29 MARCH 2024

CLIMATE MONITORING AND PREDICTION FOR SRI LANKA

HIGHLIGHTS

Rainfall Prediction

- *High likelihood of moderate rainfall (35mm) is predicted for the Western, Southern, Sabaragamuwa provinces and less rainfall is prediced for the rest during 27 Mar - 2 Apr.*

Monitored Rainfalls

- *On average, half of the expected rainfall was received over the country during 26 Feb - 26 Mar.*
- *Rainfall on 23 Mar was highest (169 mm) at Deniyaya (SP).*

Monitored & Predicted Wind

- *Winds at 850mb (1.5 km) were north easterly from 18 - 24 Mar reaching up to 5 m/s.*
- *Winds at 850mb (1.5 km) are predicted south easterly from 28 Mar - 3 Apr reaching up to 2m/s.*

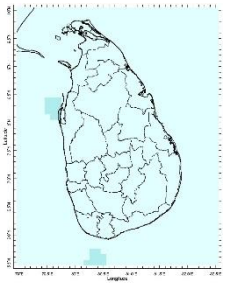
Monitored Sea & Land Temp

- *Maximum daily temperature was in Ratnapura and Kurunegala (38.0°C).*
- *Sea surface temperature around Sri Lanka was 0.5 - 1.5°C above normal.*

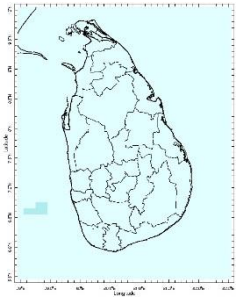
Monitoring

Rainfall

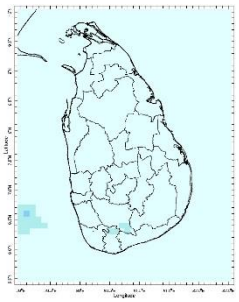
Daily Estimates for Rainfall from 16th March - 23rd March 2024



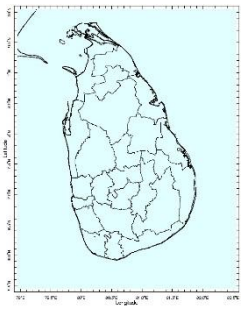
16 March



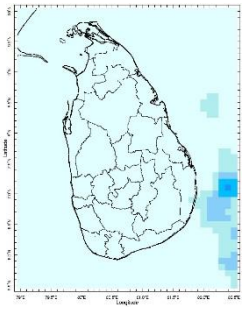
17 March



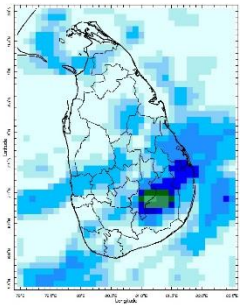
18 March



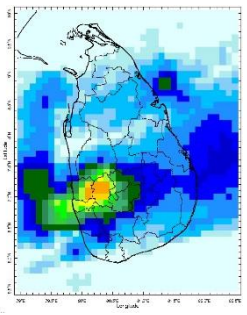
19 March



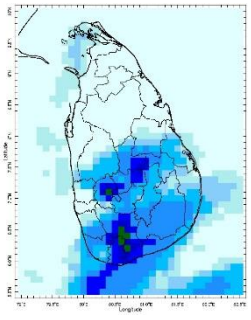
20 March



21 March



22 March



23 March

Federation for Environment, Climate & Technology

Federation for Environment, Climate and Technology

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Ocean State *(Text Courtesy IRI)*

Pacific sea state: March 25, 2024

The SST Anomalies for the NINO3.4 region shows a +1.5 °C on the week ending 25th March - thus a moderate-strong 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℃ above normal to the country in 5th - 11th March 2024.

Predictions

Rainfall

14 Day prediction: NCEP GFS models

From 27th March - 2nd April:

Total rainfall by Provinces:

Rainfall (mm)	Provinces
35	Western, Southern, Sabaragamuwa
25	Central, Uva, North Central, North Western, Eastern
15	Northern

From 3rd April - 9th April:

Total rainfall by Provinces:

Rainfall (mm)	Provinces
15	Western, Eastern
≤ 5	North Western, Central, Sabaragamuwa, Southern, North Central, Northern, Uva

MJO based OLR predictions

For the next 15 days:

MJO shall slightly enhance the rainfall during 27th - 31th March, moderately enhance the rainfall during 1st - 5th April, and slightly enhance the rainfall during 6th - 10th April for Sri Lanka.

Interpretation

Monitoring

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

Daily Average Rainfall in the Met stations for previous week of (20th March - 27th March) = 5.4 mm
Maximum Daily Rainfall: 74.4 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	3.8	33.8	25.4
Eastern hills	3.4	27.7	18.7

Eastern plains	7.3	32.5	25.3
Western hills	3.9	30.8	19.5
Western plains	9.1	34.1	25.6
Southern plains	4.4	33.5	25.2

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	6.8	60.0	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 Sabaragamuwa, Central, Western, Southern, and North Western provinces of the country, driven by the warm SST's.

Predictions

Rainfall: During the next week (27th March - 2nd April), moderate rainfall (35 mm) is predicted for the Western, Southern, and Sabaragamuwa provinces, and less rainfall is predicted for the rest.

Temperatures: The temperature will remain above normal for some parts of the Northern, North Central, North Western, and Eastern provinces during 28th March - 3rd April.

Teleconnections: MJO shall slightly enhance the rainfall during 27th - 31th March, moderately enhance the rainfall during 1st - 5th April, and slightly enhance the rainfall during 6th - 10th April for Sri Lanka.

Seasonal Precipitation: The precipitation forecast for the April-May-June, 2024 season shows a 40 - 50% 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.

