

HIGHLIGHTS

Rainfall Prediction



- High likelihood of moderate rainfall (25 - 50 mm) is predicted for Sabaragamuwa province and less rainfall (≤ 20 mm) is predicted for rest of the country during 19 - 25 Jan.

Monitored Rainfalls



- During the last week, average daily rainfall over Sri Lanka was 4.6 mm and hydro catchment was 2.1 mm.
- Maximum average daily rainfall was 39 mm on 8 Jan and 35 mm on 10 Jan.

Monitored & Predicted Wind



- From 8 - 14 Jan, up to 8 m/s of north easterly winds were at 850 mb (1.5 km).
- During 18 - 24 Jan, up to 5 m/s of north easterly winds are expected at 850 mb (1.5 km).

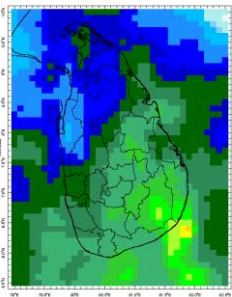
Monitored Sea & Land Temp



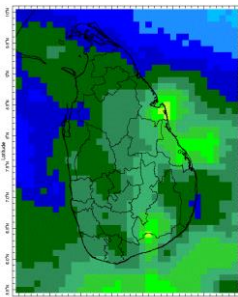
- Sea surface temperature around Sri Lanka was 0.25 - 1.0°C above normal.
- Strong EL Nino and positive indian ocean dipole patterns sustained.
- Maximum daily temperature was in Ratnapura (34.6°C) and Ratmalana (33.7°C).

Monitoring Rainfall

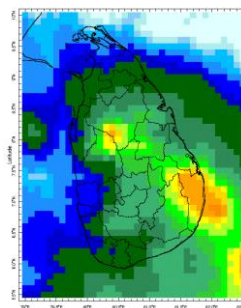
Daily Estimates for Rainfall from 8th January - 15th January 2024



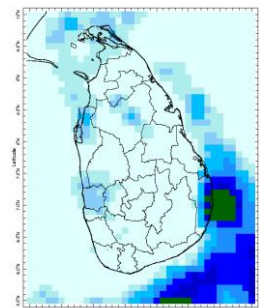
8 January



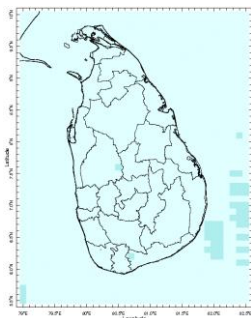
9 January



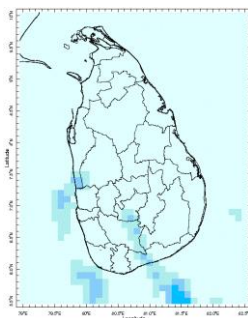
10 January



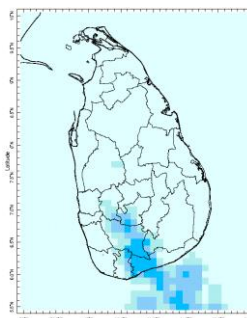
11 January



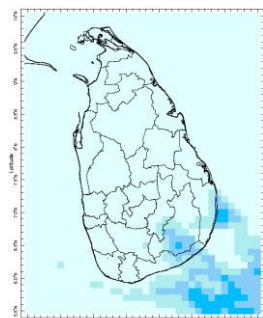
12 January



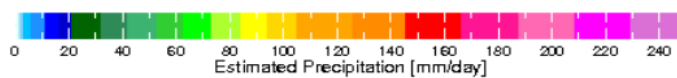
13 January



14 January



15 January



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Ocean State *(Text Courtesy IRI)*

Pacific sea state: January 15, 2024

El Niño Mode has set in according to NOAA since 8th of June, 2023. Equatorial sea surface temperatures (SSTs) are above average across the central and eastern Pacific Ocean mid-January. El Niño is expected to continue for the next several seasons, with a transition to ENSO-neutral favored during April-June 2024 (73% chance).

Indian Ocean State

Sea surface temperature around Sri Lanka was 0.5°C above normal to the country in 26th December - 1st January 2024. A positive Dipole Mode has set in across the Indian Ocean since 8th of June.

Predictions

Rainfall

1 - 7 Day prediction: IMD GFS models

From 19th January - 25th January:

Total rainfall by Provinces:

Rainfall (mm)	Provinces
20 - 40	Sabaragamuwa
10 - 20	Uva, Southern, Eastern, Western
≤ 10	Central, North Central, Northern, North Western

MJO based OLR predictions

For the next 15 days:

MJO shall slightly suppress the rainfall during 17th - 21st January and significantly suppress the rainfall during 22nd - 31st January for Sri Lanka.

Interpretation

Monitoring

Rainfall: During the last two weeks, there had been very heavy rainfall over the following areas: Pannalgama, Lahugala, Vakaneri Wewa.

Daily Average Rainfall in the Met stations for previous week of (10th January - 17th January) = 4.6 mm
Maximum Daily Rainfall: 172.1 mm & Minimum Daily Rainfall: 0.0 mm.

Region	Average rainfall for last 8 days (mm)	Average temperature for last 8 days (°C)	
		Maximum	Minimum
Northern plains	2.5	29.9	23.2
Eastern hills	6.3	23.8	16.0
Eastern plains	9.2	29.5	23.0
Western hills	1.6	27.0	16.8

Western plains	0.7	31.1	23.1
Southern plains	5.7	30.2	22.8

Region	Average rainfall for last 8 days (mm)	Daily maximum rainfall for last 8 days (mm)	Daily minimum rainfall for last 8 days (mm)
Hydro catchment	2.1	53.9	0.0

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

Temperatures: The temperature anomalies were above normal for some parts of the Central, Sabaragamuwa, and Northern provinces of the country driven by the warm SST's.

