



Government of India
Earth System Science Organization
Ministry of Earth Sciences
India Meteorological Department

Press Release: Dated: 12th March 2026

Subject: Current Weather Status and Extended Range Forecast for the next two weeks (12th to 25th March 2026)

1. Salient Observed Features for the week ending 11th March 2026:

- ❖ **Season's first spell of heatwave over north India during the week:** Heat Wave to Severe Heat Wave conditions prevailed in isolated pockets over Himachal Pradesh during 7th-11th March, Saurashtra & Kutch, Gujarat Region on 10th & 11th March, Konkan on 11th March. Such persistent heat wave spell over Gujarat and adjoining areas was mainly due to formation of anti-cyclonic circulation at lower levels over the region. Heat Wave conditions prevailed in isolated pockets of Konkan on 6th March, Coastal Andhra Pradesh on 7th March, Vidarbha during 8th-11th March.
- ❖ Hot & Humid conditions prevailed in isolated pockets over coastal areas of Saurashtra and North Gujarat coast on 6th March.
- ❖ Mainly dry weather continued to prevail over most parts of the country during the week except heavy rainfall at isolated places over Tamil Nadu on 11th March and isolated light to moderate rainfall over north, east and northeast India during end of the week.
- ❖ **Weekly Average Maximum temperature** was above normal by 5-7°C over many parts of north, northwest & adjoining central India, above normal by 2-4°C over parts of northeast, east & adjoining central India, and nearly normal over remaining parts of the country during the week.
- ❖ **Weekly Average Minimum temperature** was above normal by 4-6°C over many parts of north, west, northwest & adjoining central, and east India, above normal by 3-5°C over parts of northeast India during the week. It was near normal over remaining parts of the country during the week.
- ❖ **Temperature Scenario:** The lowest minimum temperature of **9.2°C** had been recorded at **Pali (Rajasthan)** on **11th March, 2026** and the highest maximum temperature of **42.4°C** had been recorded at **Nandurbar (Maharashtra)** on **11th March 2026** over the plains of the country during the week.

- ❖ **Analysis of weekly overall rainfall distribution during the week ending on 11th March:** The country as a whole, the weekly cumulative All India Rainfall (ending on 11th March) in % departure from its long period average (LPA) is -92%. All India Seasonal cumulative rainfall % departure (01.03.2026 to 11.03.2026) is -91%. Details of the rainfall distribution over the four broad geographical regions of India are provided in Table 1. Meteorological sub-division-wise rainfall for the week and season is presented in **Annexure I & II**, respectively.

Table 1: Rainfall status (Week and season)

Region	Week			Season		
	05.03.2026 TO 11.03.2026			01.03.2026 TO 11.03.2026		
	Actual (mm)	Normal (mm)	Departure (%)	Actual (mm)	Normal (mm)	Departure (%)
EAST & NORTHEAST INDIA	1.5	10.0	-85%	3.2	15.5	-80%
NORTHWEST INDIA	0.7	10.4	-93%	0.7	17.0	-96%
CENTRAL INDIA	0.0	2.2	-98%	0.0	3.6	-99%
SOUTH PENINSULA	0.3	4.1	-92%	0.7	5.5	-88%
THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE	0.5	6.3	-92%	0.9	10.0	-91%

2. Large-scale features:

- ❖ At present, weak La Niña conditions persisted, marked by sustained below-normal sea surface temperatures across the east-central and eastern equatorial Pacific. The latest forecasts from the Monsoon Mission Climate Forecast System (MMCFS) indicate that the transition to ENSO-neutral is most likely in the February-April 2026 season and thereafter.
- ❖ Currently, neutral Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are prevailing over the Indian Ocean. The latest MMCFS forecast suggests that these neutral IOD conditions are likely to persist during the February to April season and thereafter.
- ❖ Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) index is currently in phase 7 with amplitude close to 1. It is predicted to move eastwards in the same phase till the middle of the first week. Thereafter it is likely move across phase 8 with amplitude gradually becoming less than 1 during remaining part of the forecast period.

