20 JANUARY 2023

CLIMATE MONITORING AND PREDICTION FOR SRI LANKA

HIGHLIGHTS

Rainfall Prediction

- *Fairly heavy rainfall is predicted for the Eastern, Uva, Central, North Central provinces and ≥ 55 mm rainfall is predicted for the Southern, Sabaragamuwa, North Western, and Western provinces during 19th - 25th January.*

Monitored Rainfalls

- *During the last week, maximum daily rainfall over Sri Lanka was 38.0 mm and hydro catchment areas received 37.0 mm.*

Monitored Wind

- *From 10th - 16th Jan, up to 8m/s of north easterly winds were experienced at 850 mb level over the island.*
- *During 20th - 26th Jan, north easterly winds are expected for the country.*

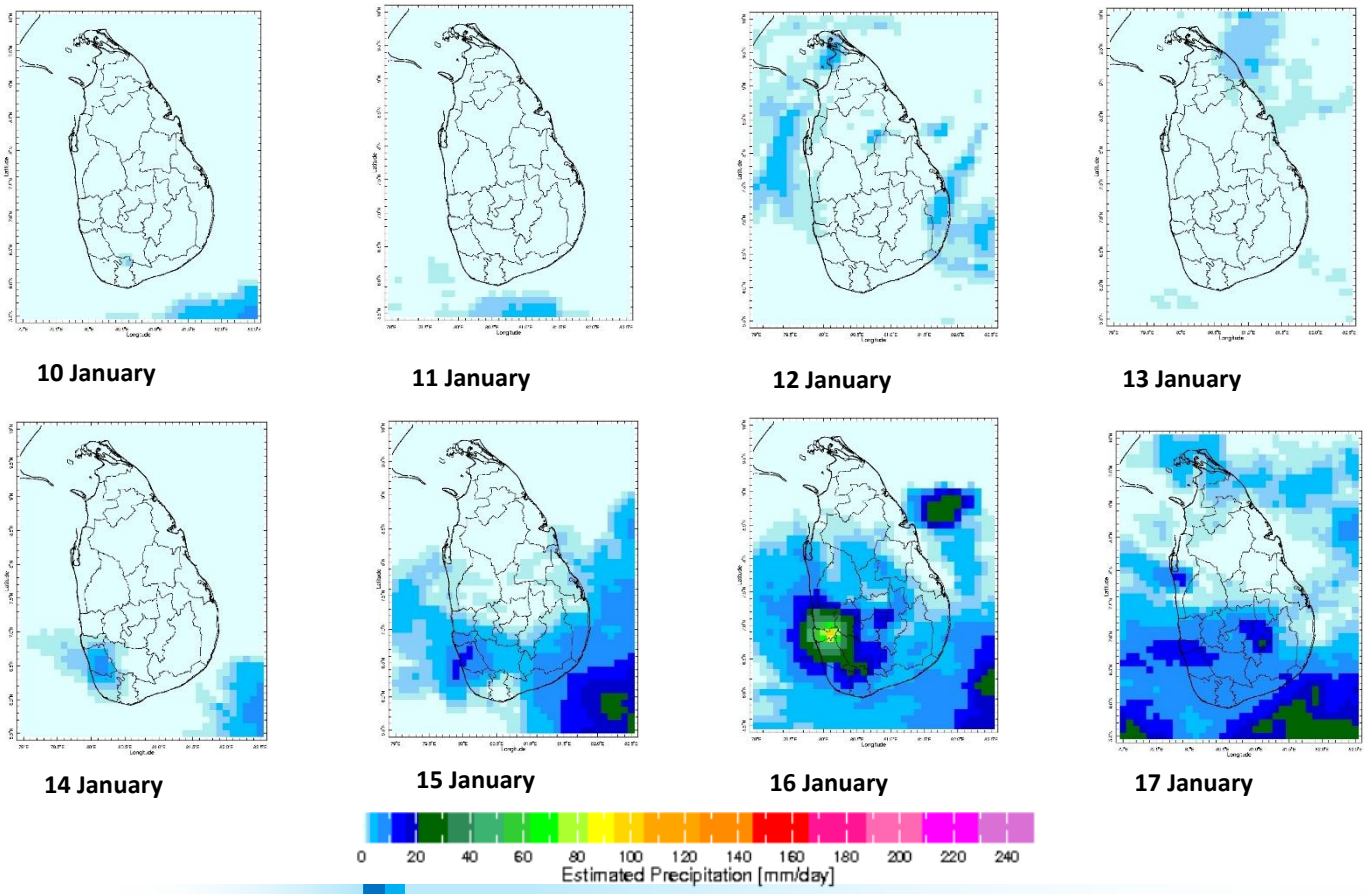
Monitored Sea & Land Temp

- *Sea surface temperature around Sri Lanka was near-neutral for the entire island.*
- *Land surface temperature remained near normal.*

Monitoring

Rainfall

Daily Estimates for Rainfall from 10th January – 17th January 2023



Federation for Environment, Climate & Technology

Federation for Environment, Climate and Technology

c/o, Maintenance Office, Mahaweli Authority, Digana Village, Rajawella, Sri Lanka.

Phone (+94) 81-2376746, (+94) 81-2300415

Web Site: www.fect.lk E mail: info@fect.lk LI: www.linkedin.com/in/fectlk

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Ocean State *(Text Courtesy IRI)*

Pacific sea state: January 17, 2023

Equatorial sea surface temperatures (SSTs) are below average across most of the Pacific Ocean mid - January. The tropical Pacific atmosphere is consistent with La Niña. A large majority of the models indicate a transition from La Niña to ENSO-neutral anticipate during the February-April 2023 season by Northern Hemisphere spring (March-May 2023), the chance for ENSO-neutral is 82%.

Indian Ocean State

Sea surface temperature around Sri Lanka was near neutral for the whole country in 11th January, 2023. Across the Indian Ocean, a classical negative Indian Ocean Dipole prevails as is typical during a La Niña.

Predictions

Rainfall

14-day prediction: NOAA NCEP models

From 19th January – 25th January:

Total rainfall by Provinces:

Rainfall	Provinces
95 mm	Eastern
85 mm	Uva
75 mm	Central, North Central
65 mm	Southern, Sabaragamuwa, North Western
55 mm	Western
35 mm	Northern

From 26th January – 1st February:

Total rainfall by Provinces:

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

MJO based OLR predictions

For the next 15 days:

MJO shall slightly enhance the rainfall during 19th – 23rd January, moderately enhance the rainfall during 24th January – 2nd February for Sri Lanka.

