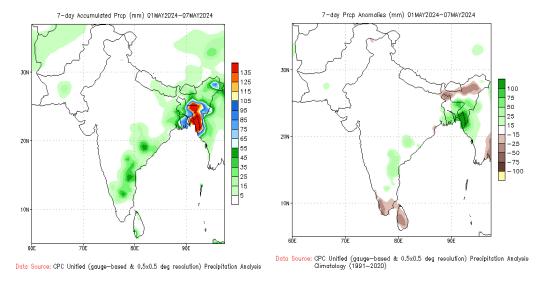
Daily Rainfall Monitoring

The following figures show the satellite observed rainfall in the last 7 days in Sri Lanka.



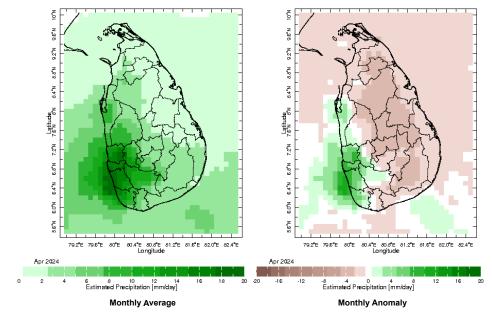
Weekly Rainfall Monitoring

The following figures show the total satellite observed rainfall in the last week in Sri Lanka. The figure in the left is the total 7-day rainfall from NOAA Climate Prediction Center (CPC) Unified Precipitation Analysis and the figure in the right is the total 7-day rainfall from CPC RFE 2.0 Satellite Rainfall Estimates. The bottom two figures are the respective anomalies.

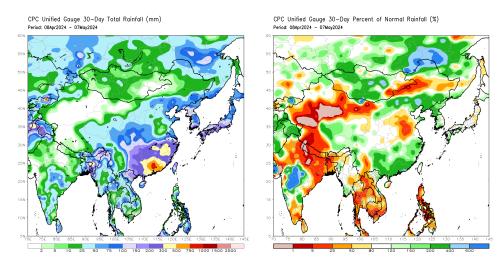


Monthly Rainfall Monitoring

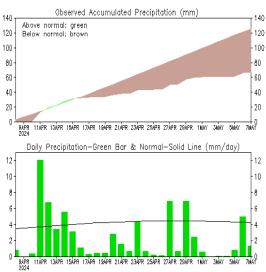
The figure in the left shows the average observed rainfall in the previous month. The rainfall anomaly in the previous month is shown in the figure to the right. The brown color in the anomaly figure shows places which received less rainfall than the historical average while the green color shows places with above average rainfall. Darker shades show higher magnitudes in rainfall



The figure in the top-left shows the total rainfall in the past 30 days from CPC Unified Precipitation Analysis while the figure in the top-right shows the total rainfall for the same period from RFE 2.0 Satellite Rainfall Estimates. The bottom two figures show the percentage of rainfall received in the past 30 days compared to normal rainfall in this period.

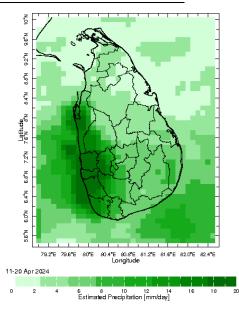


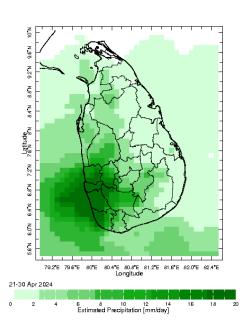




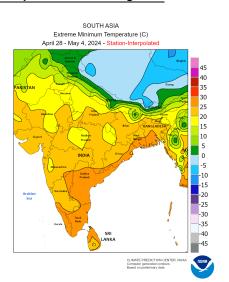
Data Source: CPC (Gauge-Based) Unified Precipitation (Climatology 1981-2010)
(updated on 00Z07MAY2024)

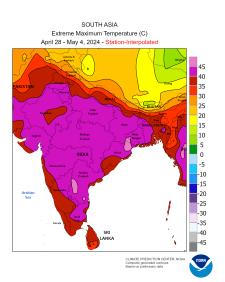
Dekadal (10 Day) Satellite Derived Rainfall Estimates