3. Forecast for the next two weeks

Weather systems & associated Precipitation during Week 1 (12 to 18 March 2026) and Week 2 (19 to 25 March 2026)

Weather systems & associated Precipitation during Week 1 (12 to 18 March 2026):

- ❖ The Western Disturbance as a trough in middle level tropospheric westerlies runs roughly along Long. 69°E to the north of Lat. 33°N.
- ❖ An upper air cyclonic circulation lay over Central Assam & neighbourhood in lower tropospheric levels.
- ❖ An upper air cyclonic circulation lay over Comorin area & neighbourhood in lower tropospheric levels.
- ❖ An upper air cyclonic circulation lay over Bangladesh and adjoining Gangetic West Bengal in lower tropospheric levels and the trough aloft in lower-level westerlies roughly along Long. 90°E to the north of Lat. 22°N.
- ❖ Subtropical westerly Jet Stream with core winds of the order of 90 knots at 12.6 km above mean sea level prevails over North India.
- ❖ A fresh Western Disturbance is likely to affect northwest India from 14th March 2026.

Under the influence of above system, the following weather is likely:

❖ Northwest India:

- ❖ Fairly widespread light to moderate rainfall/snowfall likely over Jammu-Kashmir-Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh on 12th and decrease to isolated light rainfall/snowfall on 13th & 14th; increase to scattered to fairly widespread light to moderate rainfall/snowfall during 15th-18th. Isolated light rainfall/snowfall also likely over Uttarakhand during 12th-14th March with scattered to fairly widespread light to moderate rainfall/snowfall on 15th & 16th March. Thunderstorm, lightning & gusty winds speed reaching (30-50 kmph) likely over Jammu-Kashmir-Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh on 12th, 15th & 16th and Uttarakhand on 12th & during 14th-16th March.
- ❖ Isolated light rainfall with thunderstorm, lightning & gusty winds speed reaching (30-50 kmph) also likely over Punjab on 12th & during 14th-17th; Haryana Chandigarh during 15th-17th; Uttar Pradesh on 15th & 16th; with thunderstorm & lightning over Rajasthan on 14th & 15th March.

❖ Northeast India:

- ❖ Fairly widespread to widespread light/moderate rainfall with thunderstorm & lightning likely over Northeast India during 12th-18th March; with gusty winds speed reaching (30-40 kmph) over Arunachal Pradesh during 13th-15th; Assam & Meghalaya during 12th-15th and Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura on 13th March.

- ❖ Isolated heavy rainfall/snowfall very likely over Arunachal Pradesh during 12th-15th with heavy to very heavy rainfall/snowfall on 13th March.
- ❖ Isolated heavy rainfall over Assam & Meghalaya during 12th-15th; Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura on 16th & 17th March.
- ❖ **East & Central India:**
- ❖ Isolated to Scattered light/moderate rainfall with thunderstorm, lightning & gusty winds speed reaching (30-50 kmph) likely over Vidarbha & Chhattisgarh during 13th-16th; West Madhya Pradesh on 15th; East Madhya Pradesh on 15th & 16th; Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during 12th-16th; Gangetic West Bengal, Bihar on 12th & during 15th-17th; Jharkhand on 12th & during 15th-18th; Odisha on 12th, 15th & 16th March.
- ❖ Isolated heavy rainfall very likely over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim on 12th & 13th March.
- ❖ **South Peninsular India:**
- ❖ Isolated light/moderate rainfall with thunderstorm, lightning & gusty winds speed reaching (30-40 kmph) likely over Telangana on 15th & 16th; with thunderstorm & lightning over Coastal Andhra Pradesh & Yanam during 16th -18th; Rayalaseema on 17th & 18th March.
- ❖ **West India:**
- ❖ Isolated light/moderate rainfall with thunderstorm & lightning likely over Madhya Maharashtra and Marathawada during 14th-17th March

