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भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग

INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

**Updated Seasonal outlook for hot weather season (April to June) 2026 and
 Monthly Outlook for April 2026 for the Rainfall and Temperature**

Highlights

- During the 2026 hot weather season (April–June), maximum temperatures are likely to be normal to below normal over many parts of the country except most parts of east and northeast India, as well as eastern parts of central India and adjoining peninsular regions where above-normal maximum temperatures are expected.
- During the season (AMJ), above-normal minimum temperatures are likely over most parts of the country except some regions of Maharashtra and Telangana where normal to below normal minimum temperatures are likely.
- During April 2026, monthly maximum temperatures are likely to be normal to below normal over many parts of the country. However, above-normal maximum temperatures are expected over many parts of east and northeast India and some parts of northwest India and southern peninsular India.
- Above-normal monthly minimum temperatures are most likely over most parts of India, except some isolated pockets over south peninsula where normal minimum temperatures are likely during April 2026.
- Above-normal number of heatwave days are likely over some parts of east, central & northwest India and southeast Peninsula during April to June (AMJ) 2026.
- During April 2026, Above-normal heatwave days are likely over many parts of coastal areas of Odisha, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andhra Pradesh and isolated regions of Gujarat Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- The rainfall during April 2026, averaged over the country as a whole, is most likely to be above normal (>112% of LPA). Normal to above-normal rainfall is likely over most parts of the country except Northeast India. Below-normal rainfall is expected over many parts of northeastern India.

Updated Seasonal outlook for hot weather season (April to June) 2026 and Monthly Outlook for April 2026 for the Rainfall and Temperature

1. Background

The India Meteorological Department (IMD), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has been issuing seasonal outlooks for hot and cold weather seasons since 2016, providing temperature forecasts for the country. IMD is continuously working to improve its forecasting models and currently uses the Multi-Model Ensemble (MME) approach, which utilizes coupled global climate models (CGCMs) from various global climate prediction and research centers, including the IMD/MoES Monsoon Mission Climate Forecast System (MMCFS) model.

IMD has prepared updated seasonal and monthly temperature forecasts for the 2026 hot weather season (April to June) and April 2026, respectively. These forecasts are presented in sections 2(a) and 2(b).

Section 3 presents the heatwave outlook for the hot weather season (April to June 2026) and for the month of April 2026. A heatwave is a period of abnormally high temperatures exceeding the normal maximum temperature for the hot weather season. In Section 4, IMD has provided the monthly rainfall outlook for April 2026.

2. (a) Seasonal Temperature outlook for April to June (AMJ) 2026

Probability forecasts for the maximum and minimum temperatures during the April to June (AMJ) 2026 hot weather season are shown in Fig.1a and Fig.1b, respectively. The probability forecast for maximum temperatures (Fig.1a) indicates that maximum temperatures are likely to be normal to below normal over many parts of the country except most parts of east and northeast India, as well as eastern parts of central India and adjoining peninsular regions where above-normal maximum temperatures are expected.

The probability forecast for the minimum temperatures (Fig.1b) indicates that during the hot weather season (AMJ), above-normal minimum temperatures are likely over most parts of the country except some regions of Maharashtra and Telangana where normal to below normal minimum temperatures are likely.

2. (b) Monthly Temperature Forecast for April 2026

Probability forecasts for the maximum and minimum temperatures during April 2026 are shown in Fig.2a and Fig.2b, respectively. During April 2026, monthly maximum temperatures are likely to be normal to below normal over many parts of the country. However, above-normal maximum temperatures are expected over many parts of east and northeast India and some parts of northwest India and southern peninsular India (Fig.2a).

Above-normal monthly minimum temperatures are most likely over most parts of India, except some isolated pockets over south peninsula where normal minimum temperatures are likely (Fig.2b).

3. Heatwave outlook for the Season April to June (AMJ) and for April 2026

The anomaly (deviation from normal) forecast for the number of heatwave days over the country for the season April to June 2026 is shown in Fig 3a. Above-normal number of heatwave days are likely over some parts of east, central & northwest India and southeast Peninsula during April to June (AMJ) 2026.

The anomaly forecast for the number of heatwave days over the country for April 2026 is shown in Fig 3b. During April 2026, above-normal heatwave days are likely over many parts of coastal areas of Odisha, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andhra Pradesh and isolated regions of Gujarat Maharashtra and Karnataka.