Predictions

Rainfall: During the next week (19th January - 25th January), moderate rainfall is predicted for the Sabaragamuwa province and less rainfall is predicted for rest of the country.

Temperatures: The temperature will remain seasonably near normal for the country during 18th January - 24th January.

Teleconnections: A positive Dipole Mode has set in across the Indian Ocean since 8th of June.

MJO shall slightly suppress the rainfall during 17th - 21st January and significantly suppress the rainfall during 22nd - 31st January for Sri Lanka.

Seasonal Precipitation: The precipitation forecast for the February-March-April, 2024 season shows near normal precipitation.

Terminology for Rainfall Ranges

	Rainfall (During 24 hours of period)
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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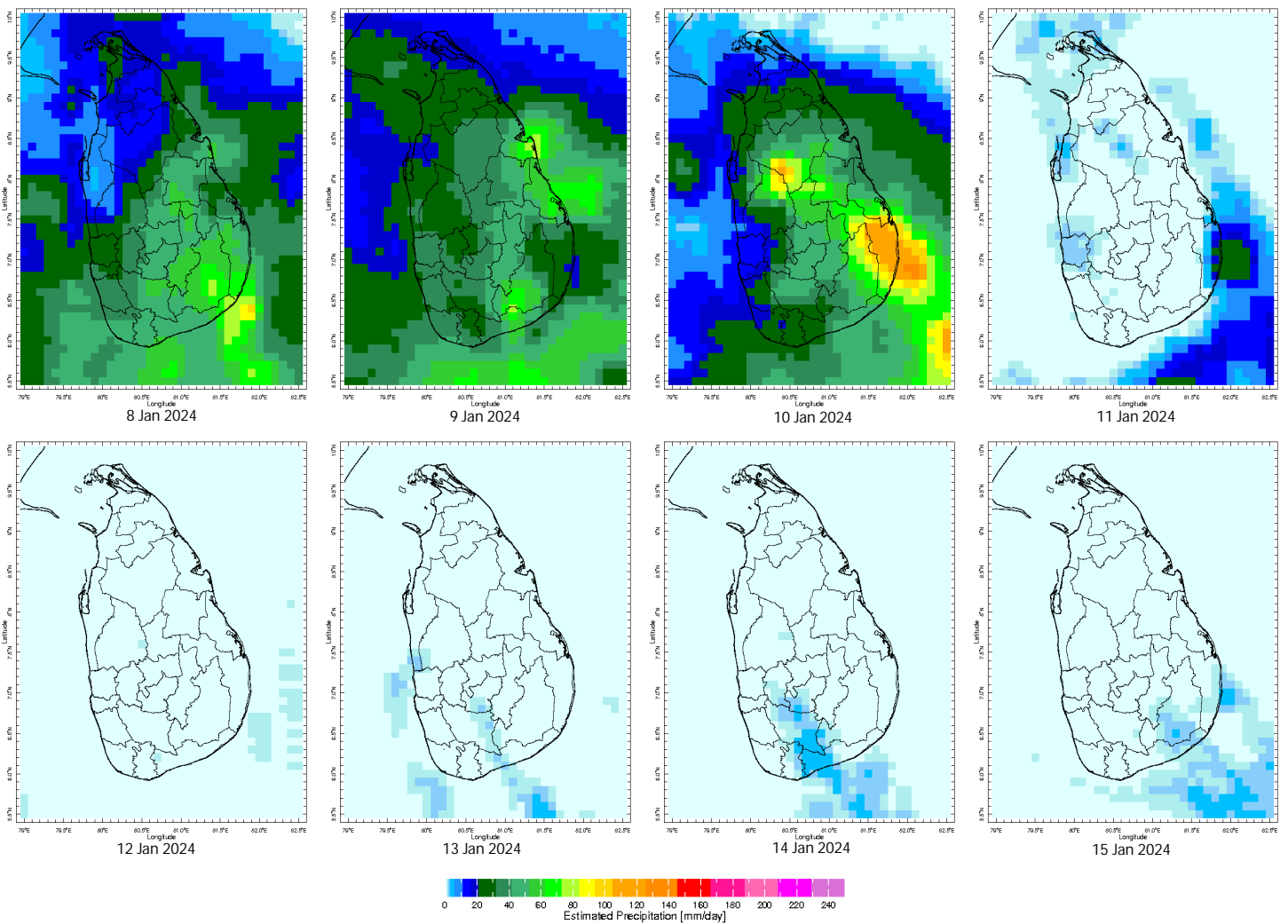
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MONITORING

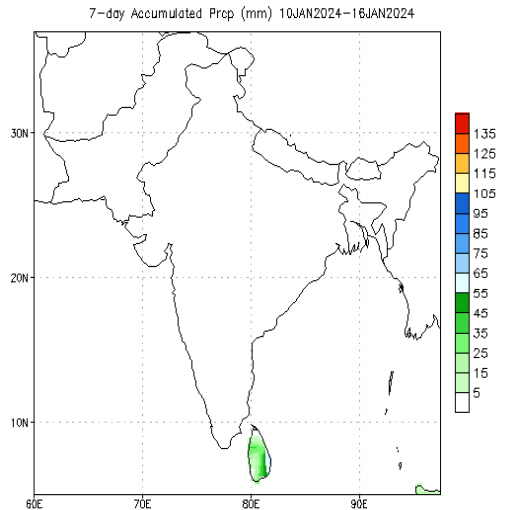
Daily Rainfall Monitoring

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

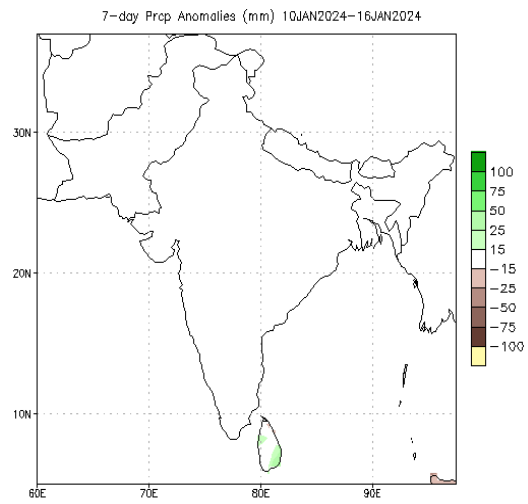


Weekly Rainfall Monitoring

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.