Federation for Environment, Climate & Technology

FEDERATION FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND TECHNOLOGY

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Weekly Climate Bulletin for Sri Lanka

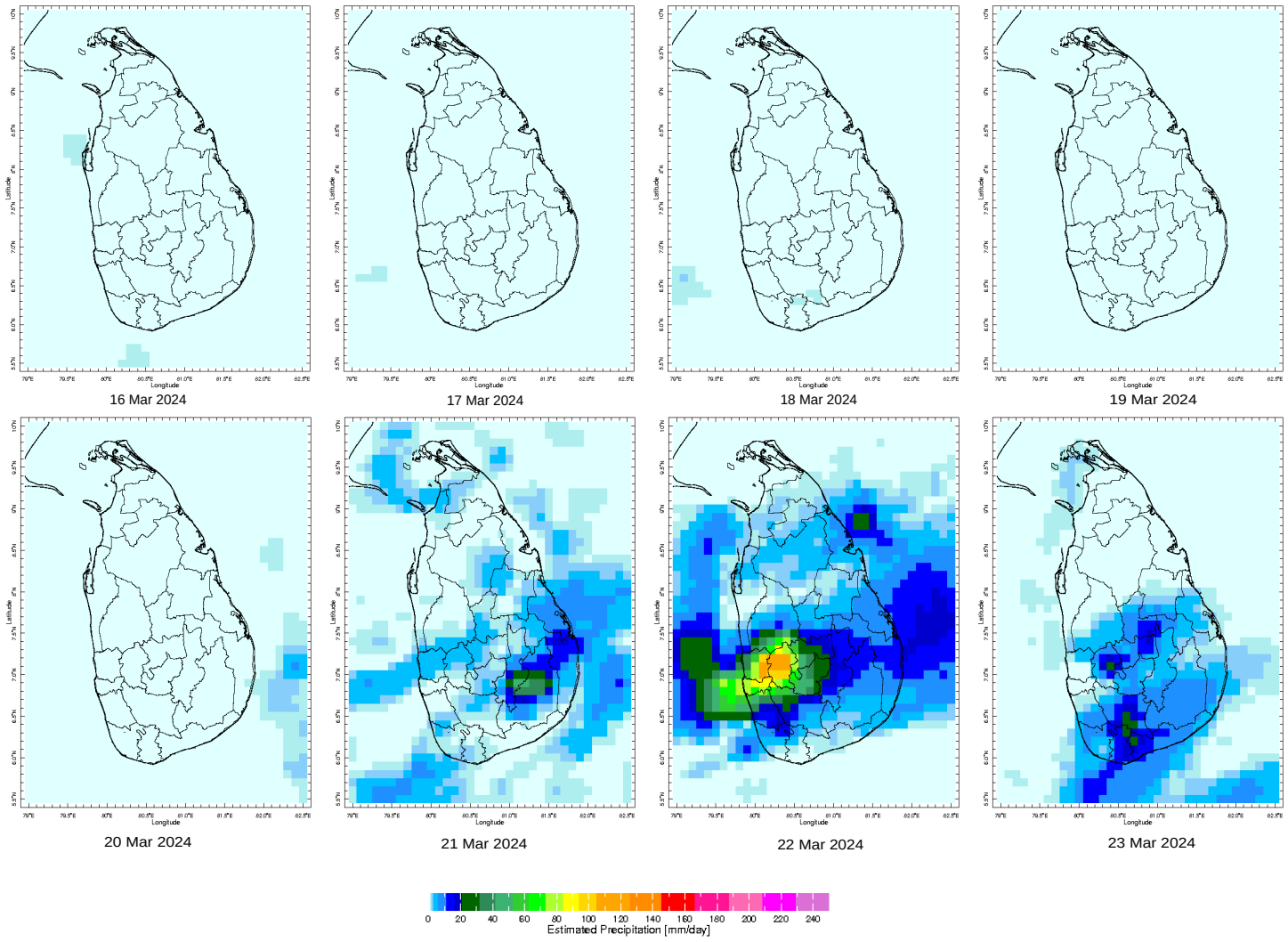
Inside This Issue

MONITORING

Daily Rainfall Monitoring

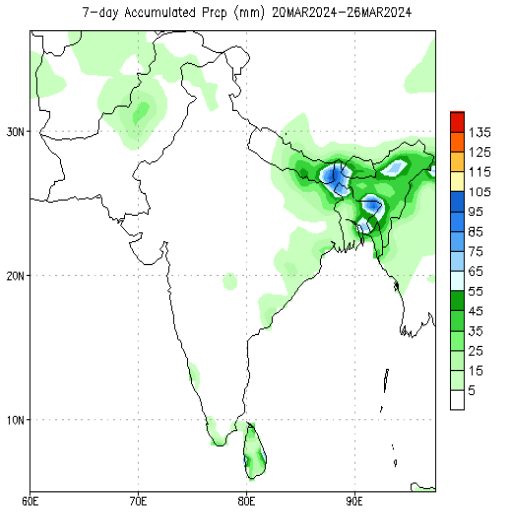
The following figures show the satellite observed rainfall in the last 8 days (16th March - 23rd March) in Sri Lanka

(Refer NOAA CPC Weekly Rainfall Monitoring figures for updated rainfall from 20th March - 26th March)

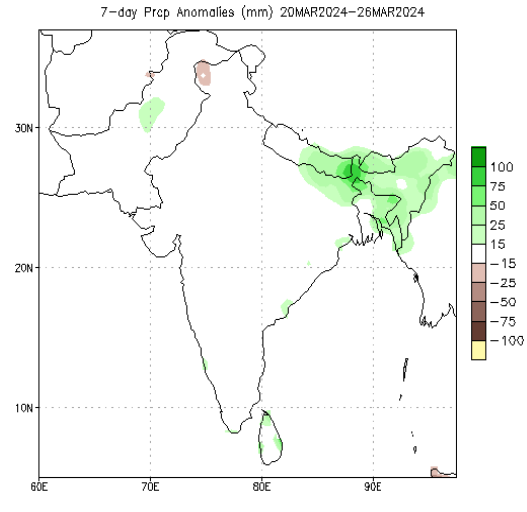


Weekly Rainfall Monitoring

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.