Interpretation

Monitoring

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

Daily Average Rainfall in the Met stations for previous week of (11th January – 18th January) = 1.6 mm

Rmax: 38.0 mm & Rmin: 0.0 mm.

Region	Average rainfall for the Last 8 days
Northern Plains	0.8 mm
Eastern	1.9 mm
Western	2.0 mm
Southern Plains	0.7 mm

The Hydro Catchment Areas recorded 2.5 mm of average rainfall for the last week

Rmax: 37.0 mm & Rmin: 0.0 mm.

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

Temperatures: The temperature anomalies were below normal for the North Central Province and some parts of the Northern, Eastern, and North Western provinces, driven by the warm SST's.

Predictions

Rainfall: During the next week (19th – 25th January), fairly heavy rainfall (≥ 75 mm) is predicted for the Eastern, Uva, Central, North Central provinces, and ≥ 55 mm is predicted for the Southern, Sabaragamuwa, North Western, Western provinces and less rainfall is expected for rest of the country.

Temperatures: The temperature will remain below normal for some parts of the Central and Uva provinces during 20th – 26th January.

Teleconnections: A transition from La Niña to ENSO-neutral is anticipated during the February-April 2023 season by Northern Hemisphere spring (March-May 2023), the chance for ENSO-neutral is 82%. MJO shall slightly enhance the rainfall during 19th – 23rd January, moderately enhance the rainfall during 24th January – 2nd February for Sri Lanka.

Seasonal Precipitation: The precipitation forecast for the February-March-April 2023 season shows a higher tendency of near-normal precipitation for the country.

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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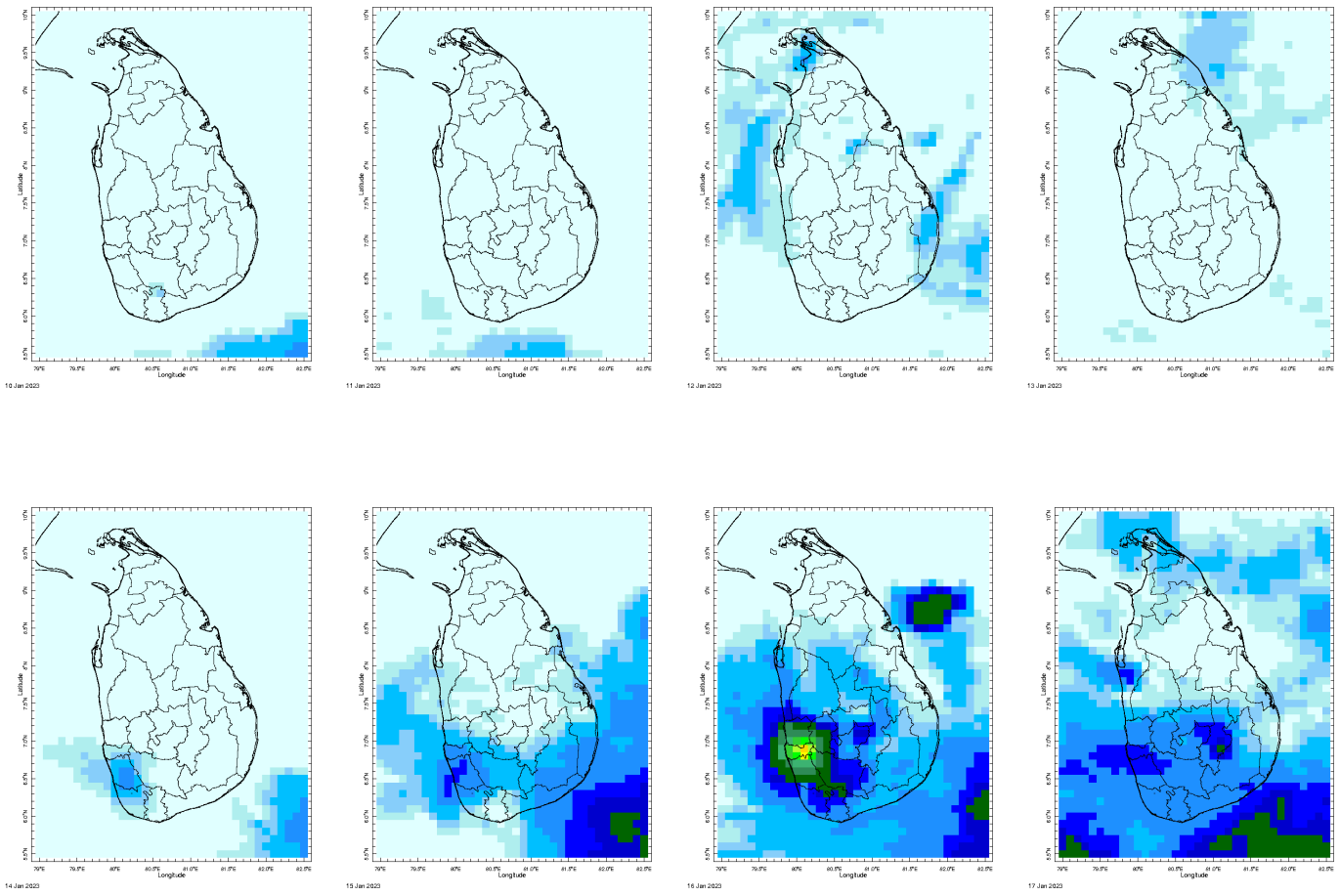
MONITORING