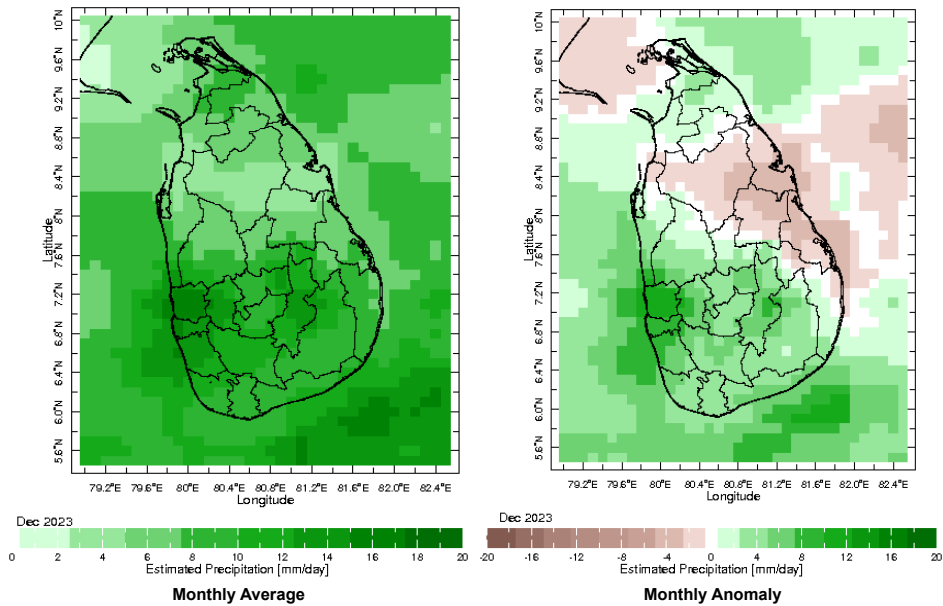
Data Source: CPC Unified (gauge-based & 0.5x0.5 deg resolution) Precipitation Analysis



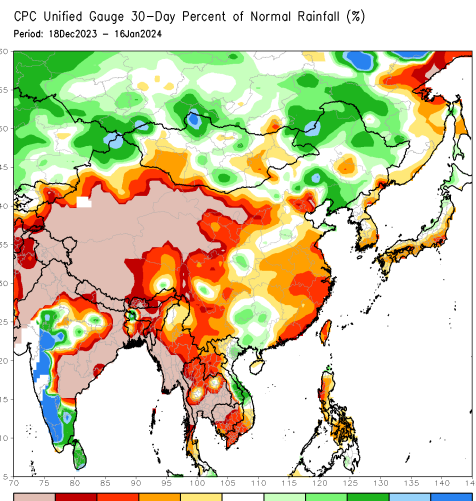
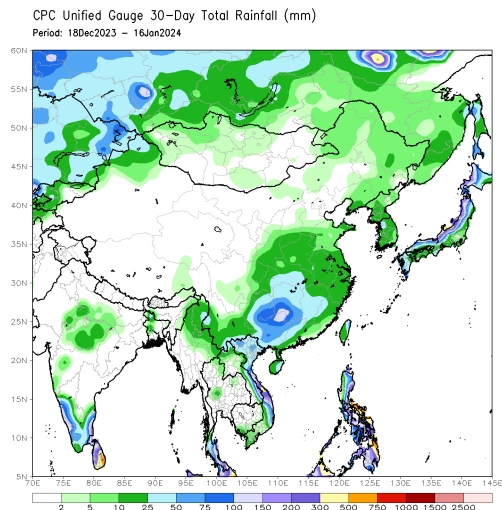
Data Source: CPC Unified (gauge-based & 0.5x0.5 deg resolution) Precipitation Analysis Climatology (1991-2020)

Monthly Rainfall Monitoring

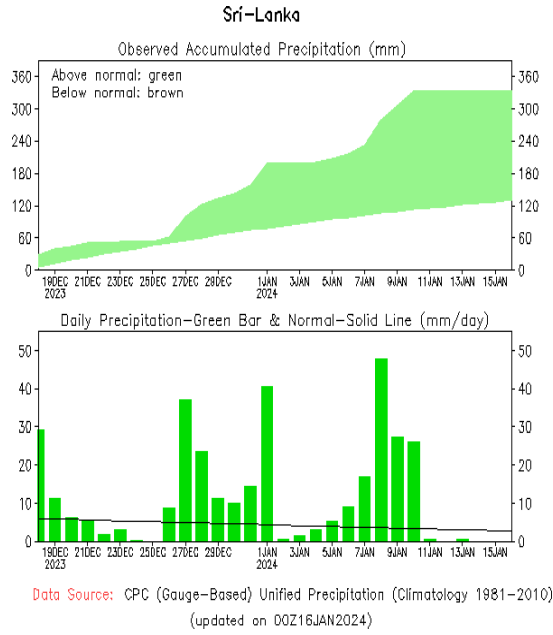
The figure in the left shows the average observed rainfall in the previous month. The rainfall anomaly in the previous month is shown in the figure to the right. The brown color in the anomaly figure shows places which received less rainfall than the historical average while the green color shows places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