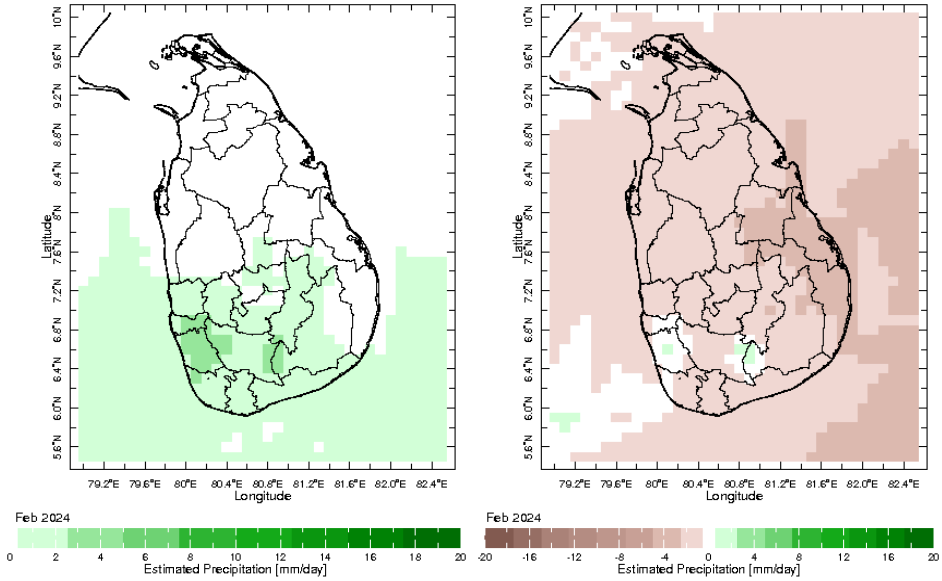
Data Source: CPC Unified (gauge-based & 0.5x0.5 deg resolution) Precipitation Analysis



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

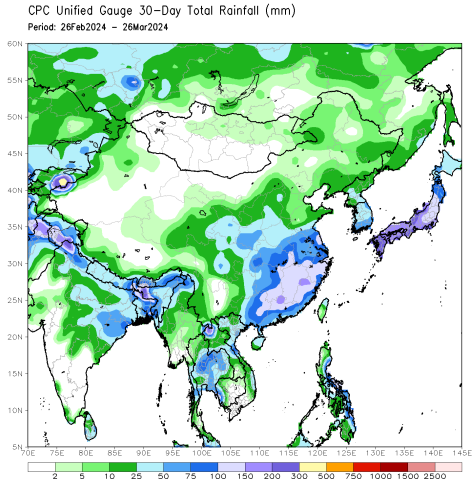
Monthly Rainfall Monitoring

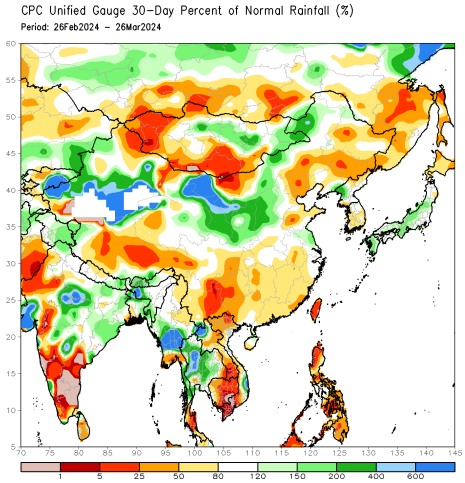
The figure in the left shows the average observed rainfall in the previous month. The rainfall anomaly in the previous month is shown in the figure to the right. The brown color in the anomaly figure shows places which received less rainfall than the historical average while the green color shows places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



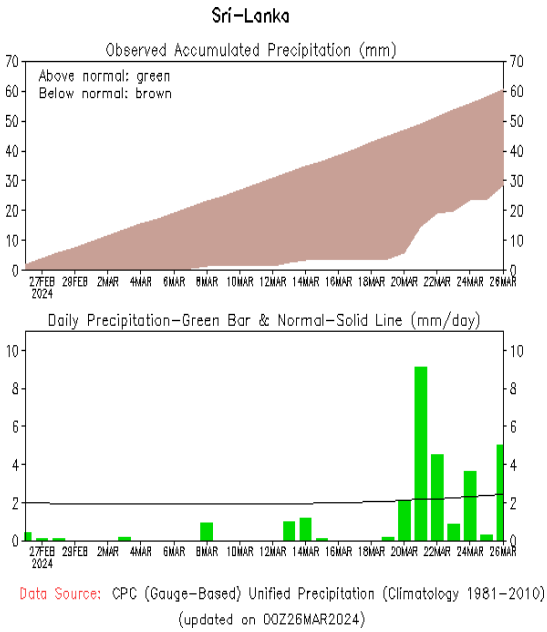
Monthly Average **Monthly Anomaly**

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.