The increased likelihood of heatwave conditions may pose significant risks to public health, water resources, power demand, and essential services, particularly affecting vulnerable populations such as the elderly, children, outdoor workers, and individuals with pre-existing medical conditions. Elevated temperatures can lead to heat-related illnesses and additional stress on infrastructure and resource management systems. Accordingly, State authorities and district administrations are advised to ensure timely preparedness, including operational readiness of cooling shelters, adequate drinking water supply, and strengthened health surveillance. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) provides weekly and extended range forecasts, along with Early Warnings and Impact-Based Forecasts (IBF), indicating the likely severity and spatial distribution of heatwave conditions to support proactive planning. The public is advised to monitor updates and adopt precautionary measures such as staying hydrated, avoiding peak heat exposure, and taking special care of vulnerable individuals during the season.

4. Monthly Rainfall Outlook for April 2026

The rainfall during April 2026 averaged over the country as a whole is most likely to be above normal (>112% of Long Period Average {LPA}). The LPA of rainfall over the country during April based on data from 1971 to 2020 is about 39.2 mm.

The probabilistic forecast for the spatial distribution of tercile rainfall categories (above normal, normal and below normal) over the country for April 2026 is shown in Fig.4. The forecast suggests that Normal to above-normal rainfall is likely over most parts of the country except Northeast India. Below-normal rainfall is expected over many parts of northeastern India. The dotted area shown in the map climatologically receives very less rainfall and the white-shaded areas within the land areas represent no signal from the model.

5. Sea Surface Temperature (SST) conditions over the Pacific and the Indian Oceans

At present, neutral El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) conditions are prevailing over the equatorial Pacific Ocean. However, some of the atmospheric circulation features over the tropical Pacific are consistent with weak La Niña–like conditions. The latest forecasts from the Monsoon Mission Climate Forecast System (MMCFS) suggest that ENSO-neutral conditions are most likely to continue during April to June 2026 season. Thereafter, the probability of development of El Niño conditions increases gradually.

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 April to June season and thereafter.

6. Extended Range Forecast and Short to Medium-range Forecasting Services

IMD also provides extended-range forecasts (7–day averaged forecasts for the next four weeks) of rainfall and maximum and minimum temperatures over the country updated every week on Thursday. This is based on the Multi-model ensemble dynamical Extended Range Forecasting System currently operational at IMD. The forecasts are available through the IMD website https://mausam.imd.gov.in/imd_latest/contents/extendedrangeforecast.php).

The extended-range forecast is followed by a short to medium-range forecast issued daily by IMD.

7. Likely Impact of above normal temperatures and heatwaves on Agriculture during April 2026

- Significant heat stress during reproductive stages of *Boro* rice, maize, green gram, black gram and vegetables (tomato, chilli, brinjal), leading to poor grain setting, flower drop and reduced yields in east and northeast India, northwest India and southern peninsular India.
- Accelerated maturity of late-sown wheat, chickpea and lentil, resulting in reduced grain filling duration and reduced yield in east and east-central India and adjoining peninsular regions.
- Terminal heat stress in late-sown wheat, mustard and barley, leading to shrivelled grains and reduced productivity in northwest India.
- Reduced pod filling and grain formation in crops, along with increased flower and fruit drop in mango and banana, particularly over southern peninsular India.
- Rapid soil moisture depletion in standing crops due to high evapotranspiration.

8. Agromet Advisories due to above normal temperatures and heatwaves for April 2026

- Provide light and frequent irrigation to standing crops at critical growth stages (flowering and grain filling) in rice, maize, pulses and oilseeds, particularly over east, east-central and peninsular India. Apply foliar spray of potassium nitrate or other anti-transpirants to help crops manage heat stress.
- Maintain adequate soil moisture and prefer short-duration and heat-tolerant varieties for summer crops wherever possible.
- Complete harvesting of wheat and mustard at the earliest to minimize losses due to terminal heat stress in northwest India.
- Apply mulching to conserve soil moisture and suppress weeds around the crop root zone.
- Avoid field operations during peak afternoon hours.
- Regularly monitor crops for increased incidence of insect-pests such as aphids, whiteflies and thrips, and fungal diseases under forecasted warm and humid conditions.
- Ensure adequate drinking water, shade and proper ventilation for livestock.