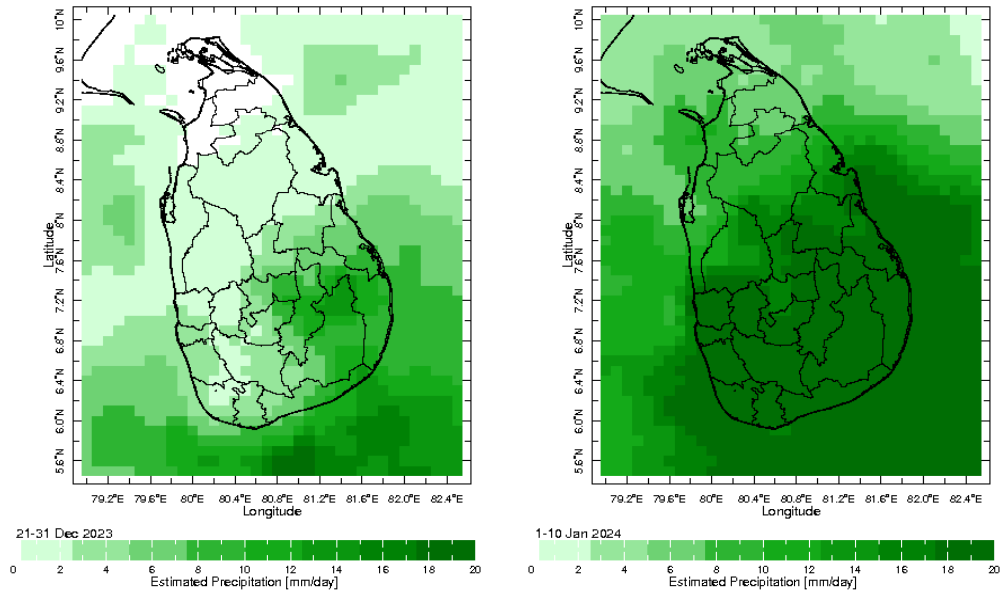
The figure in the top-left shows the total rainfall in the past 30 days from CPC Unified Precipitation Analysis while the figure in the top-right shows the total rainfall for the same period from RFE 2.0 Satellite Rainfall Estimates. The bottom two figures show the percentage of rainfall received in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



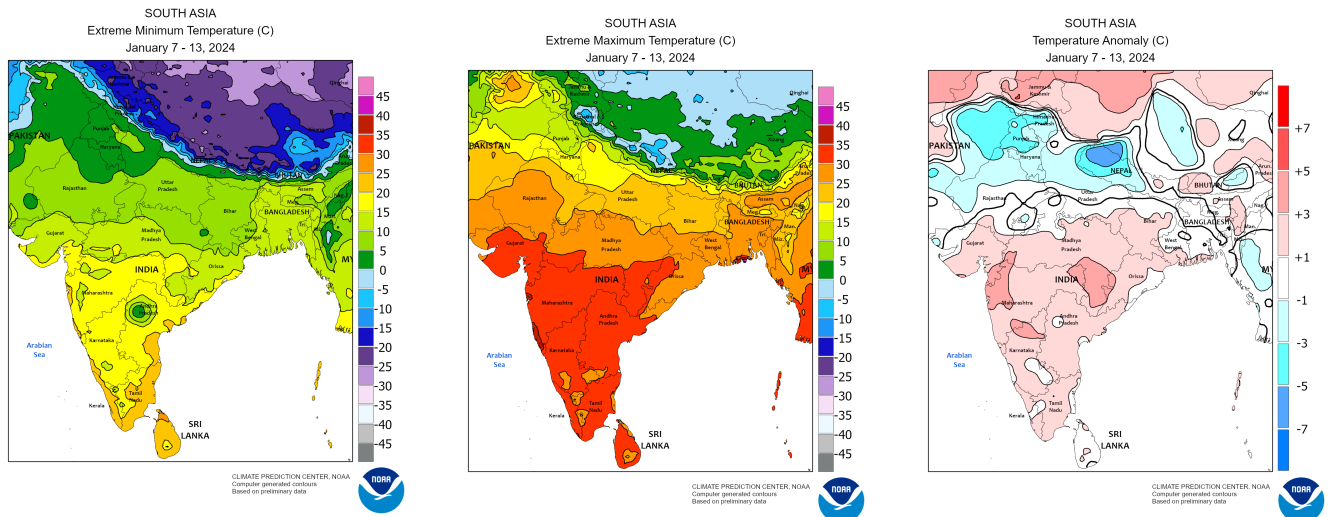
The following figure shows the observed accumulated rainfall (top) and daily observed rainfall (bottom) in Sri Lanka in the last 30 days.