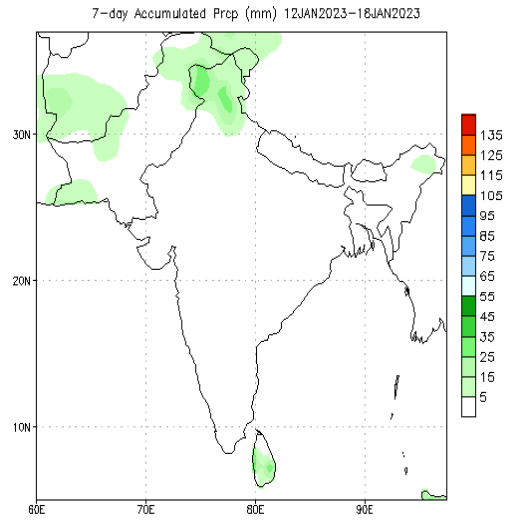
Daily Rainfall Monitoring

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

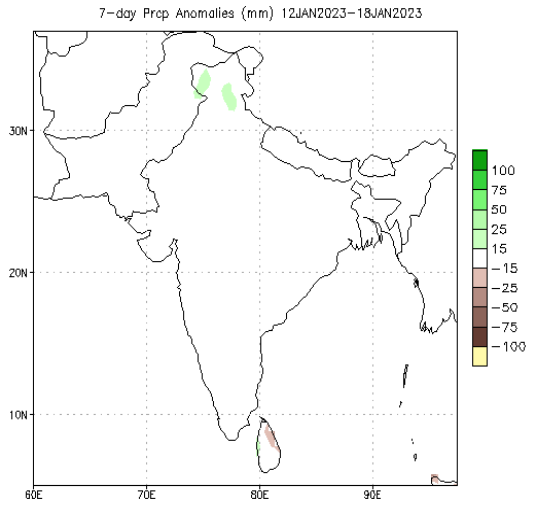


Weekly Rainfall Monitoring

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.



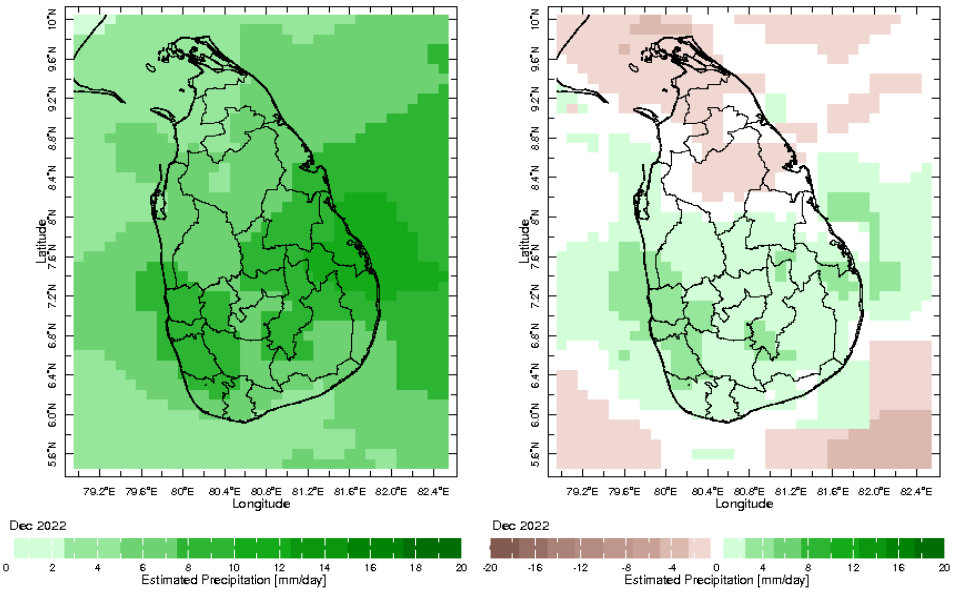
Data Source: CPC Unified (gauge-based & 0.5x0.5 deg resolution) Precipitation Analysis



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

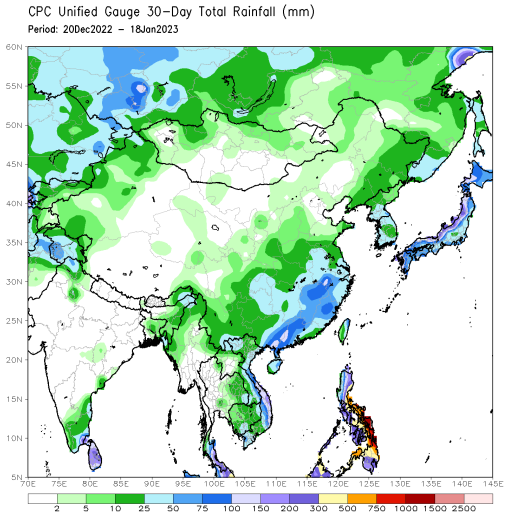
Monthly Rainfall Monitoring

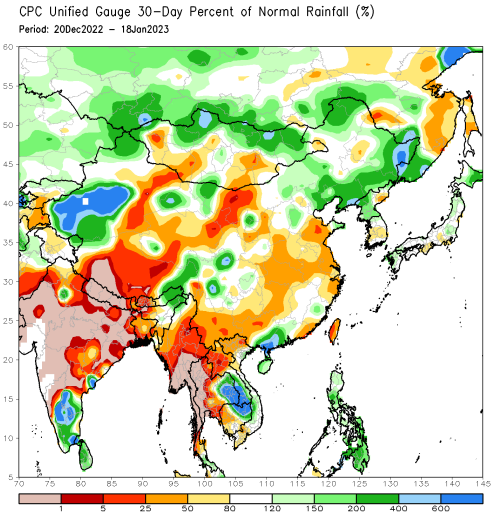
The figure in the left shows the average observed rainfall in the previous month. The rainfall anomaly in the previous month is shown in the figure to the right. The brown color in the anomaly figure shows places which received less rainfall than the historical average while the green color shows places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



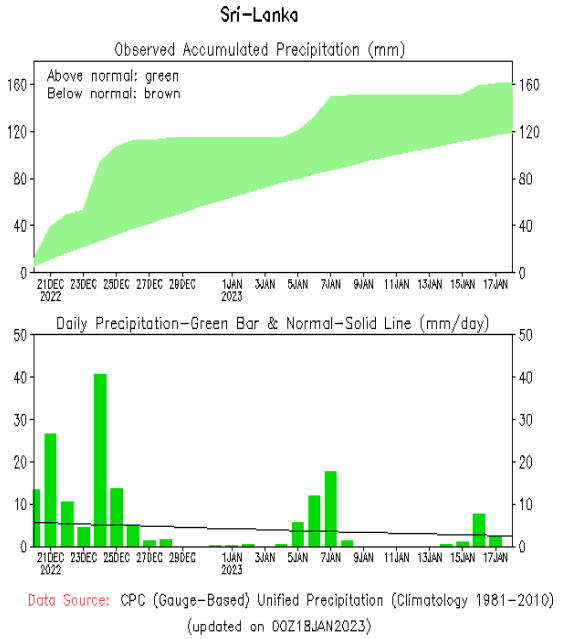
Monthly Average **Monthly Anomaly**

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.