Precipitation for week 2 (19 to 25 March 2026):

- ❖ Under the influence of a western disturbance, light/moderate rainfall/snowfall at isolated to scattered places is likely over the Western Himalayan Region (WHR) and over adjoining plains of northwest India during some days of the week.
- ❖ Under the influence of the westerly trough and cyclonic circulation over east India, light rainfall/snowfall at some places is also likely over Sikkim and light to moderate rainfall along with thunderstorm activity likely over Northeast India during some/many days of the week.
- ❖ Overall, rainfall is likely to be below normal over most parts of the country except the Northeast India, where it is likely to be above normal (Annexure III).

Temperature forecast for Week 1 (12 to 18 March 2026) and Week 2 (19 to 25 March 2026)

Temperature forecast for Week 1 (12 to 18 March 2026):

Temperature Conditions during past 24 hours till 0830 hours IST of today:

- ❖ **Maximum/day temperatures** were in the range of 38-42°C at many places over Gujarat state, West Rajasthan, Vidarbha; at a few places over Madhya Pradesh, Marathwada; at isolated places over Chhattisgarh, Odisha; 35-38°C at most places over Delhi; at many places over Madhya Maharashtra and South Peninsular India; at isolated places over south Haryana, south Uttar Pradesh, west Jharkhand. Yesterday, the highest maximum temperature of 42.4°C was reported at Nandurbar (Madhya Maharashtra).
- ❖ **Maximum Temperatures/day temperatures departures** were markedly above normal (> 5.1°C) at most places over Haryana-Chandigarh-Delhi, Rajasthan; at many places over Punjab, Gujarat State; at a few places over Arunachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and East Madhya Pradesh; at isolated places over Assam & Meghalaya, Jammu-Kashmir-Ladakh-Gilgit-Baltistan-Muzaffarabad, West Madhya Pradesh, Konkan & Goa, Vidarbha and Chhattisgarh; appreciably above normal (3.1°C to 5.0°C) at many places over Sub Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim; at a few places over Madhya Maharashtra and Coastal Karnataka; at isolated places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura, Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar, Marathwada and Coastal Andhra Pradesh & Yanam; above normal (1.6°C to 3.0°C) at isolated places over Gangetic West Bengal, Telangana and Kerala & Mahe and near normal over rest parts of the country.
- ❖ **Minimum/night temperatures** were in the range of 14–18°C over Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam & Meghalaya, Mizoram, Madhya Maharashtra, South Interior Karnataka. They were in the range of 18–22°C over remaining parts of the plains of the country, except Bihar, Gangetic West Bengal, Konkan & Goa, Gujarat State, Coastal Andhra Pradesh & Yanam, Kerala & Mahe, Tamil Nadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep, where they are in the range of 22–27°C. Today, the lowest minimum temperature of 13.7°C was observed at Ambikapur (Chhattisgarh) over the plains of India.
- ❖ **Minimum/night Temperature departures** were markedly above normal (5.1°C or more) over Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Bihar; appreciably above normal (3.1°C to 5.0°C) over Jammu-Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, West Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat Region, West Bengal & Sikkim, Assam & Meghalaya; above normal (1.6°C to 3.0°C) over Jharkhand, Odisha, Saurashtra & Kutch, East Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and below normal (-3.0°C

to -1.6°C) at isolated places over Chhattisgarh, South Interior Karnataka, Coastal Andhra Pradesh & Yanam and near normal over rest parts of the country.