Dekadal (10 Day) Satellite Derived Rainfall Estimates

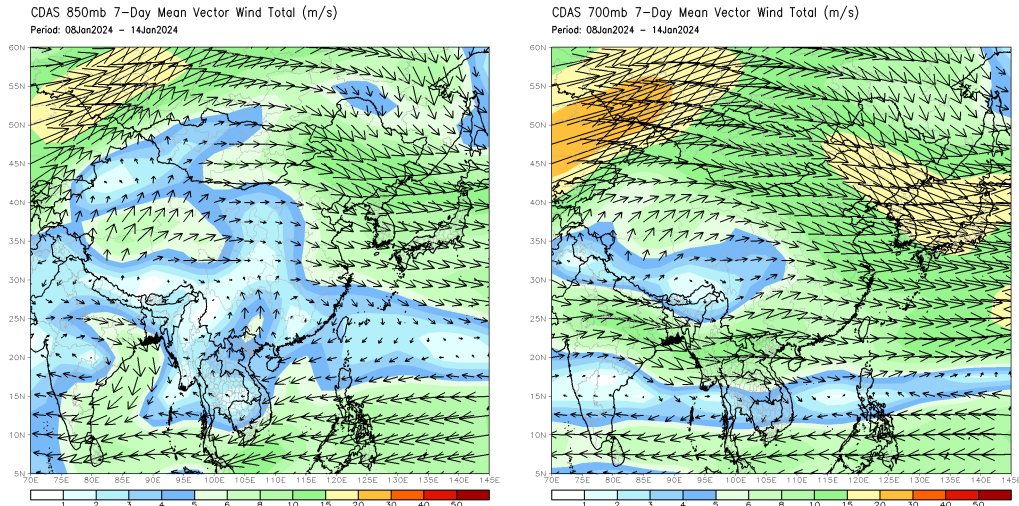


Weekly Temperature Monitoring



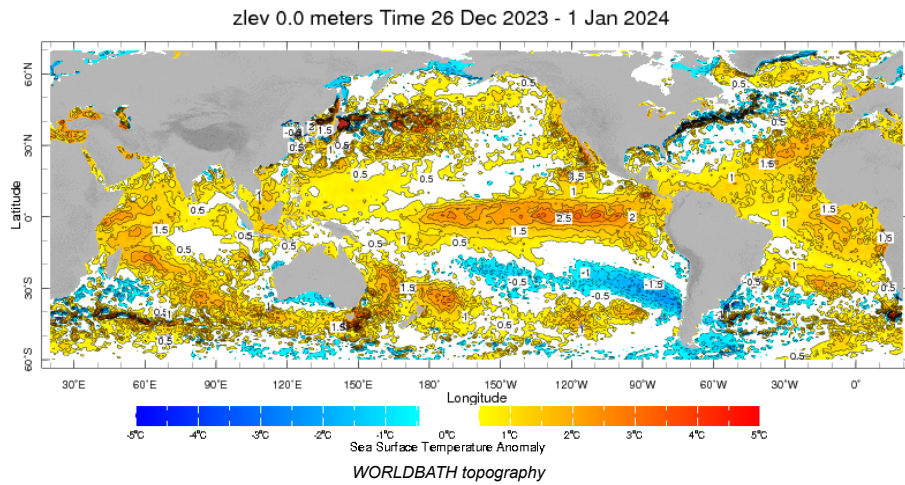
Weekly Wind Monitoring

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.

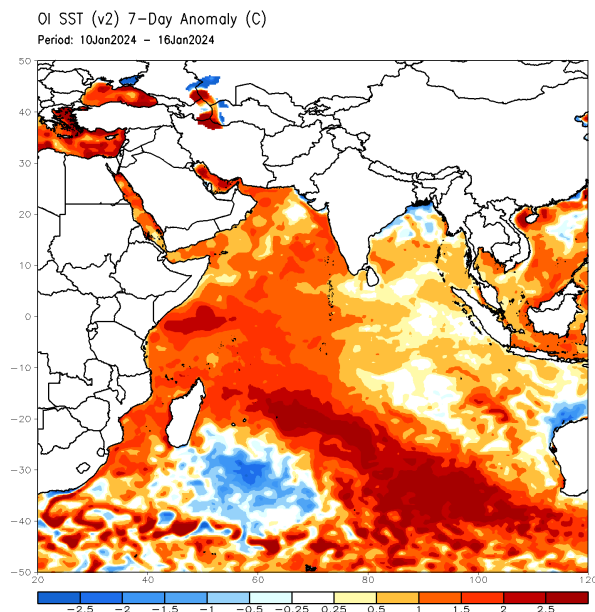


Weekly Average SST Anomalies

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

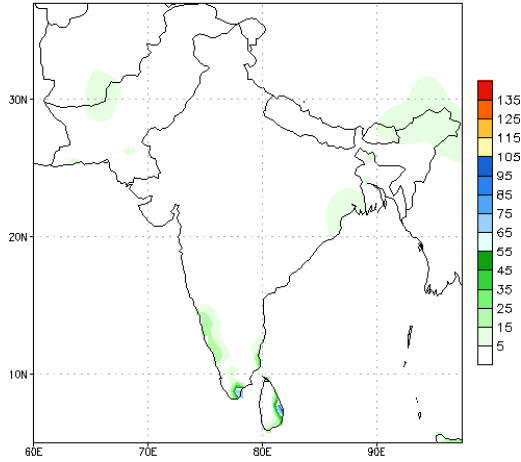


Optimum Interpolated Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly in the Indian Ocean from NOAA CPC



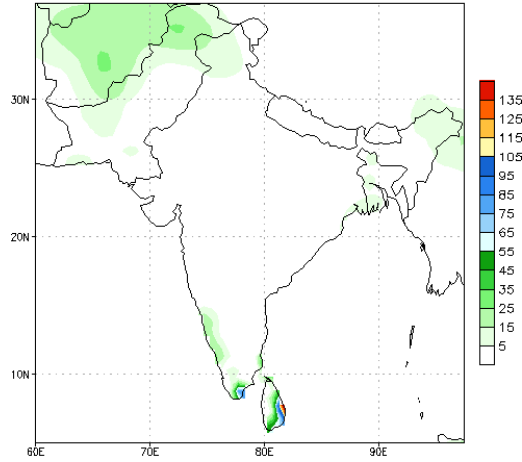
NCEP GFS 1- 14 Day prediction

NCEP GFS Ensemble Forecast 1-7 Day Precipitation (mm)
from: 17Jan2024
17Jan2024-23Jan2024 Accumulation