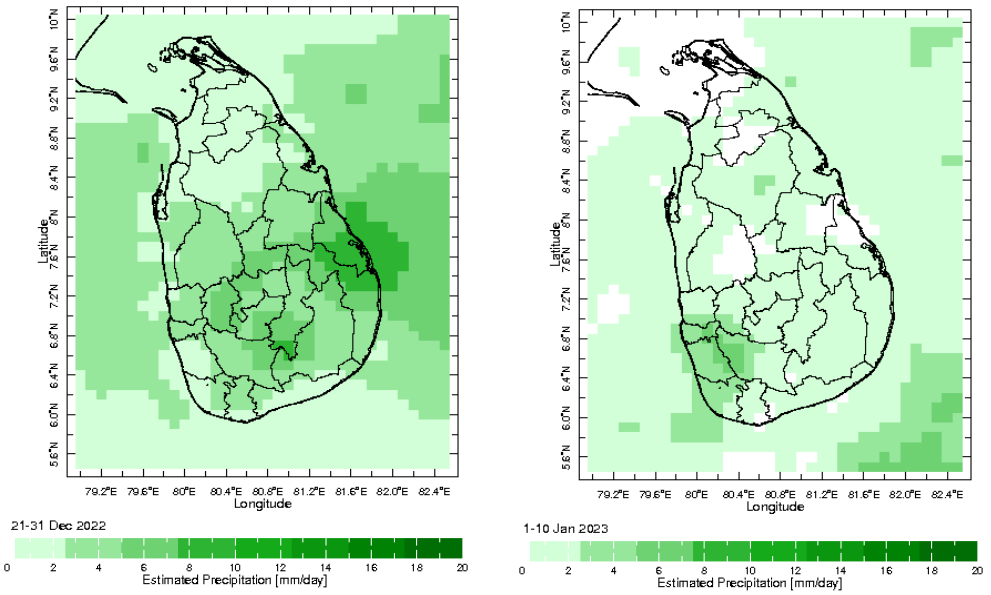




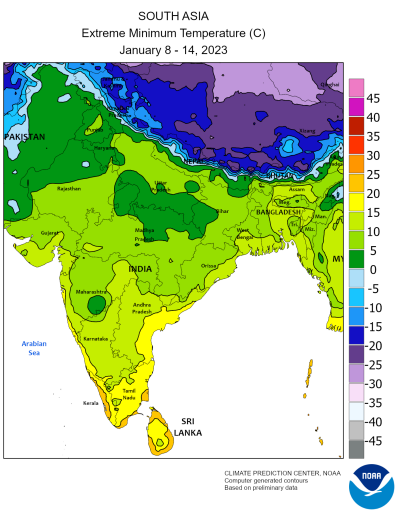
The following figure shows the observed accumulated rainfall (top) and daily observed rainfall (bottom) in Sri Lanka in the last 30 days.

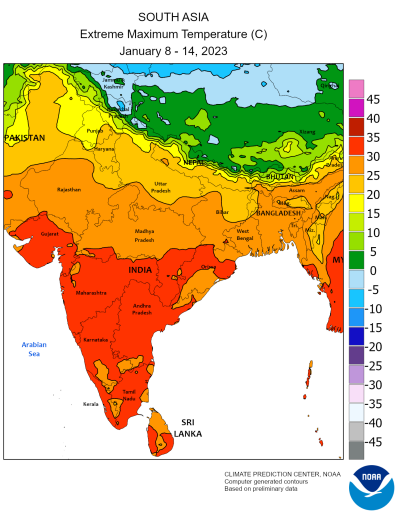


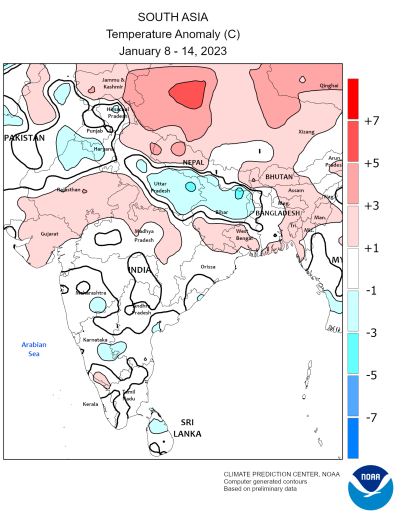
Dekadal (10 Day) Satellite Derived Rainfall Estimates