Heat Wave and Hot & Humid weather Warnings:

- ❖ **Heat wave to severe heat wave conditions** very likely in some places over Saurashtra & Kutch on 12th and **heat wave conditions** in isolated pockets on 13th March. Isolated Heat Wave conditions likely over Gujarat region on 12th & 13th March.
- ❖ **Heat wave to severe heat wave conditions** very likely in isolated pockets over South west Madhya Pradesh on 12th & 13th March.
- ❖ **Heat wave conditions** in isolated pockets over Vidarbha on 12th; Himachal Pradesh and north Konkan on 13th & 14th March.
- ❖ **Hot & humid conditions** very likely to prevail in isolated pockets over coastal areas of Saurashtra & Kutch, Coastal Karnataka, Kerala & Mahe on 12th & 13th March and over Gujarat region during 12th-14th March.
- ❖ **Warm night conditions** very likely to prevail in isolated pockets over Saurashtra & Kutch on 12th & 13th and Gujarat Region on 12th March.

Forecast of maximum temperatures:

- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperatures likely over Western Himalayan region during next 24 hours; gradual rise by 3-5°C during subsequent 2 days and gradual fall by 3-5°C during subsequent 4 days.
- ❖ Gradual fall in maximum temperature by 2-3°C likely over plains of Northwest India during next 2 days and no significant change during subsequent 5 days except over Uttar Pradesh where no significant change in maximum temperatures likely during next 2 days and rise by 2°C during subsequent 2 days and gradual fall by 2-3°C thereafter.
- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperatures likely over Central India during next 2 days and gradual fall by 3-5°C thereafter.
- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperatures likely over East India during next 24 hours; gradual rise by 2-3°C during subsequent 2 days and gradual fall by 2-3°C thereafter.
- ❖ Gradual fall in maximum temperature by 4-5°C likely over Northeast India during next 2 days and no significant change during subsequent 5 days.
- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperatures likely over Gujarat State during next 24 hours and gradual fall by 2-4°C during subsequent 6 days.
- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperatures likely over Maharashtra during next 3 days and gradual fall by 2-3°C during subsequent 4 days.
- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperatures likely over South Peninsular India during next 5 days.

Temperature forecast for Week 2 (19 to 25 March 2026):

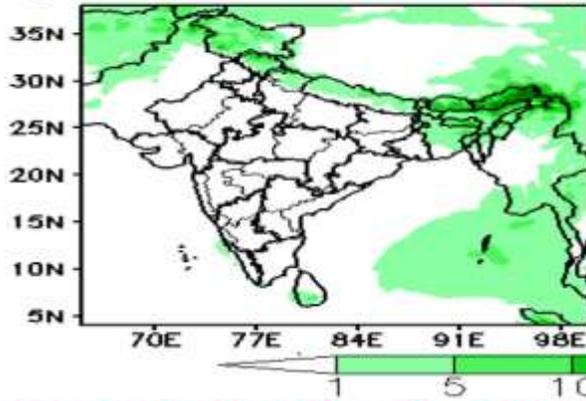
- ❖ Maximum temperatures are likely to be above normal (by 3-5°C) over most parts of Western Himalayan region and at isolated pockets over east India and south peninsular India and over west India and northeast India where they are likely to be near normal or slightly above normal by 1-2°C (Annexure IV).
- ❖ Minimum temperatures are likely to be above normal (by 1-3°C) over most parts of Western Himalayan region, northwest and adjoining central India, and northeast & adjoining east India, and below normal (by 1-3°C) or near normal over the rest of the country (Annexure V).
- ❖ No Heat Wave conditions are likely during week 2. However, above-normal to appreciably above-normal maximum temperatures are likely over the western Himalayan region.