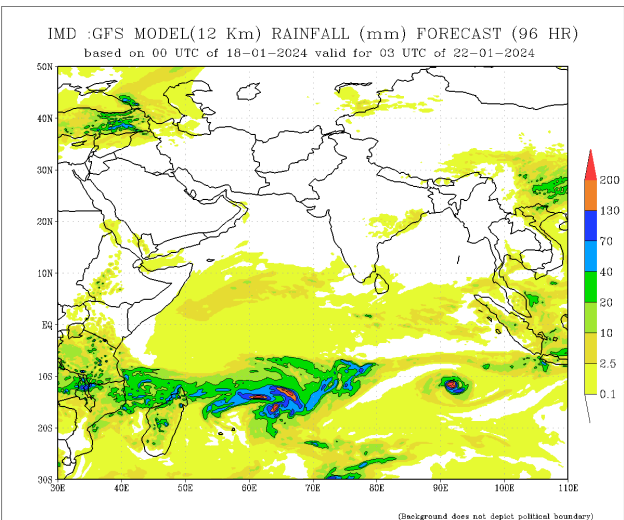
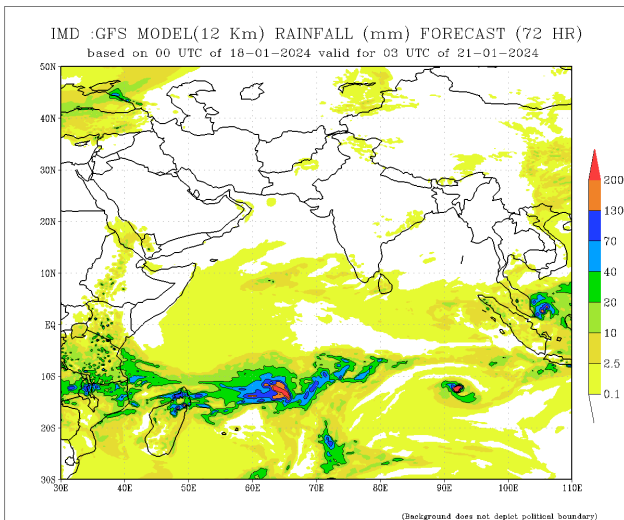
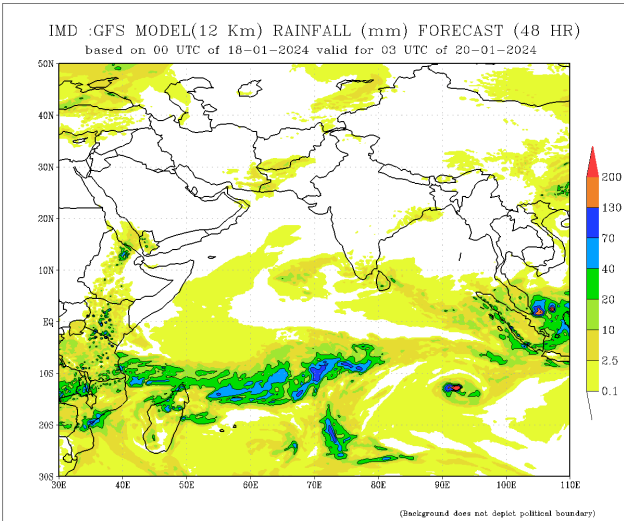
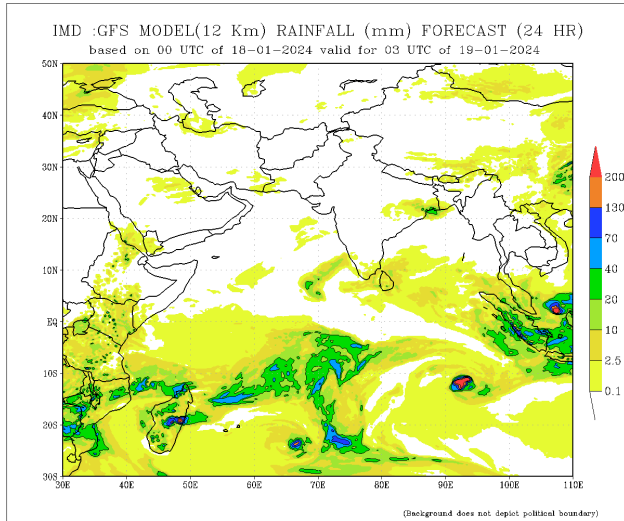
Bias correction based on last 30-day forecast error

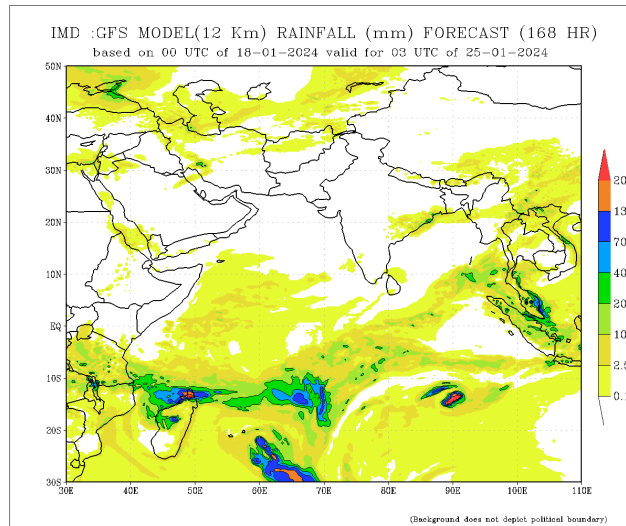
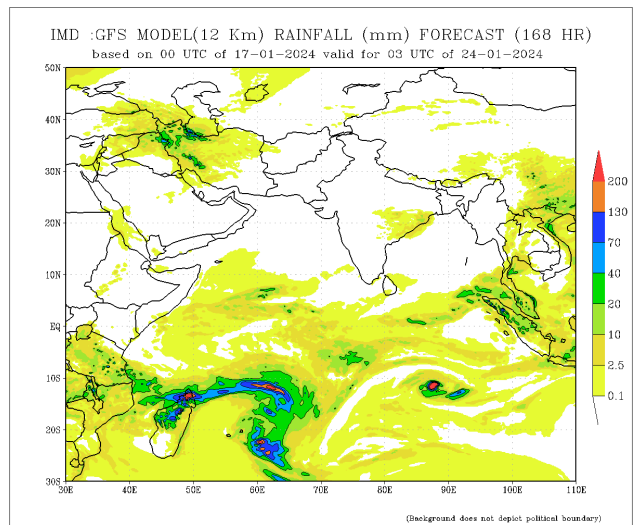
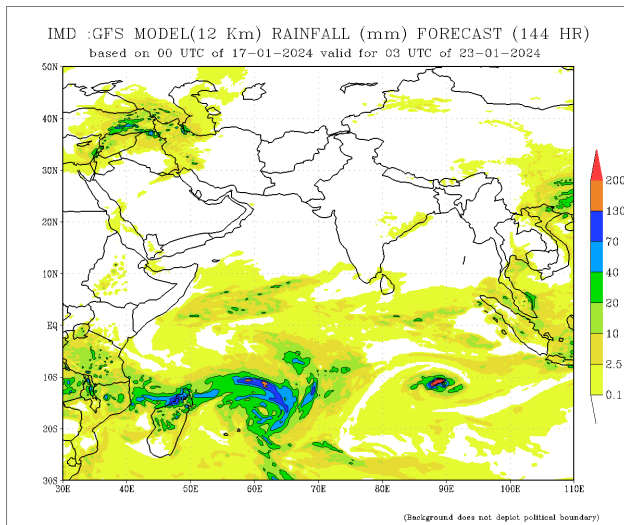
NCEP GFS Ensemble Forecast 8-14 Day Precipitation (mm)
from: 17Jan2024
24Jan2024-30Jan2024 Accumulation