Weekly Temperature Monitoring

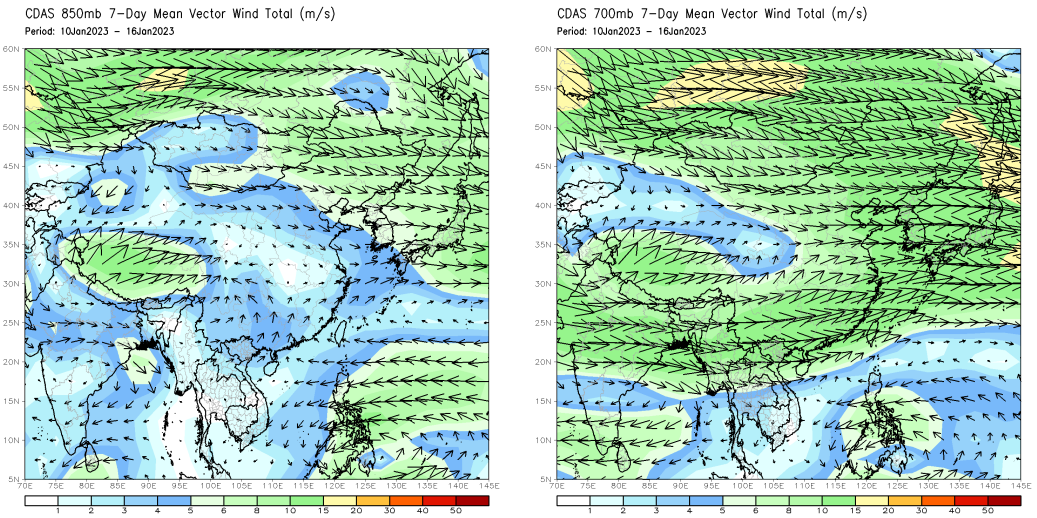






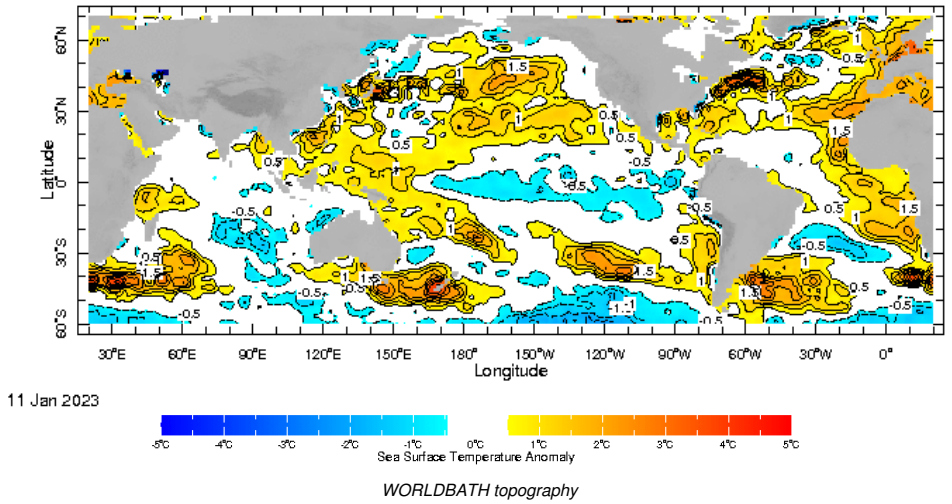
Weekly Wind Monitoring

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.