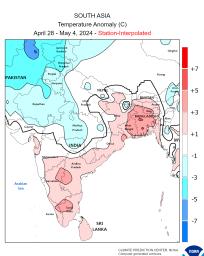




Weekly Temperature Monitoring





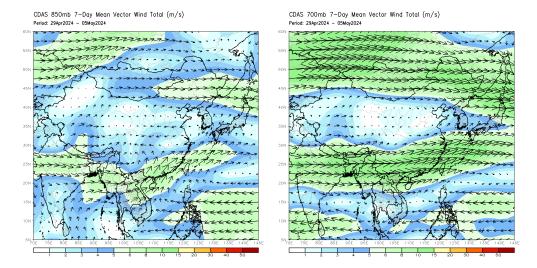






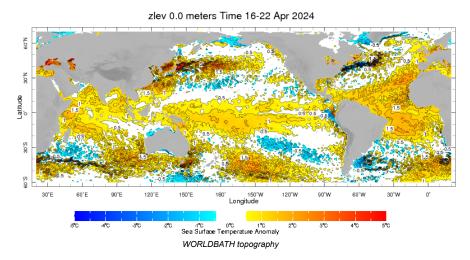
Weekly Wind Monitoring

The following figures show the mean vector wind total of the past 7 days near Sri Lanka at two levels. The figure on the left shows 850 mb (~1500 m) level and the figure on the right shows 700 mb (~3000 m) level.

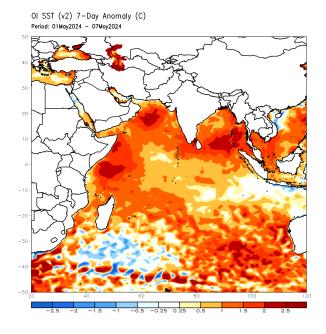


Weekly Average SST Anomalies

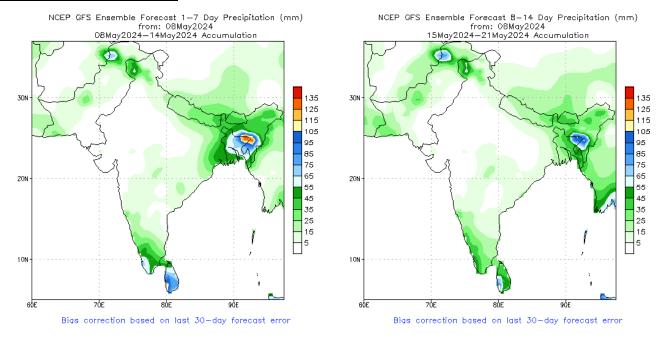
Weekly average Sea Surface Temperature (SST) anomaly in the world from NOAA NCEP



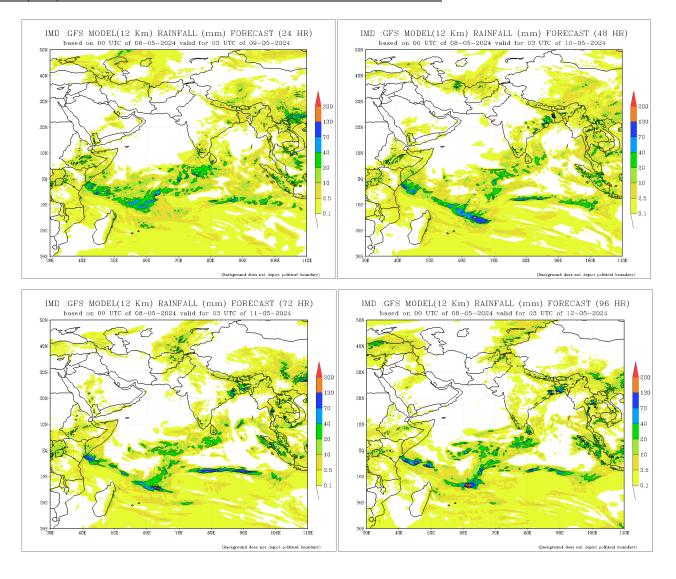
Optimum Interpolated Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly in the Indian Ocean from NOAA CPC

