

Climate Monitoring and Prediction for the Maldives – September 2020

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PACIFIC SEAS STATE September 19, 2020

In mid-Sep 2020, the tropical Pacific remained in an ENSO-neutral state, although SSTs in the east-central and central Pacific have cooled to the threshold for La Niña while the atmosphere continues to maintain largely ENSO-neutral patterns. The collection of latest ENSO prediction models indicates ENSO-neutral or weak El Niño as two possible scenarios during Northern Hemisphere fall and winter. The official CPC/IRI outlook slightly favors La Niña development, and carries a La Niña watch.

(Text Courtesy IRI)

INDIAN OCEAN STATE September 30, 2020

0.5 °C above average SST was observed around Maldives.

MJO INDEX

The MJO significantly suppressed in phase 2 and phase 3 from 21st- 30th of September



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Highlights

Monitored: During September, the northern islands received above normal rainfall while the Southern half of Maldives received less. Over the 365 days, rainfall exceeded climatology by 50% in the Northern islands by 33%.

Predictions: With weak La Nina conditions from October anticipated, dry conditions are set to prevail across Maldives from October-December 2020. However, the seasonal temperature remains climatological – perhaps the La Nina influence is countervailed by the prevailing anomalously warm ocean.

Summary

CLIMATOLOGY

Monthly Climatology: In September, islands in the northern half of the country receive up to 150 mm rainfall while the southern half receives up to 200 mm rainfall. The same rainfall pattern continues in October and in November the entire country usually receives up to 150 mm rainfall. The wind pattern is usually westerly during these three months.

MONITORING

Fortnightly Rainfall Monitoring:

Date	Rainfall
20 th September 2020	Up to 30 mm in the northern and up to 5 mm in central islands.
21 st September 2020	Up to 20 mm in the southern and up to 10 mm in northern islands.
22 nd September 2020	Up to 60 mm in the central; up to 40 mm in northern, up to 15 mm in southern islands.
23 rd September 2020	Up to 20 mm in the northern and central islands.
24 th September 2020	Up to 5 mm in the central islands.
25 th -29 th September 2020	No Rainfall.
30 th September 2020	Up to 10 mm in the central islands.
1 st October 2020	Up to 10 mm in the central islands.
2 nd October 2020	Up to 10 mm in the southern islands.
3 rd October 2020	Up to 80 mm in the central and up to 10 mm in southern islands.
4 th October 2020	Up to 10 mm in the central islands.

Rainfall and SST Monitoring: In September, northern and central islands received 10 mm and southern islands received up to 5 mm above average rainfall. The cumulative rainfall during the last 365 days, shows for:

Northern islands: Excess of 700 mm from an average of 1400 mm average.

Central islands: Excess of 400 mm from an average of 1600 mm.

Southern islands: Excess of 300 mm from an average of 1800 mm.

The sea surface temperature around the Maldives was 0.5° C above average.

PREDICTIONS

Weekly Rainfall Forecast:

According to NOAA CFS model up to 25 mm of rain is expected for 24th – 29th September in the entire country and no extreme rainfall for coming six days. IMD GFS model predicts up to 40 mm of rainfall in the entire country on 7th Oct; up to 20 mm of rainfall in the central and southern islands on 8th Oct; up to 40 mm of rainfall in the central and southern islands on 9th Oct; up to 20 mm of rainfall in the entire country on 10th Oct; up to 40 mm of rainfall in the northern islands and up to 20 mm in central and southern islands on 11th Oct; and up to 40 mm of rainfall in the central and southern islands and up to 20 mm in northern islands on 12th Oct.

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