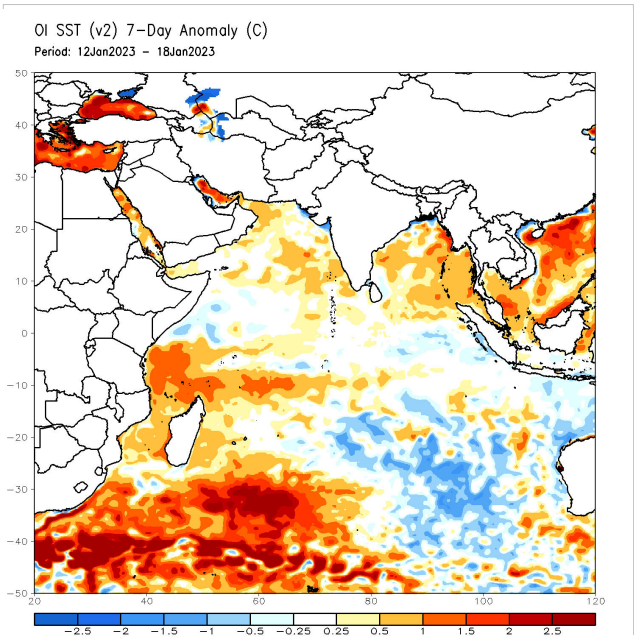
Weekly Average SST Anomalies

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

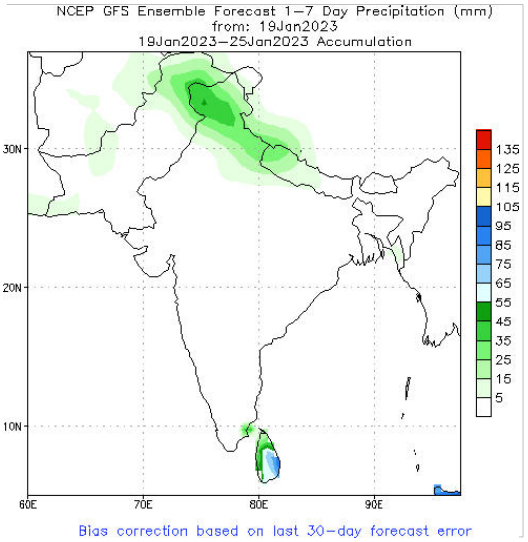


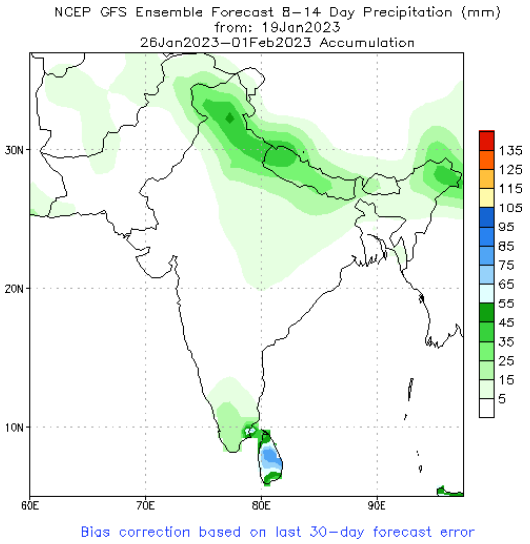
WORLDBATH topography

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

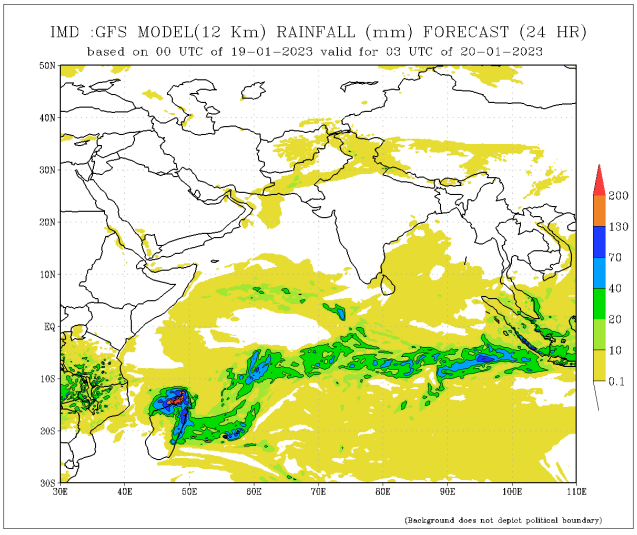


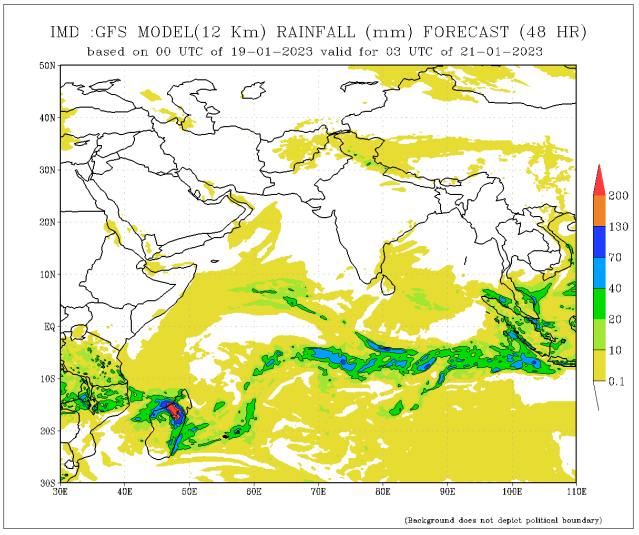
NCEP GFS 1- 14 Day prediction

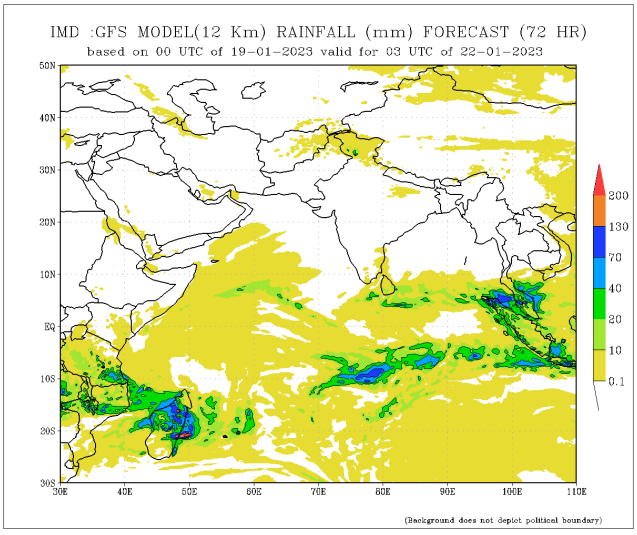


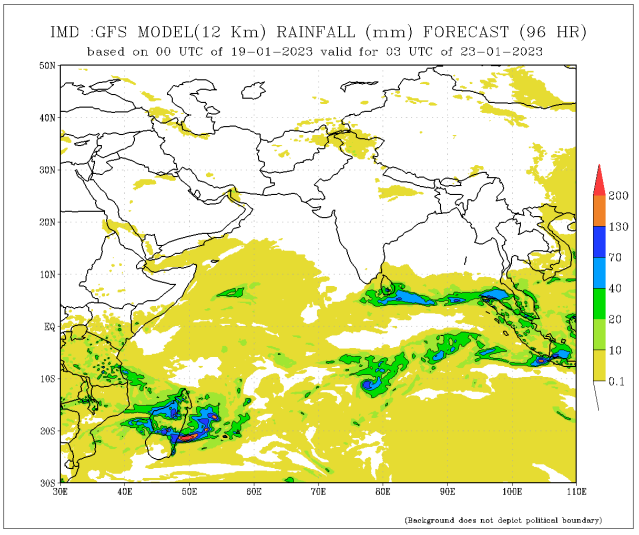


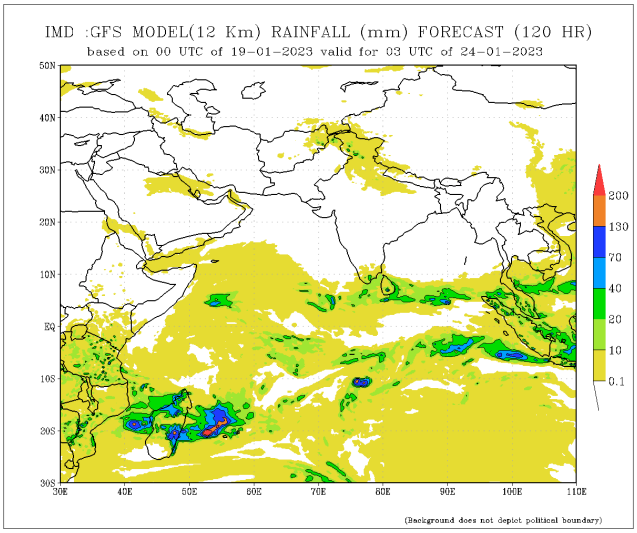
IMD GFS (T574) Model Rainfall Forecast from RMSC New Delhi, India