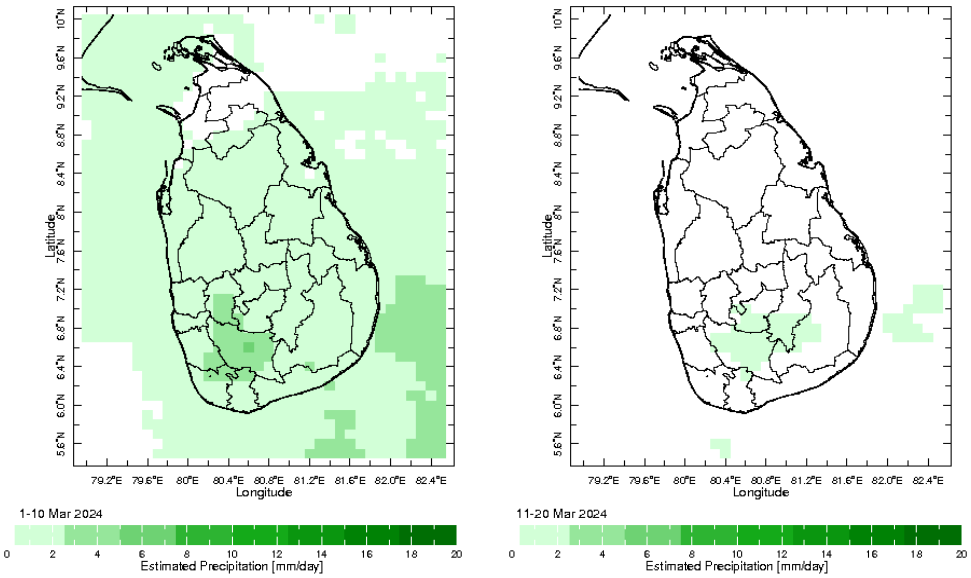




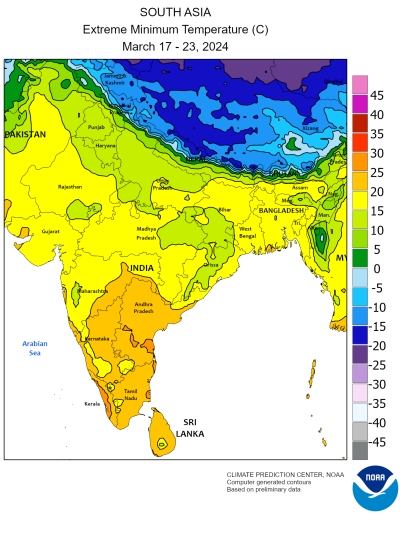
The following figure shows the observed accumulated rainfall (top) and daily observed rainfall (bottom) in Sri Lanka in the last 30 days.

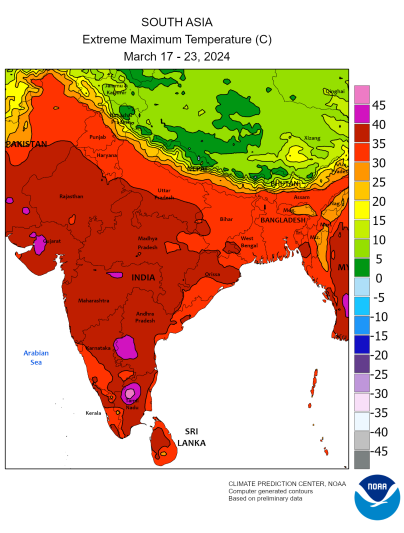


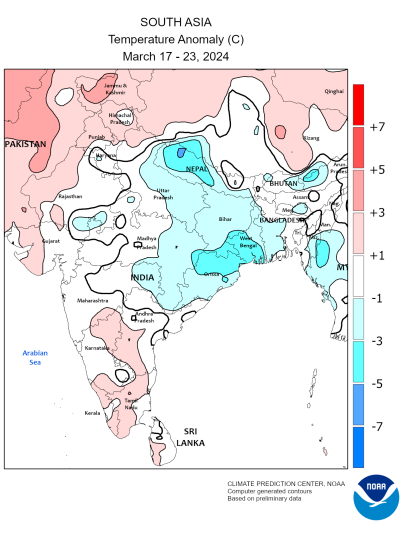
Dekadal (10 Day) Satellite Derived Rainfall Estimates



Weekly Temperature Monitoring

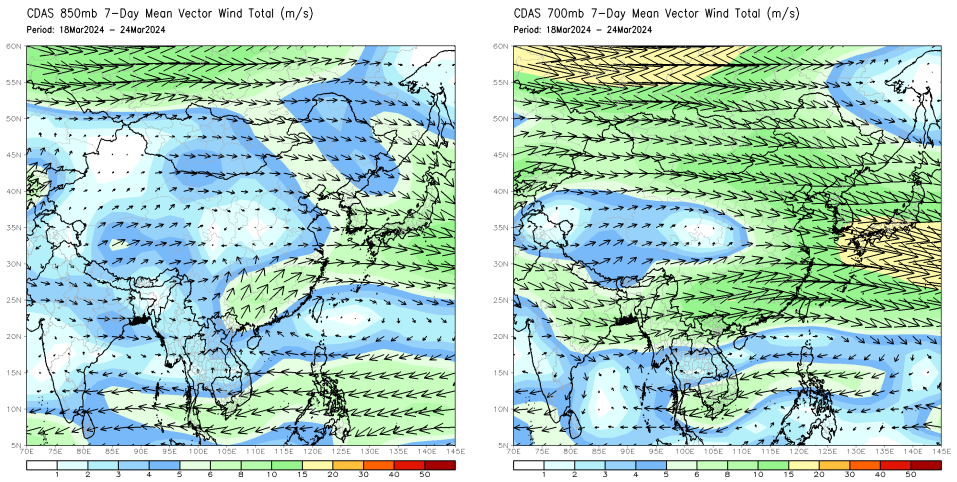






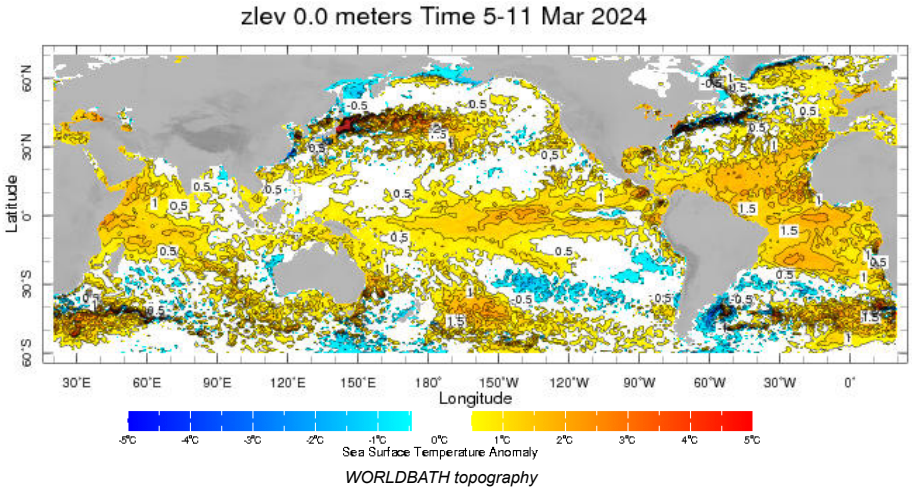
Weekly Wind Monitoring

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.