Heat wave forecast during next two weeks (13th to 19th March & 20th to 26th March 2026)

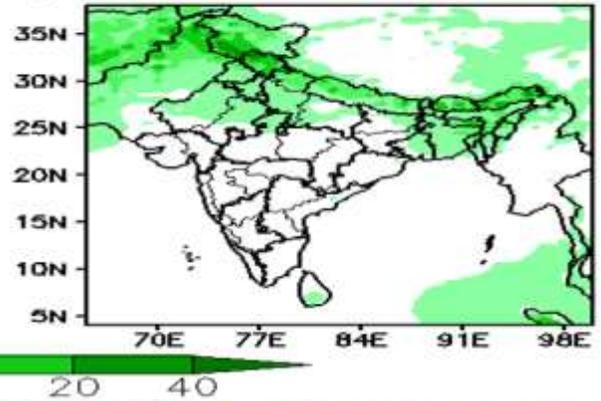
- ❖ There is a moderate probability of heatwave conditions in isolated pockets over South-west Madhya Pradesh & Gujarat on 13th March, over Himachal Pradesh and north Konkan on 13th & 14th March and abate thereafter.
- ❖ Hot & humid conditions are very likely to prevail in isolated pockets over coastal areas of Saurashtra & Kutch, Coastal Karnataka, Kerala & Mahe on 13th March and over the Gujarat region during 13th-14th March. (Annexure VI)
- ❖ No Heat Wave conditions are likely during week 2. However, above-normal to appreciably above-normal maximum temperatures are likely over the western Himalayan region.
- ❖ Warm night conditions are very likely to prevail in isolated pockets over Saurashtra & Kutch on & 13th March. However, above normal to appreciably above normal minimum temperatures are likely over northwest, west central, east and northeast India (Annexure VII)
- ❖ No Warm night conditions are likely during week 2. However, above normal night temperatures are likely over northwest, west central and adjoining east and northeast peninsular India.



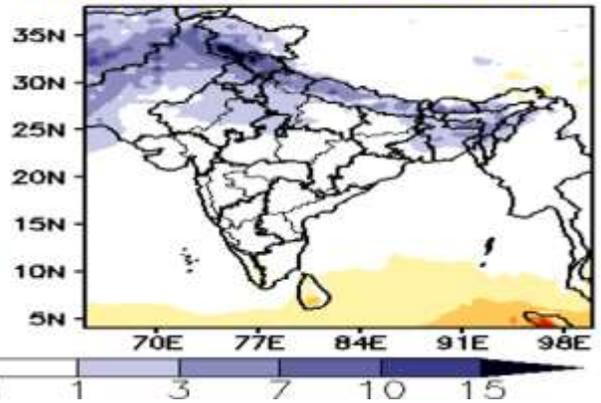
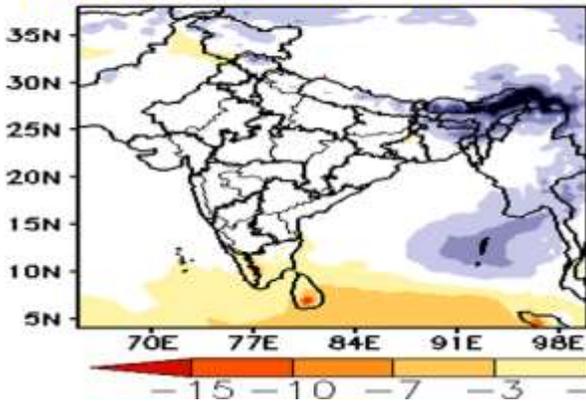
Forecast Rainfall (mm/day)
(Week1:00Z12Mar-00Z19Mar)