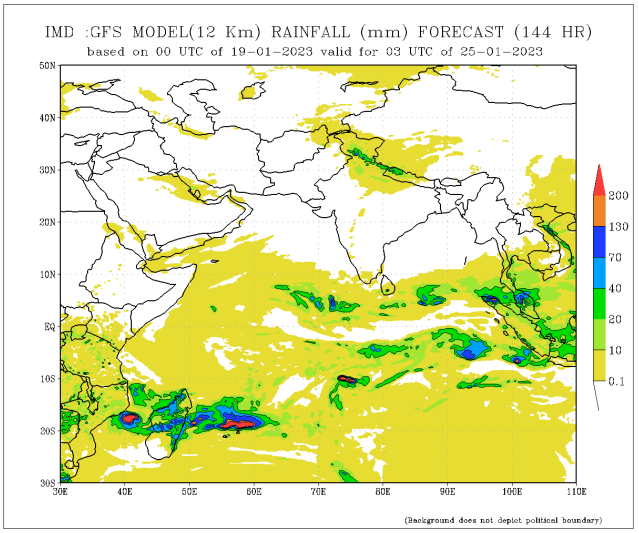


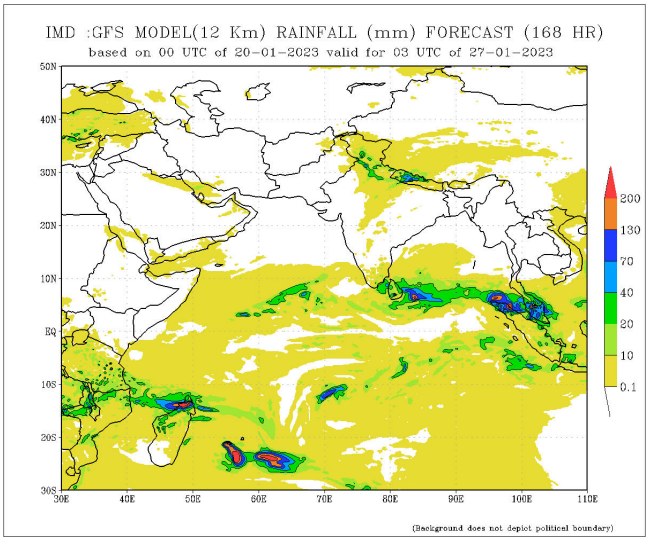






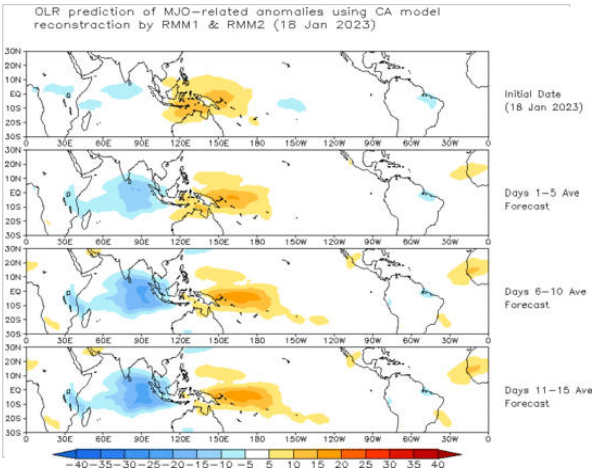






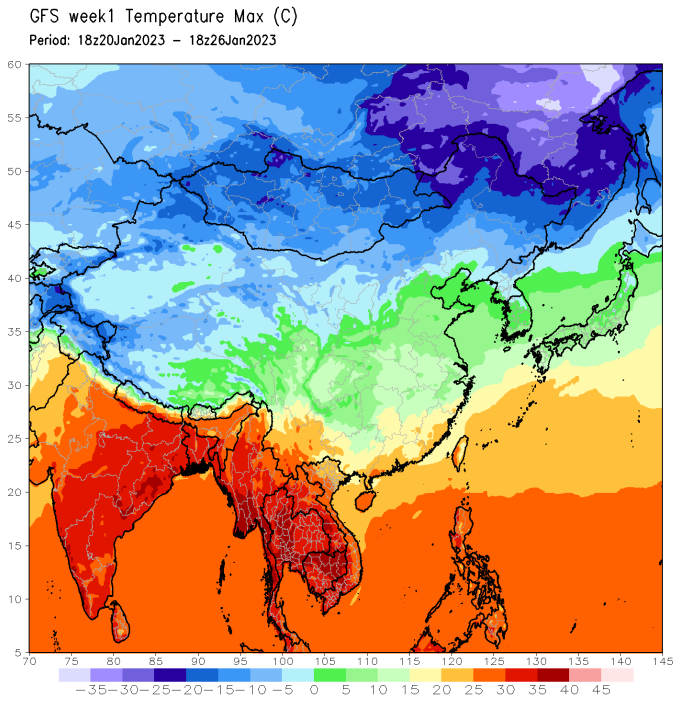
Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) related Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR) Forecast

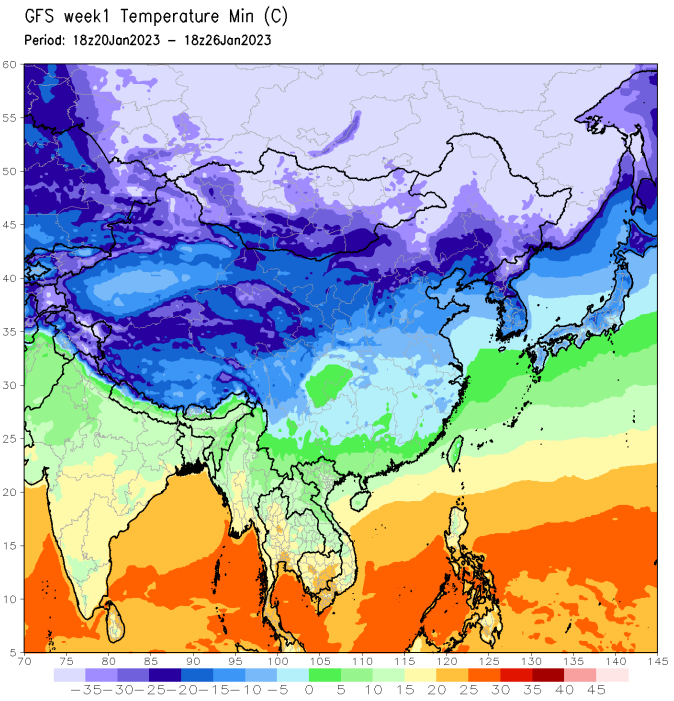
The Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR) is a proxy for rainfall. This can be used to identify convective rain clouds based on the MJO phase. Violet and Blue shading indicates enhanced tropical weather and Orange shading indicates suppressed conditions. The following figure shows the forecasts of MJO associated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



Weekly Temperature Forecast

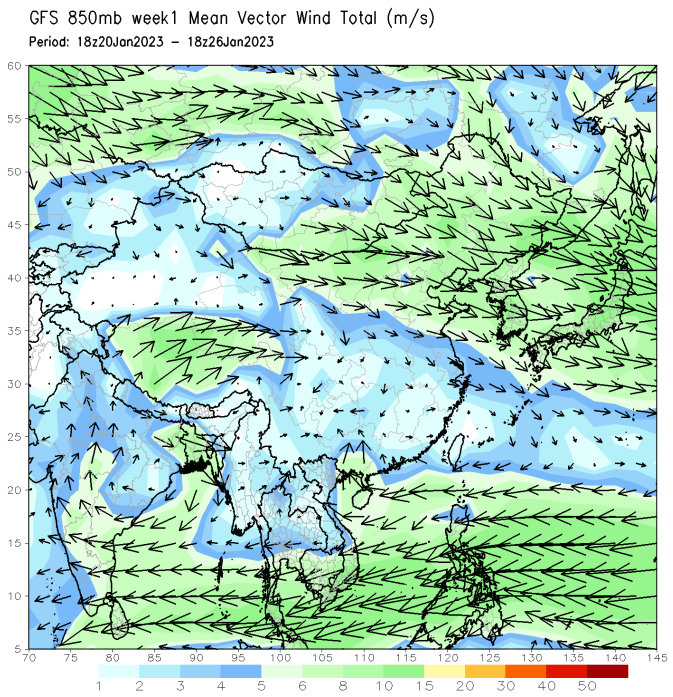
Weekly Minimum and Maximum Temperature prediction from the GFS model (from NOAA CPC)

