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## **Experimental Climate Monitoring and Prediction**

by: Prabodha Agalawatte, Sewwandhi Chandrasekara, Zeenas Yahiya, Lareef Zubair and Michael Bell (FECT and IRI¹)

### 28 August 2014

#### **FECT BLOG**

Past reports available at http://fectsl.blogspot.com/and

http://fectsl.wordpress.com/

#### FECT WEBSITES

http://www.climate.lkand http://www.tropicalclimate.org/

## 21 August, 2014 PACIFIC SEAS STATE

During July through early-August the observed ENSO conditions were neutral. Most of the ENSO prediction models indicate warming to El Niño levels coming around early northern fall, peaking at weak strength during winter 2014-15 and lasting into the first few months of 2015.

(Text Courtesy IRI)

### INDIAN OCEAN STATE

More than 0.5°C above average sea surface temperature was observed around Sri Lanka.

#### MJO STATE

MJO is at phase 2 and shall enhance rainfall conditions in Sri Lanka

#### **Highlights**

#### **Monitoring and Predictions:**

Rainfall was observed during the previous week, mostly in the south-western region of the country. Highest rainfall was observed in the Kaluthara district. The sea to the west of Sri Lanka also received high rainfall.

#### **Summary**

#### Monitoring

**Weekly Monitoring:** The entire country received rainfall during  $19^{th}$ -  $22^{nd}$  August. During this period heavy rainfall was observed in the western, north-western and south-western regions of the country. Up to 100 mm rainfall was observed on the  $21^{st}$  and  $22^{nd}$  in Kaluthara. Rainfall completely stopped in most of the regions in Sri Lanka on the  $23^{rd}$  with rainfall only observed in Colombo and Gampaha districts. On the  $24^{th}$  and  $25^{th}$  up to 50 mm rainfall was observed in the borders of Monaragala and Ampara districts. During  $11^{th} - 20^{th}$  August rainfall in Sri Lanka was mostly concentrated in southwestern, north-central regions and also in the region between the central mountain and the eastern coast.

Monthly Monitoring: A less than average rainfall was observed throughout the country during July.

#### **Predictions**

**14 day prediction:** Up to 75 mm rainfall is expected in South-Western Sri Lanka during 27<sup>th</sup> August-2<sup>nd</sup> September. During the week 3<sup>rd</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> September, rainfall shall spread to north-western and north-central regions with south-western region expected to receive up to 75 mm rainfall.

*IMD WRF &IRI Model Forecast:* According to the IMD WRF model the western half of the country shall receive up to 35 mm rainfall during 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of August. IRI models predict upto 50 mm rainfall in south-western coastal region and adjacent sea during 26<sup>th</sup>- 31<sup>st</sup> August. Heavy rainfall events are not expected during this period.

**Seasonal Prediction** As per IRI Multi Model Probability Forecast issued in August for the season September to November 2014, Rainfall shall remain climatological while the temperature shall be above normal with 60- 70% probability.

#### Inside this Issue

#### 1. Monitoring

- a. Daily Satellite Derived Rain fall Estimates
- b. Monthly Rain fall Estimates
- c. Decadal (10 Day) Satellite Derived Rainfall Estimates
- d. Weekly Average SST Anomalies

#### 2. Predictions

- a. NCEP GFS Ensemble 1-14 day predictions
- b. WRF model forecast Regional Meteorological Center, Chennai, Indian Meteorological Department)
- c. Weekly precipitation forecast (IRI)
- d. Seasonal Predictions from IRI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> International Research Institute for Climate and Society, Earth Institute at Columbia University, New York.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>These interpretations of hydro-meteorological conditions for the Mahaweli basins are provided for the use of the WMS/MASL. Official hydro-meteorological statements are provided by the Sri Lanka Department of Meteorology and Department of Irrigation.

