

Climate Monitoring and Prediction for the Maldives – March 2020

Prepared by Staff from Foundation for Environment, Climate and Technology, Sri Lanka and USA, Maldives Meteorological Service, and Columbia University

(Ruchira Lokuhetti, Lareef Zubair, Chayana Gunatillake, Zahid and Michael Bell)

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PACIFIC SEAS STATE

March 19, 2020

SSTs in the east-central Pacific were neutral, but above average during mid-March. Patterns in atmospheric variables are split between neutral and borderline El Niño conditions. Most model forecasts favor warm-neutral SST conditions during spring, cooling to average by early summer. The official CPC/IRI outlook is consistent with these model forecasts, calling for continuation of ENSO-neutral.

(Text Courtesy IRI)

INDIAN OCEAN STATE

March 25, 2020

1.5 °C above average SST was observed around Maldives.

MJO INDEX

The MJO was significant in Phase 2 from Mar 18-21; in Phase 3 from Mar 22-26; and in Phase 4 from Mar 27-31. Usually rainfall in Maldives is augmented in Phase 2.



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Highlights

Monitored: During March, the whole country received normal rainfall for the season. During last year the northern and southern Islands have an excess of 400 mm and the central Islands have an excess of 250 mm of rainfall. The sea surface temperature around Maldives was 1.5 °C above normal. This is extremely warm.

Predictions: IMD GFS model predicts rainfall up to 20 mm of rainfall in the central islands and up to 10 mm in southern islands during 6th-7th April. From 8th-10th, daily rainfall up to 10 mm of is expected in the central islands. Long Range Weather prediction models simulations anticipate total rainfall up to 50 mm for the whole country next week.

Summary

CLIMATOLOGY

Monthly Climatology: In April, Southern islands usually receive about 150 mm of average rainfall. The wind direction in southern and central islands is easterly and in northern islands, it's south-easterly. Rainfall usually increase up to 200 mm in May in the entire country. The wind direction remains the same but the speed increases. The rainfall in northern islands usually increases up to 250 mm in June, while it decreases to 150 mm in southern islands. Wind direction in June is usually easterly but with low speeds.

MONITORING

Weekly Rainfall Monitoring:

Date	Rainfall
19 th March	Up to 20 mm in the southern islands.
20 th March	Up to 10 mm in the central islands.
21 st – 31 st March	No Rainfall.
1 st April	Up to 5 mm in the central islands.
2 nd April	No Rainfall.

Monthly and Seasonal Rainfall Monitoring: In March, the whole country received up to 75 mm of total rainfall, which is normal for the season.

PREDICTIONS

Weekly Rainfall Forecast:

According to IMD GFS daily rainfall up to 20 mm of is expected in the central islands and up to 10 mm in southern islands during 6th-7th April. From 8th-10th, daily rainfall up to 10 mm of is expected in the central islands.

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