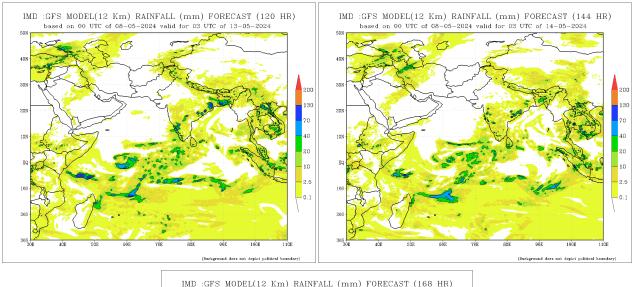


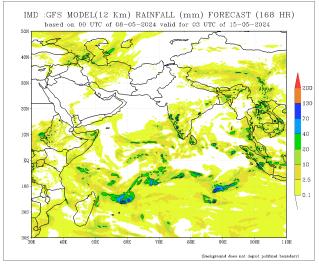
NCEP GFS 1-14 Day prediction



IMD GFS (T574) Model Rainfall Forecast from RMSC New Delhi, India



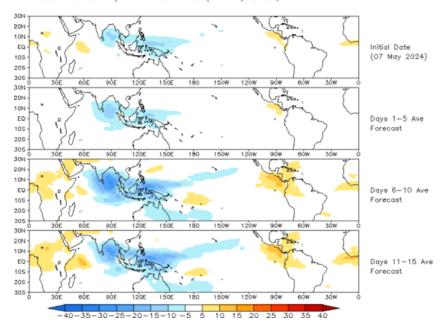




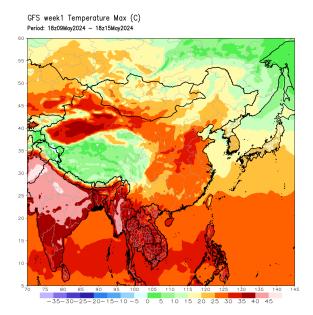
Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) related Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR) Forecast

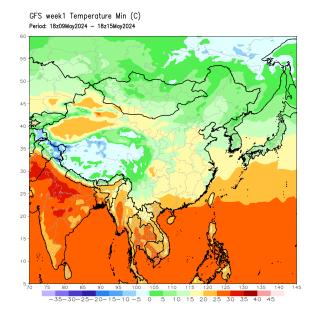
The Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR) is a proxy for rainfall. This can be used to identify convective rain clouds based on the MJO phase. Violet and Blue shading indicates enhanced tropical weather and Orange shading indicates suppressed conditions. The following figure shows the forecasts of MJO associated anomolous OLR for the next 15 days from the Constructed Analogue (CA) model forecasts.





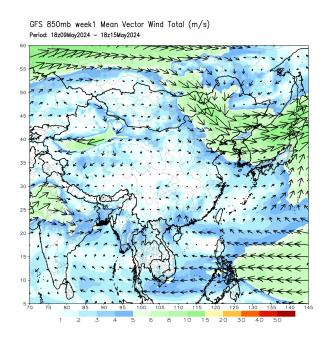
Weekly Minimum and Maximum Temperature prediction from the GFS model (from NOAA CPC)

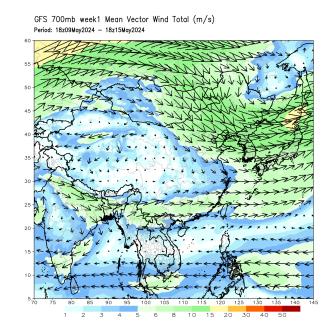




Weekly Wind Forecast

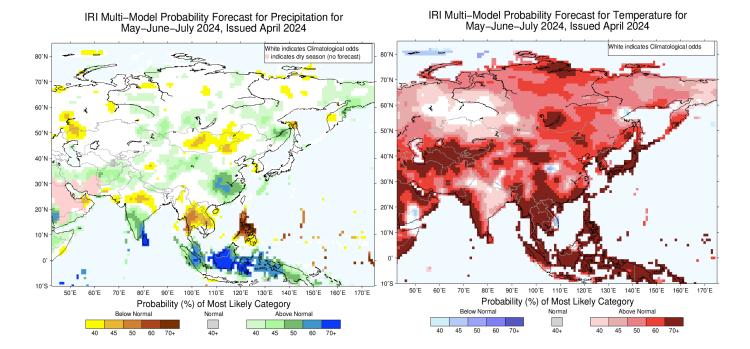
Weekly mean vector wind total prediction from the GFS model at 850 mb (left) and 700 mb (right) levels. (from NOAA CPC)





Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature Forecast

Following is the latest seasonal precipitation and temperature prediction for the next 3 months by the IRI. The color shading indicates the probability of the most dominant tercile -- that is, the tercile having the highest forecast probability. The color bar alongside the map defines these dominant tercile probability levels. The upper side of the color bar shows the colors used for increasingly strong probabilities when the dominant tercile is the above-normal tercile, while the lower side shows likewise for the below-normal tercile. The gray color indicates an enhanced probability for the near-normal tercile (nearly always limited to 40%).



About Us

FECT is a federation of 7 organizations registered in four countries which works in countries across the Indian Ocean Islands and its littoral. Over the last 20years, we have had operations in Africa, South Asia, South-East Asia but now it is mostly in the IndianOcean Islands.

Contact us

Precipitation Forecast

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Temperature Forecast