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

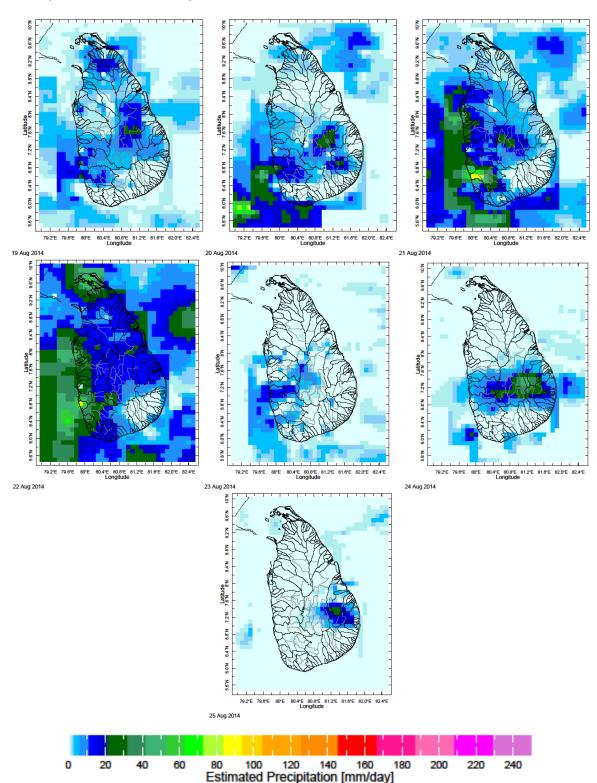
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## 1. Monitoring

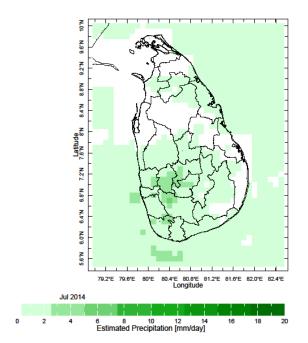
## a) Daily Satellite Derived Rainfall Estimate Maps: 19th – 25th August 2014 (Left-Right, Top-Bottom)

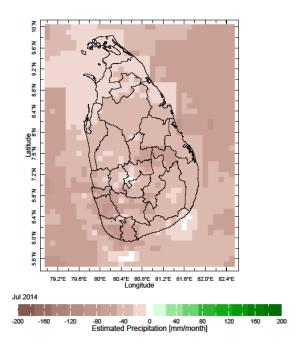


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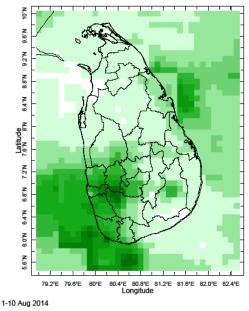
Web Site <a href="http://www.climate.lk">http://www.climate.lk</a>

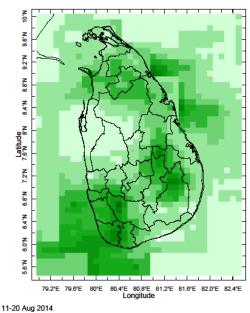
## b) Monthly Satellite Derived Rainfall Estimates for July 2014 (Average – Left and Anomaly - Right)





## c) Dekadal (10 Day) Satellite Derived Rainfall Estimates (1-10 and 11- 20 Aug, 2014)





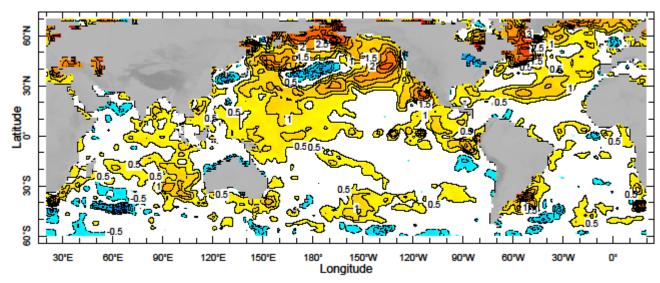
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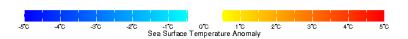
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### d) Weekly Average SST Anomalies



17-23 Aug 2014



Weekly Average SST Anomalies (°C), 17th – 23rd August, 2014

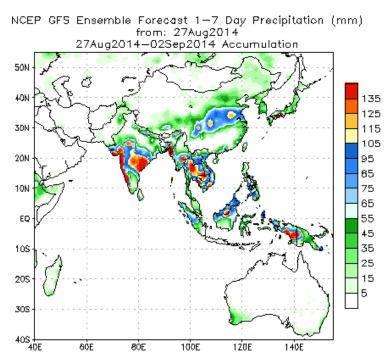
Data Source: NCEP Environmental monitoring center (Climatology 1971-2000)

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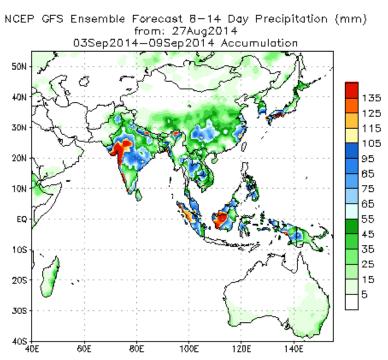
Web Site <a href="http://www.climate.lk">http://www.climate.lk</a>