Bias correction based on last 30-day forecast error

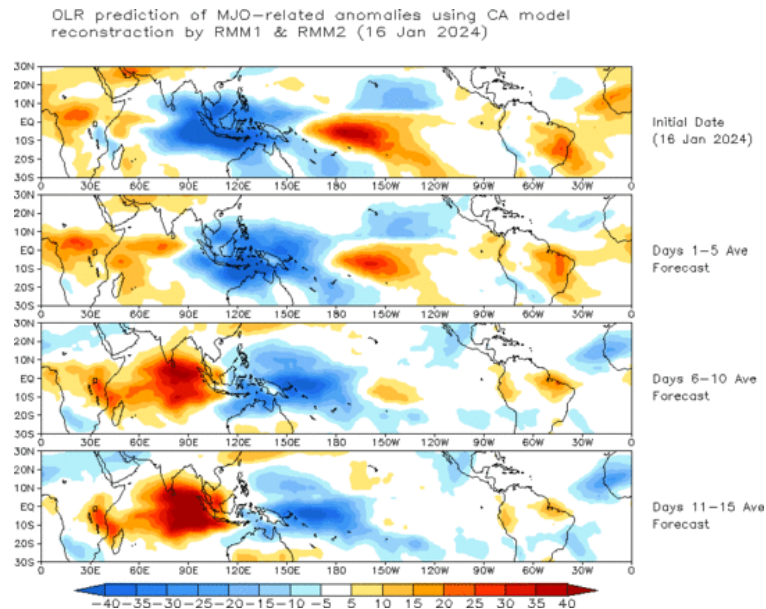
IMD GFS (T574) Model Rainfall Forecast from RMSC New Delhi, India





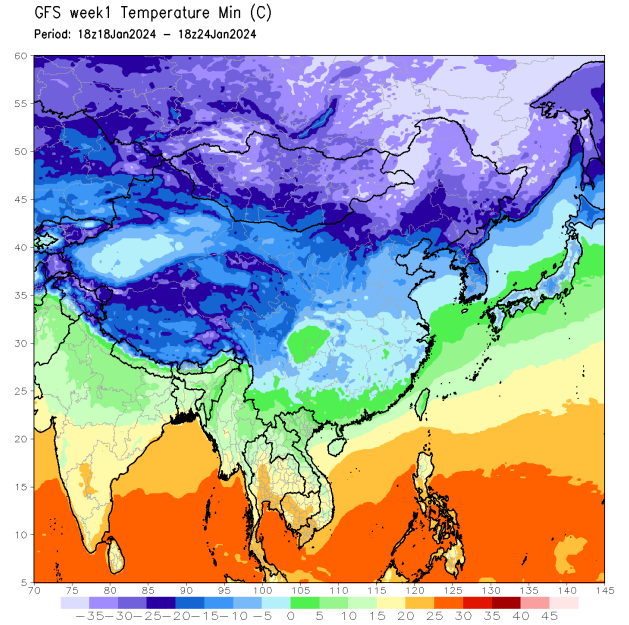
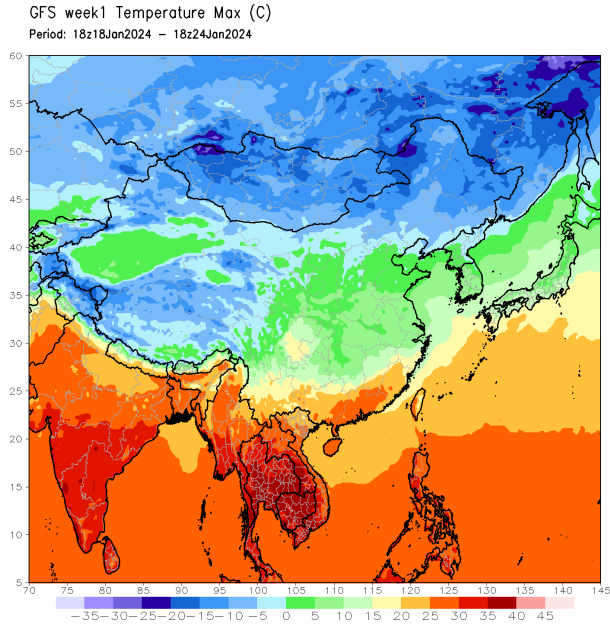
Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) related Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR) Forecast

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 anomalous OLR for the next 15 days from the Constructed Analogue (CA) model forecasts.