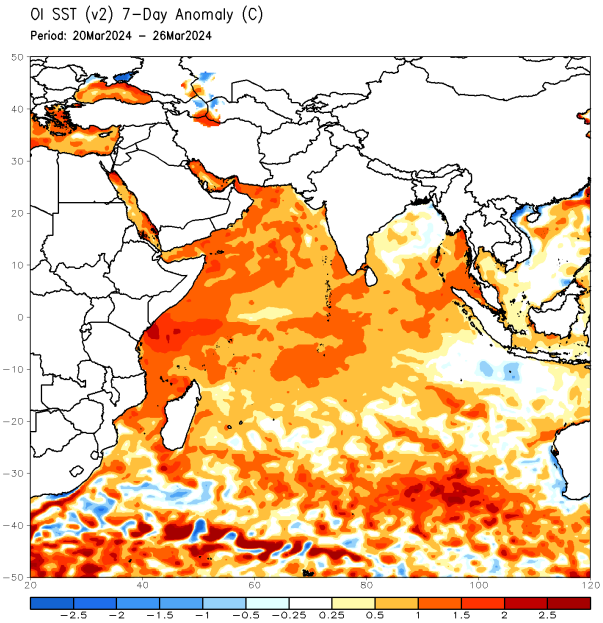


Weekly Average SST Anomalies

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

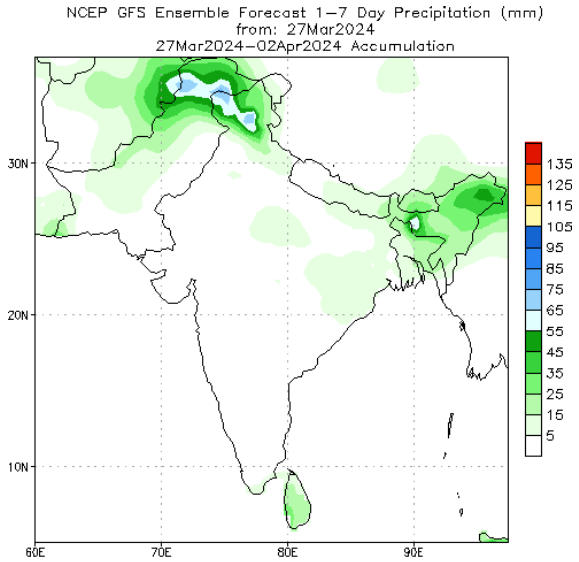


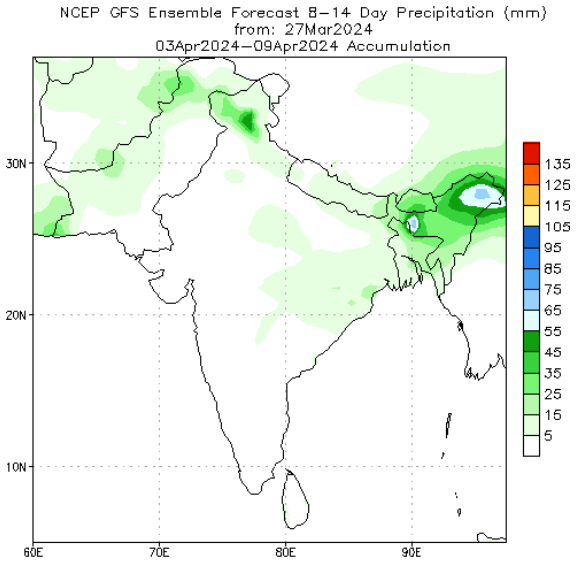
Optimum Interpolated Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly in the Indian Ocean from NOAA CPC