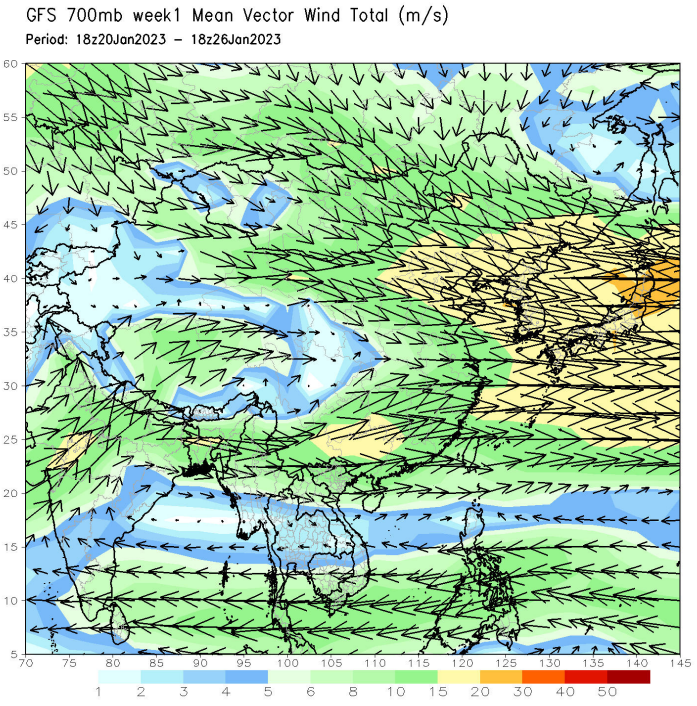




Weekly Wind Forecast

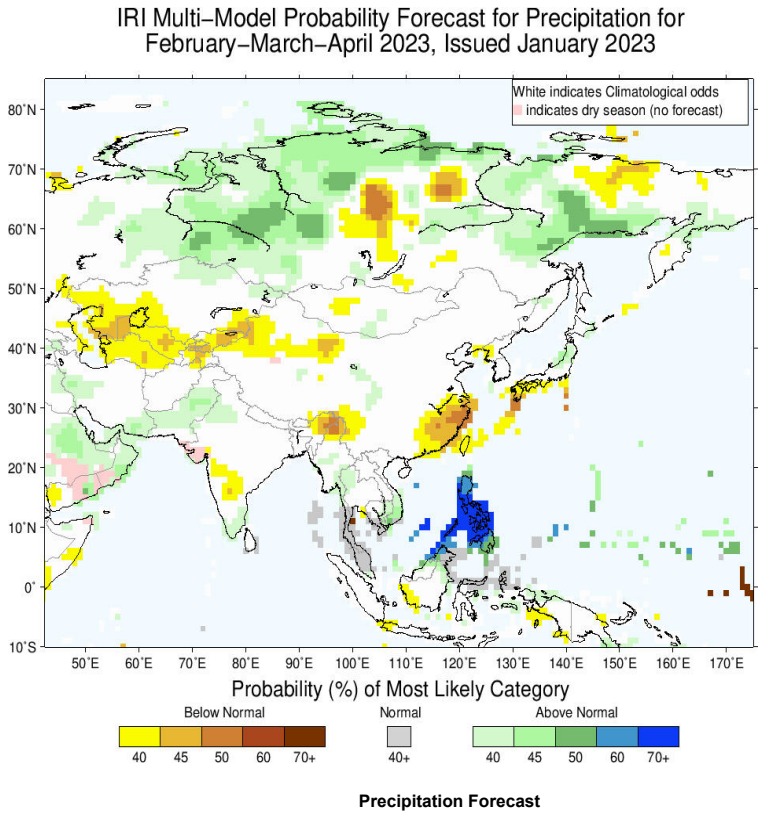
Weekly mean vector wind total prediction from the GFS model at 850 mb (left) and 700 mb (right) levels. (from NOAA CPC)



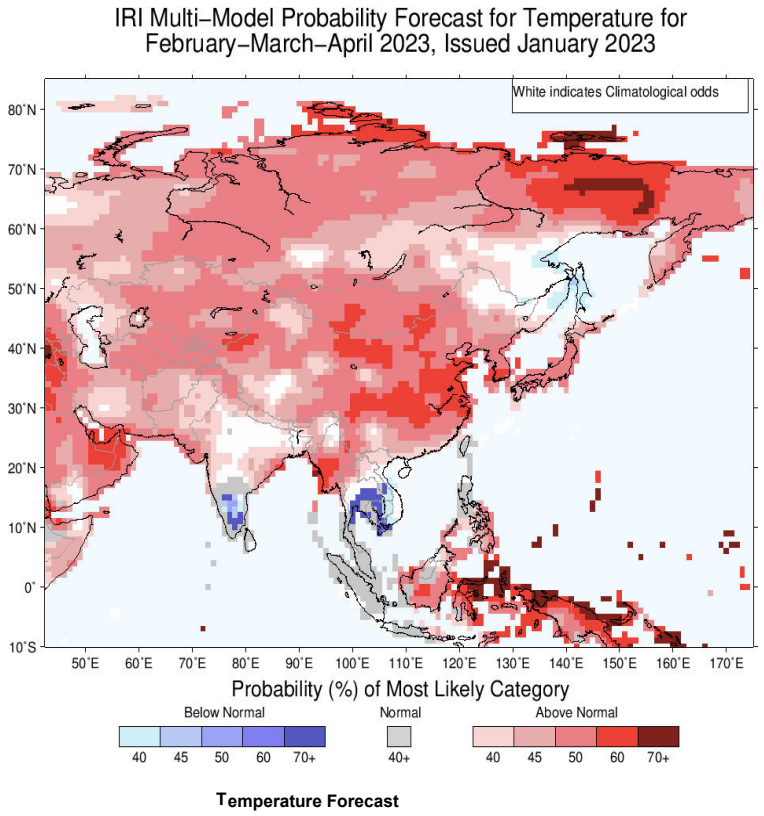


Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature Forecast

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%).



Precipitation Forecast



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.

Contact us

Federation for Environment, Climate & Technology
76/2 Matale Road, Akurana
Kandy
KY20850
SRI LANKA

email: info@fect.lk
phone: (+94) 81 2376746

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