#### 2. Predictions

## a) NCEP GFS Ensemble 1-14 day predictions, NOAA, Climate Prediction Centre, USA.



Bias correction based on last 30-day forecast error



Bias correction based on last 30-day forecast error

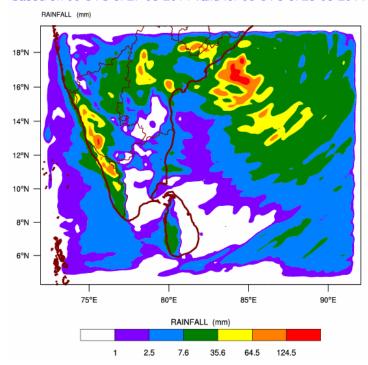
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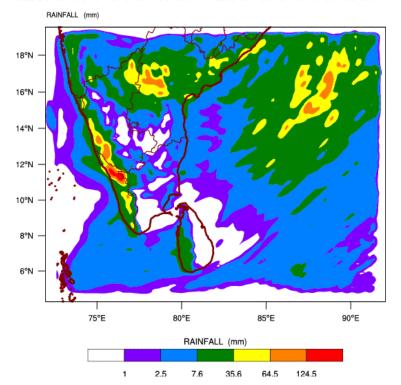
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b) WRF model forecast from Regional Meteorological Center, Chennai of Indian Meteorological Department

WRF MODEL FORECAST (48 HR.) RAINFALL(mm)\
based on 00 UTC of 27-08-2014 valid for 03 UTC of 29-08-2014



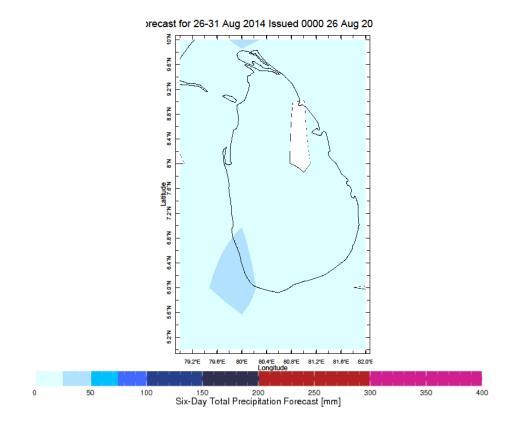
## WRF MODEL FORECAST (72 HR.) RAINFALL(mm)\ based on 00 UTC of 27-08-2014 valid for 03 UTC of 30-08-2014

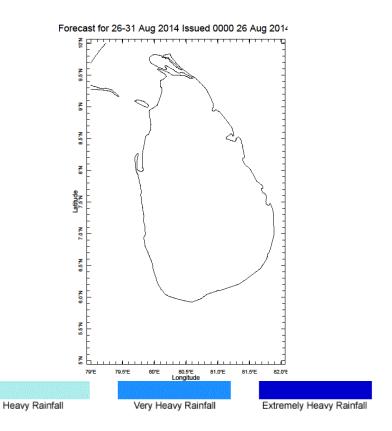


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# c) Weekly Precipitation Forecast for 26<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> August 2014 (Precipitation Forecast in Context Map Tool, IRI)



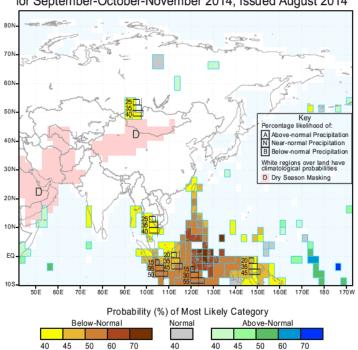


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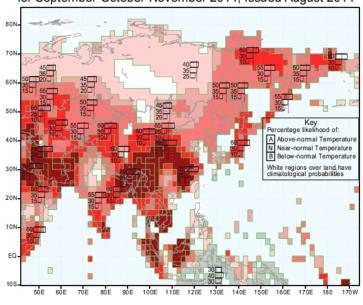
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## e) Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature Predictions from IRI





## IRI Multi-Model Probability Forecast for Temperature for September-October-November 2014, Issued August 2014



Probability (%) of Most Likely Category											
	Below-Normal				Normal		Above-Normal				
40	45	50	60	70	40	40	45	50	60	70	