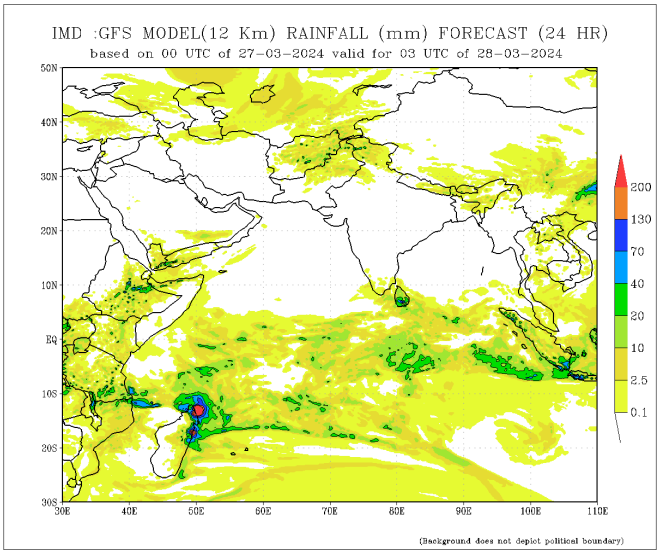
PREDICTIONS

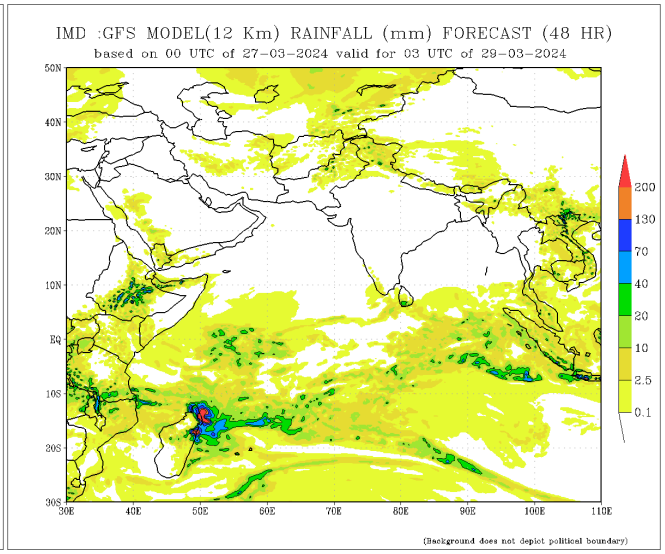
NCEP GFS 1- 14 Day prediction

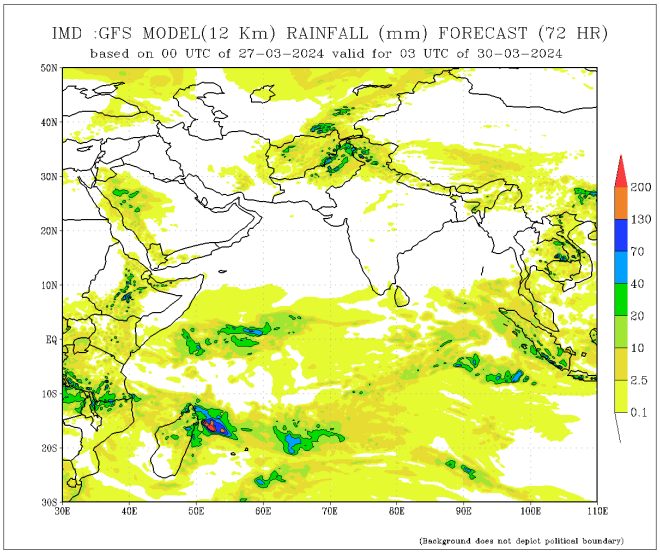


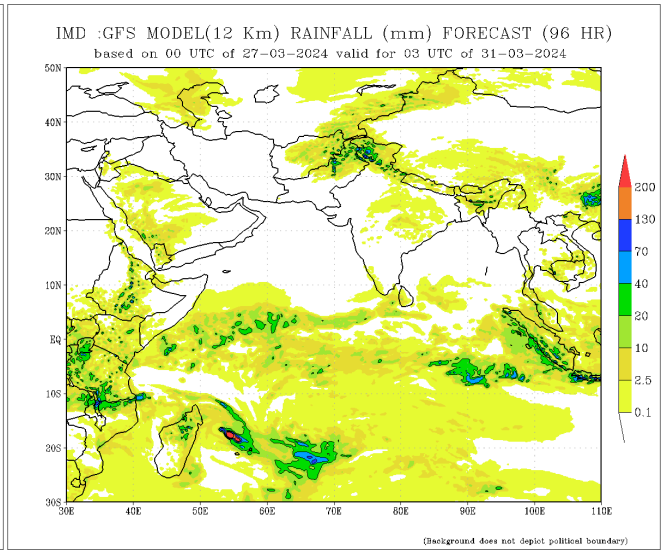


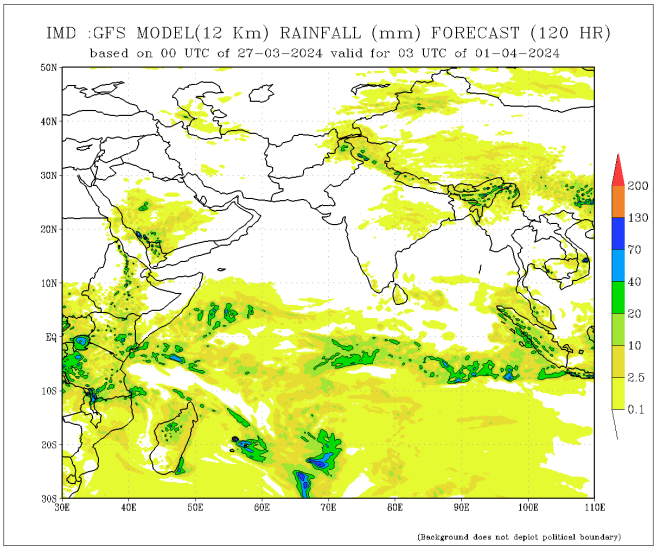
IMD GFS (T574) Model Rainfall Forecast from RMSC New Delhi, India