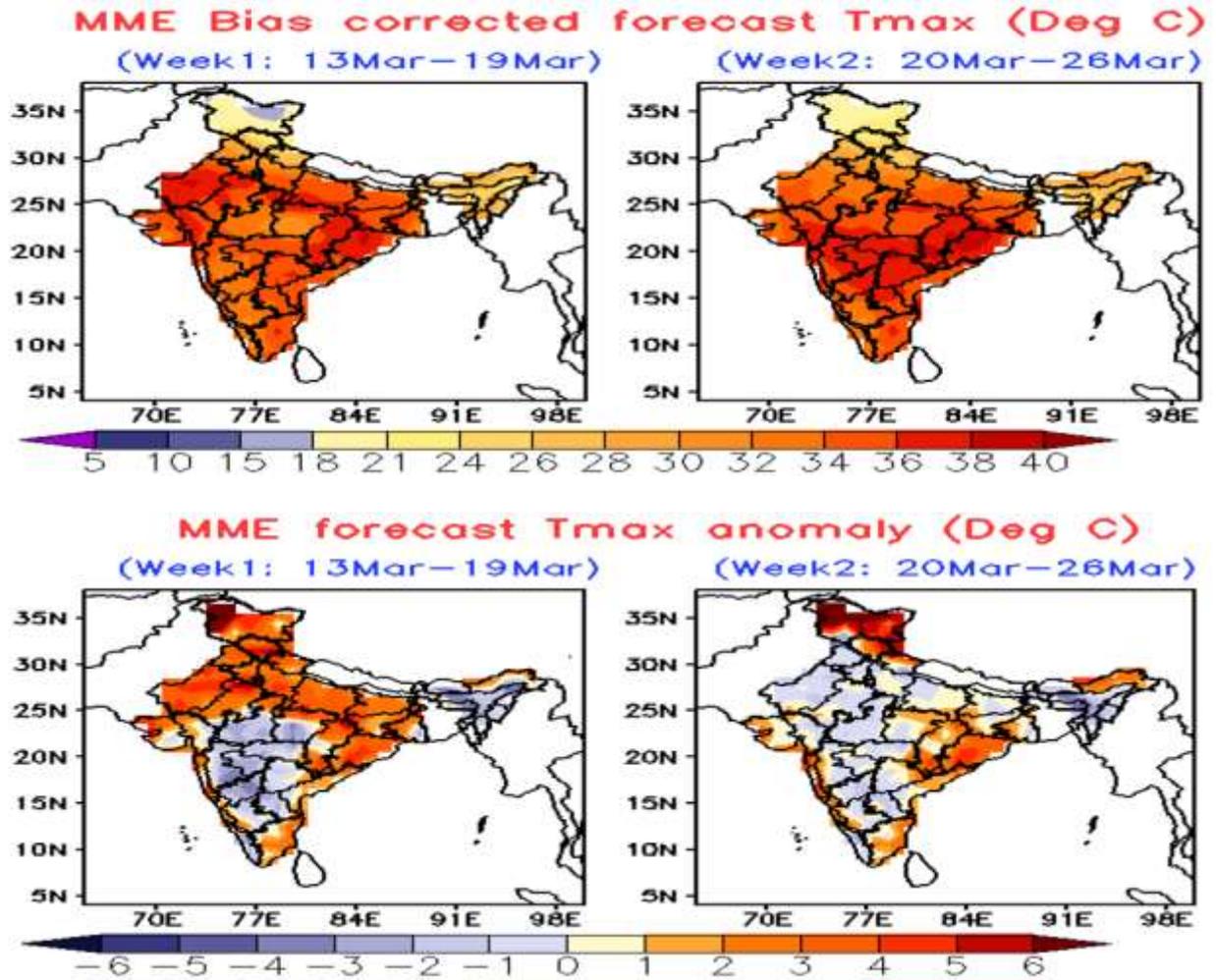
(00Z-0530 hrs IST)
(Week2:00Z19Mar-00Z26Mar)