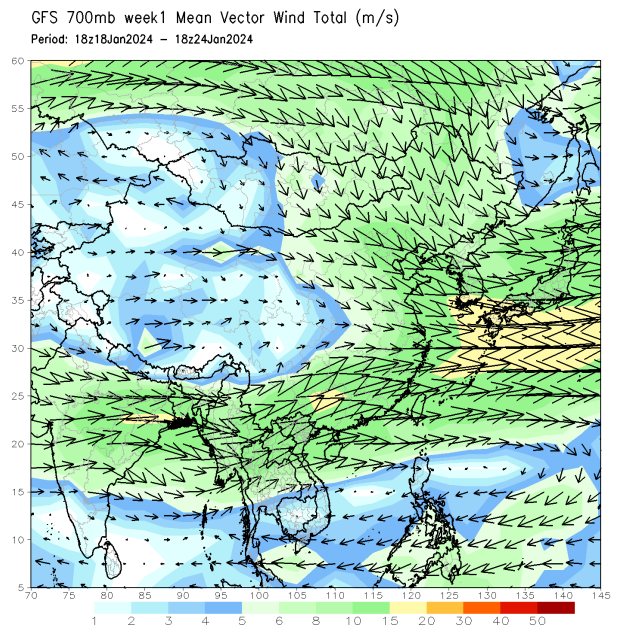
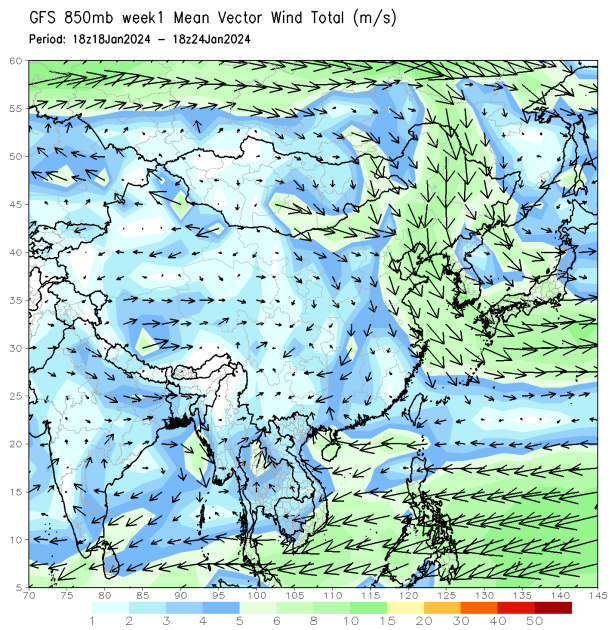
Weekly Temperature Forecast

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



Weekly Wind Forecast

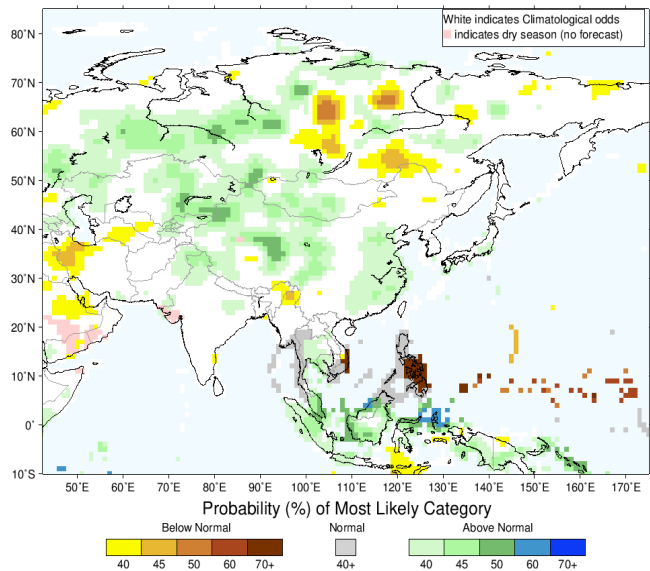
Weekly mean vector wind total prediction from the GFS model at 850 mb (left) and 700 mb (right) levels. (from NOAA CPC)



Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature Forecast

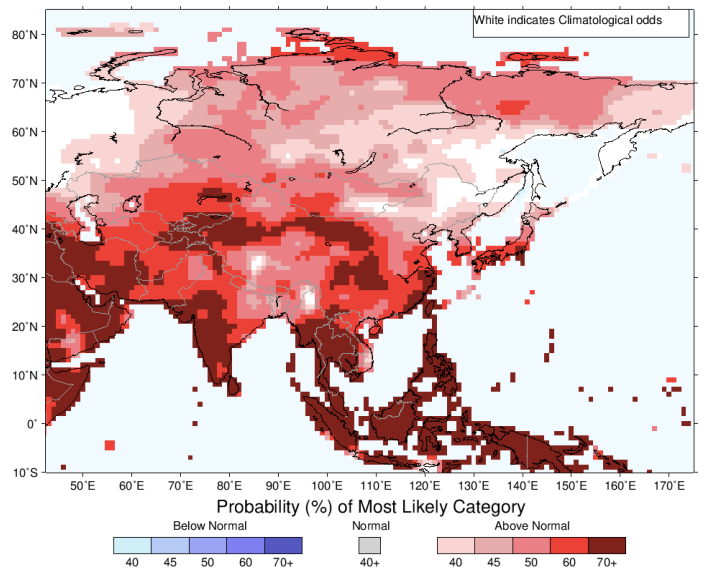
Following is the latest seasonal precipitation and temperature prediction for the next 3 months by the IRI. The color shading indicates the probability of the most dominant tercile -- that is, the tercile having the highest forecast probability. The color bar alongside the map defines these dominant 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%).

IRI Multi-Model Probability Forecast for Precipitation for February-March-April 2024, Issued January 2024



Precipitation Forecast

IRI Multi-Model Probability Forecast for Temperature for February-March-April 2024, Issued January 2024



Temperature Forecast

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 20 years, we have had operations in Africa, South Asia, South-East Asia but now it is mostly in the Indian Ocean Islands.

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