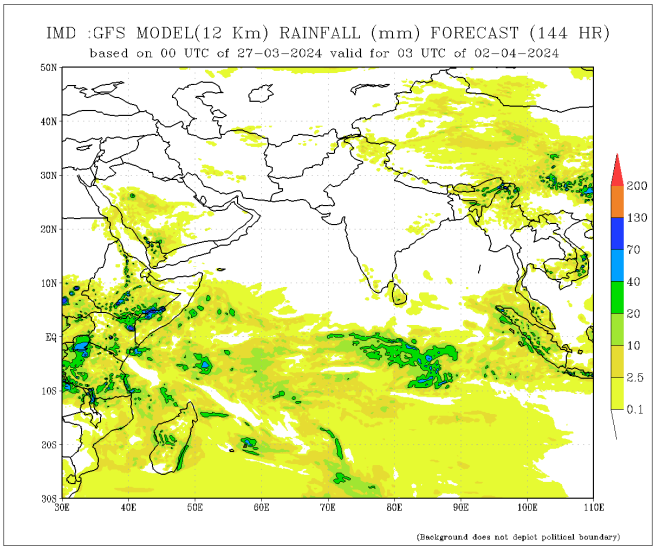


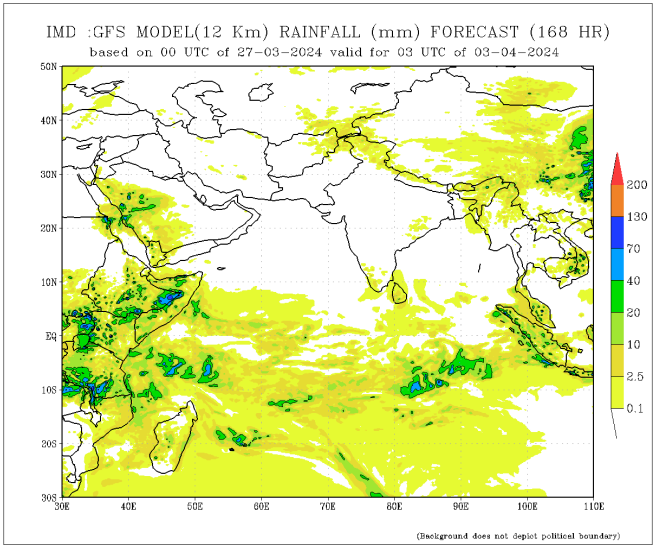






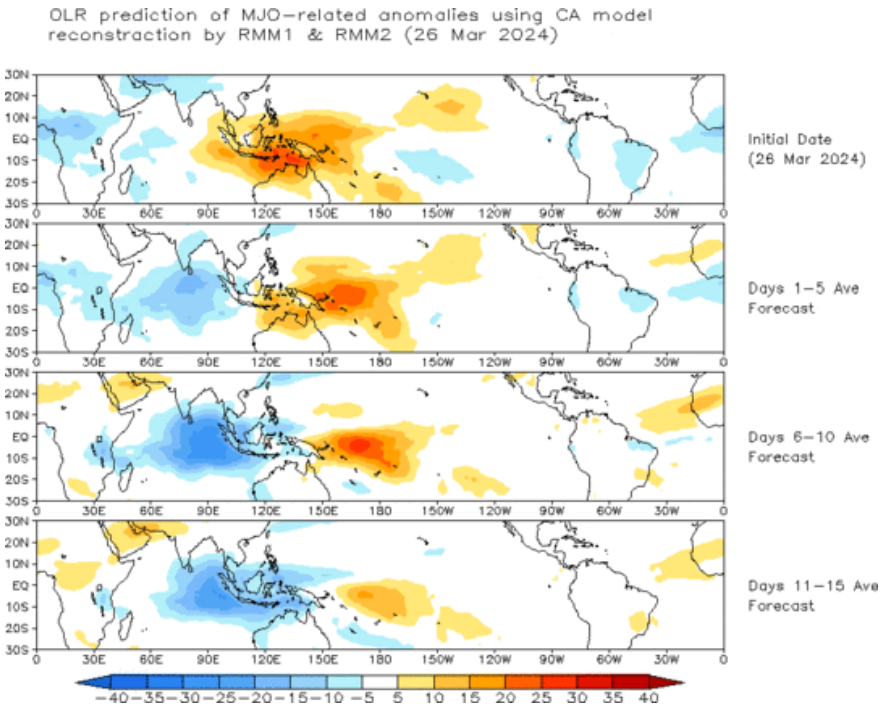






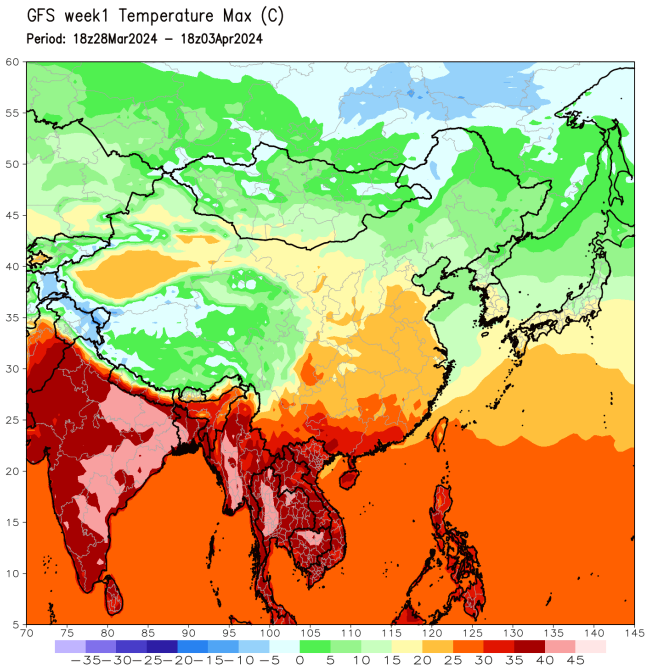
Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) related Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR) Forecast

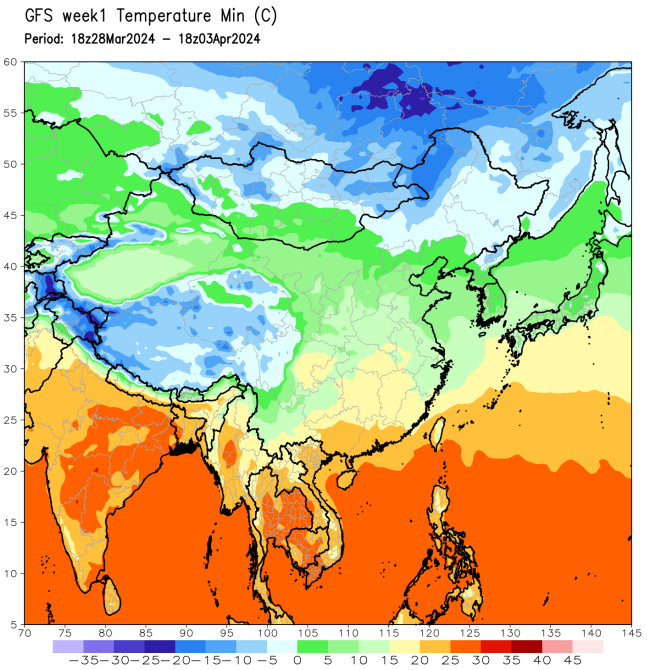
The Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR) is a proxy for rainfall. This can be used to identify convective rain clouds based on the MJO phase. Violet and Blue shading indicates enhanced tropical weather and Orange shading indicates suppressed conditions. The following figure shows the forecasts of MJO associated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