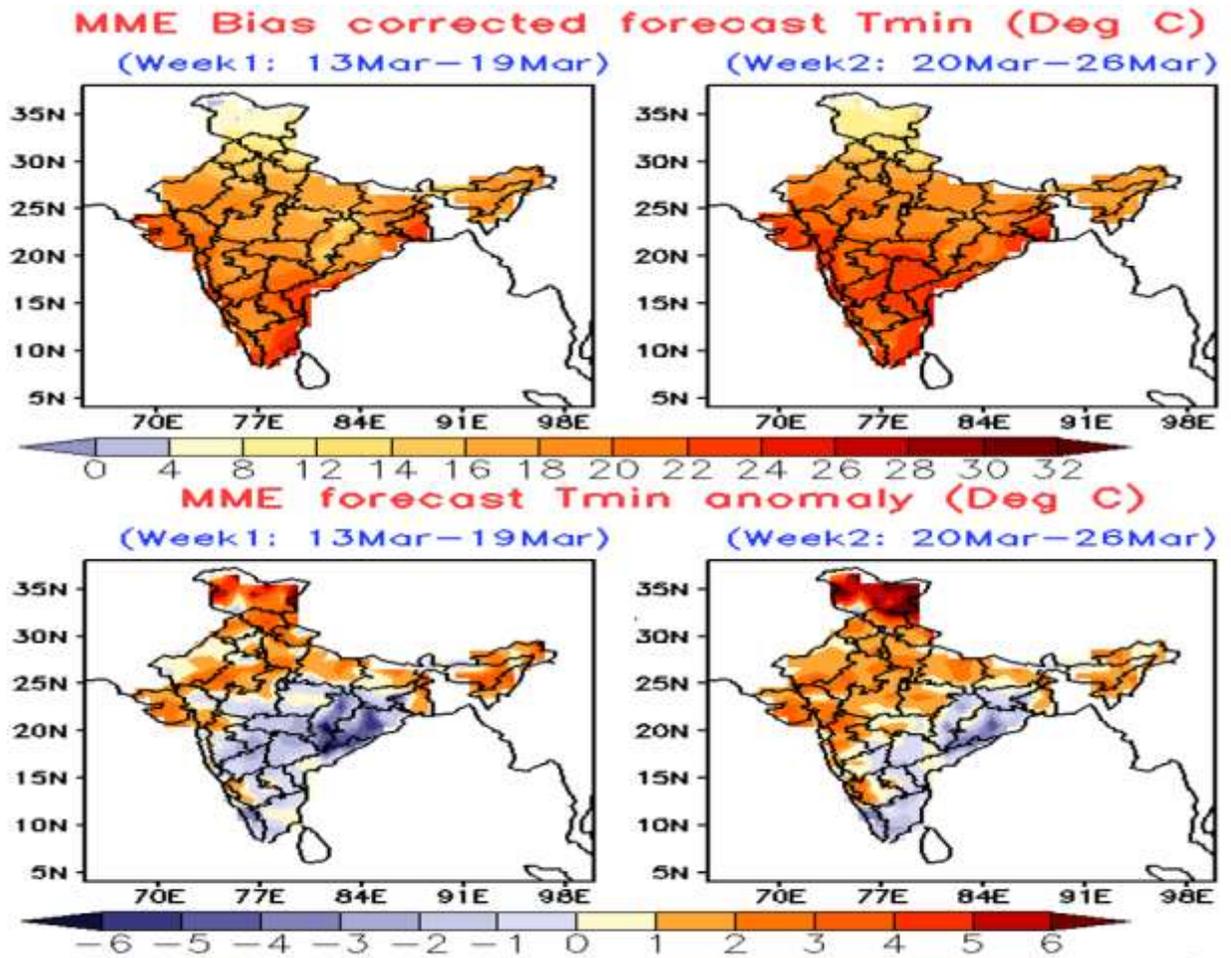
Forecast Rainfall Anomaly (mm/day) (00Z-0530 hrs IST)
(Week1:00Z12Mar-00Z19Mar) (Week2:00Z19Mar-00Z26Mar)



Extended range forecast of weekly distribution of rainfall in mm per day (top panel) and anomalies (lower panel) from IMD MME



Extended range forecast of weekly distribution of Maximum Temperature in °C (top panel) and anomalies (lower panel) from IMD Bias Corrected Forecast



Extended range forecast of weekly distribution of Minimum Temperature in °C (top panel) and anomalies (lower panel) from IMD Bias Corrected Forecast