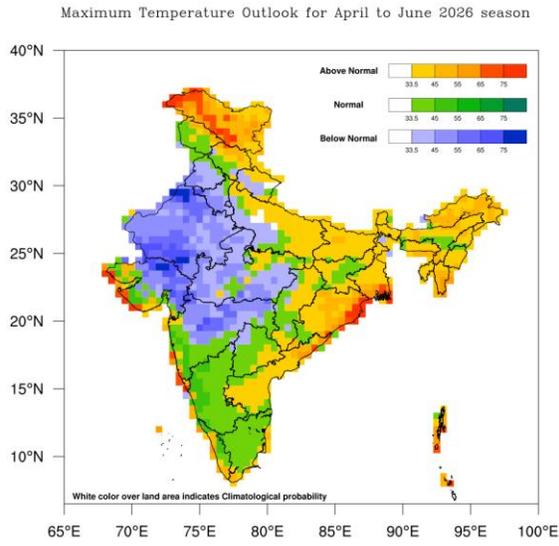


Fig.1a. Probability forecast of Maximum Temperature for April to June 2026.

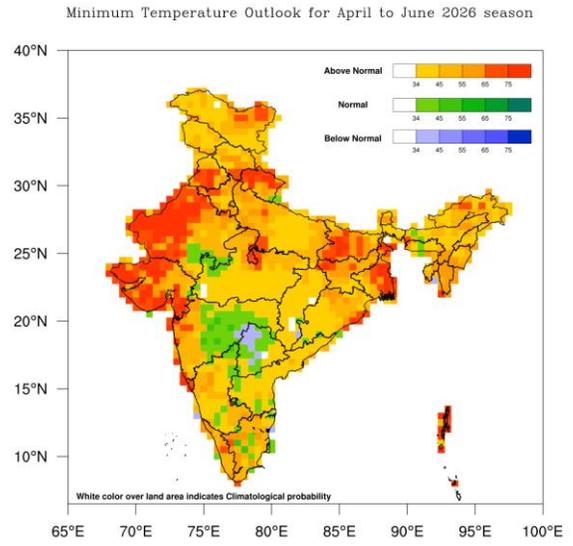


Fig.1b. Probability forecast of Minimum Temperature for April to June 2026.

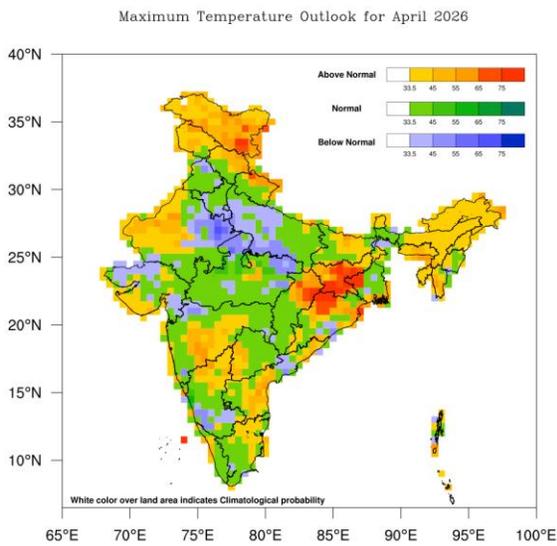


Fig.2a. Probability forecast of Maximum Temperature for April 2026.

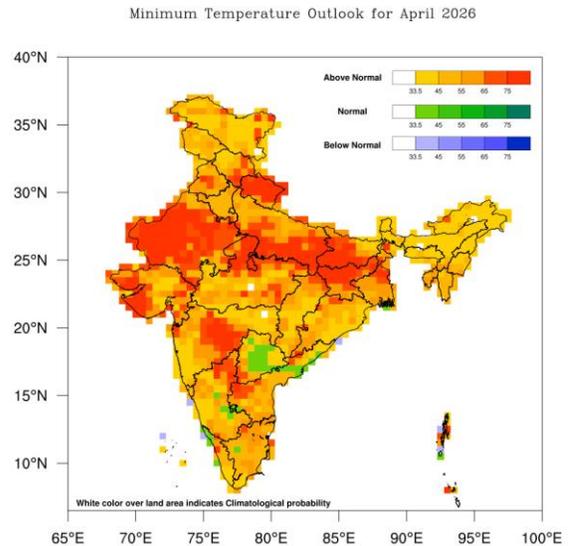


Fig.2b. Probability forecast of Minimum Temperature April 2026.