Weekly Temperature Forecast

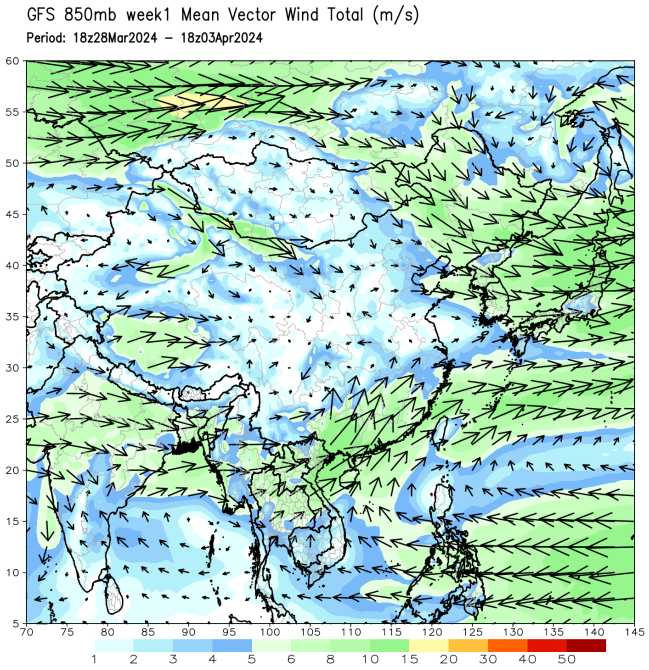
Weekly Minimum and Maximum Temperature prediction from the GFS model (from NOAA CPC)

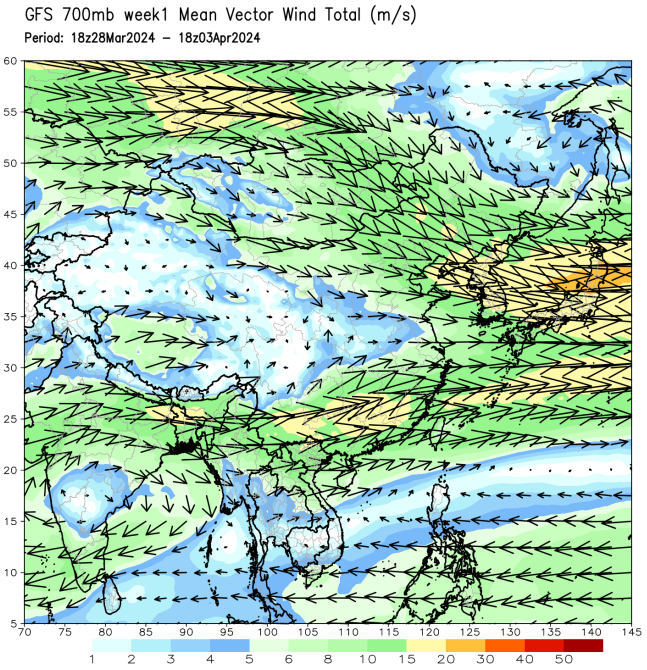




Weekly Wind Forecast

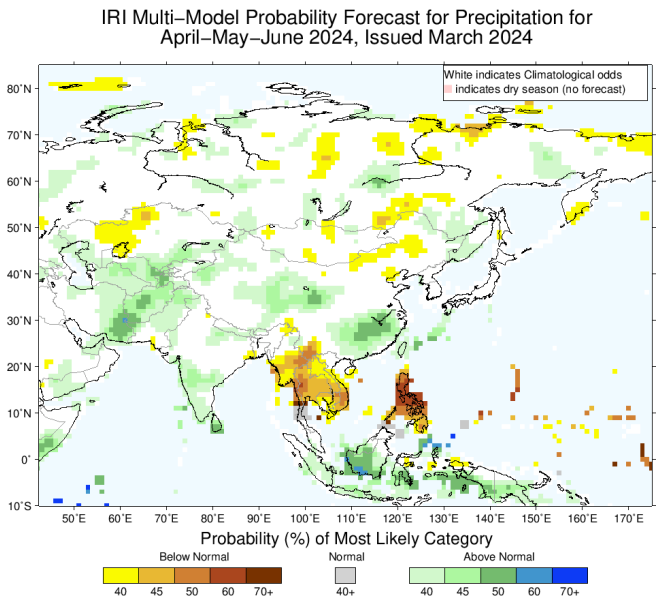
Weekly mean vector wind total prediction from the GFS model at 850 mb (left) and 700 mb (right) levels. (from NOAA CPC)



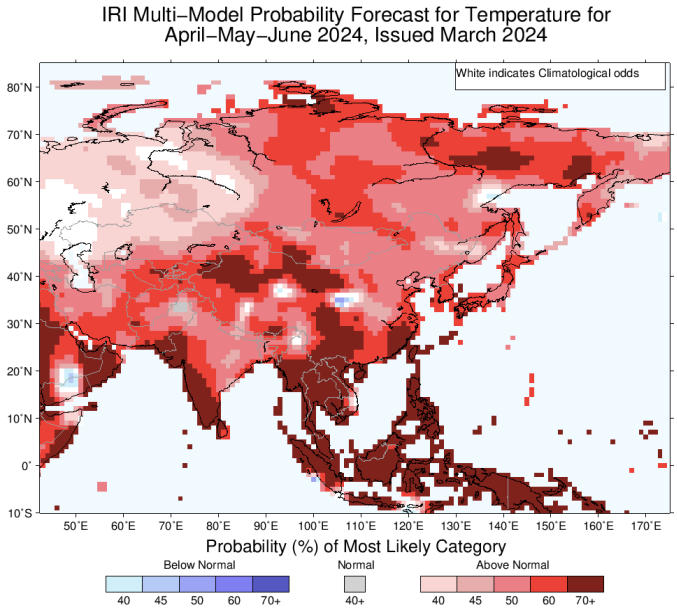


Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature Forecast

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

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