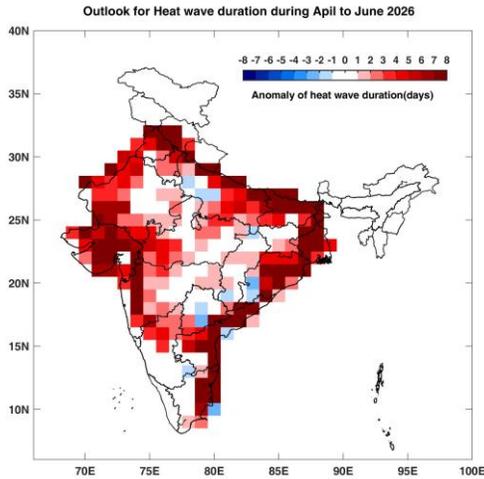


Fig3a. Anomlay of Heat Wave Duration (in days) for the season April to June (AMJ) 2026.

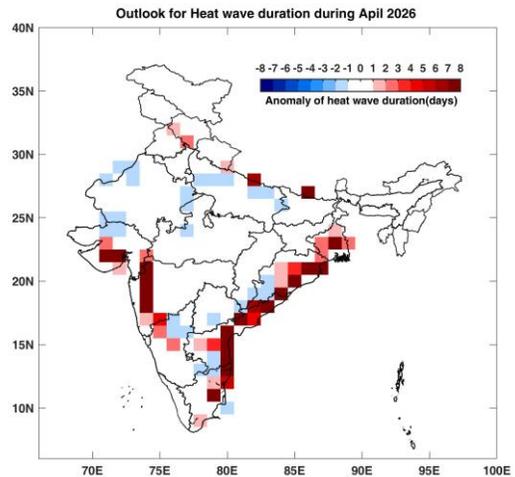


Fig3b. Anomaly of Heat Wave Duration (in days) for April 2026.

Probability rainfall forecast for April 2026

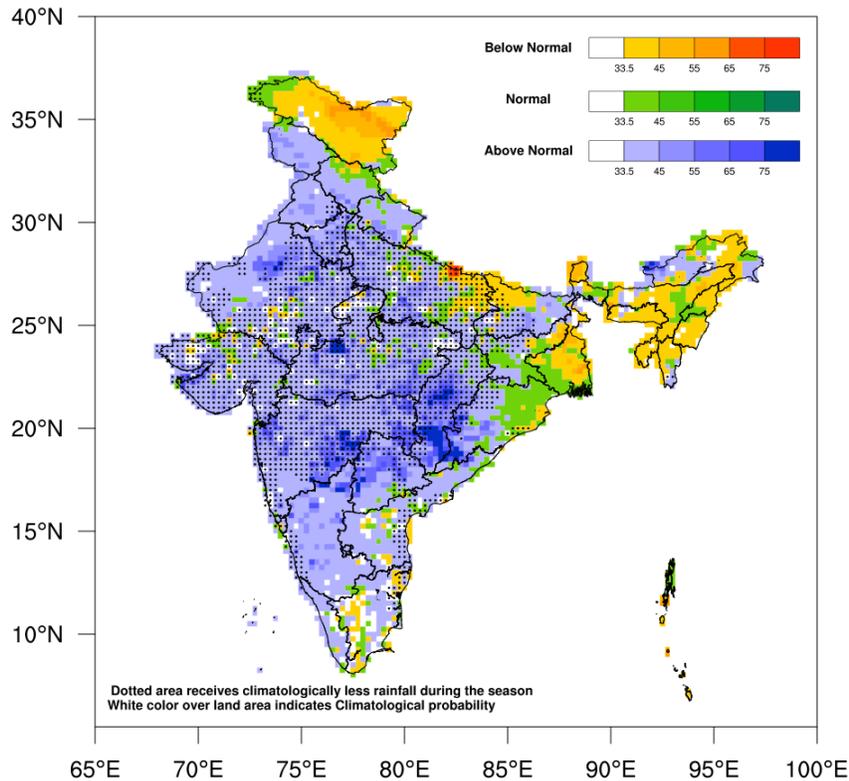


Fig.4. Probability forecast of tercile categories* (below normal, normal, and above normal) for the rainfall over India during April 2026. The figure illustrates the most likely categories as well as their probabilities. The dotted area shown in the map climatologically receives very less rainfall and the white-shaded areas within the land areas represent no signal from the model. (*Tercile categories have equal climatological probabilities, of 33.33% each).

