

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

Press Release: Dated: 05th March 2026

Subject: Current Weather Status and Extended Range Forecast for the next two weeks (05 to 18 March 2026)

1. Salient Observed Features for the week ending 04th March 2026:

- ❖ **Mainly dry weather prevailed over the most parts of the country during the week except heavy rainfall** at isolated places over Tamil Nadu on 26th & 27th February due to a trough in lower tropospheric level, and over Kerala on 1st March due to a cyclonic circulation over the region in lower tropospheric levels. **Hailstorm activity** was recorded at isolated places over Assam & Meghalaya on 26th February due to a trough in lower level westerlies.
- ❖ **Weekly Average Maximum temperature** was above normal by 3-5°C over many parts of north, northwest & adjoining central India, above normal by 1-3°C over parts of east & adjoining central India, and nearly normal over remaining parts of the country during the week. **Weekly Average Minimum temperature** was above normal by 2-4°C over parts of north, west, northwest & adjoining central, and east India during the week. It was near normal over remaining parts of the country during the week.
- ❖ **Temperature Scenario:** The lowest minimum temperature of **9.0°C** had been recorded at **Gurdaspur (Punjab)** on **2nd March, 2026** and the highest maximum temperature of **39.0°C** had been recorded at **Jharsuguda & Kurnool (Odisha & Andhra Pradesh)** on **3rd March 2026** over the plains of the country during the week.
- ❖ **Analysis of weekly overall rainfall distribution during the week ending on 04th March and the Winter Season's Rainfall Scenario (01.03.2026 to 28.02.2026):** The country as a whole, the weekly cumulative All India Rainfall (ending on 04th March) in % departure from its long period average (LPA) is -86%. All India Seasonal cumulative rainfall % departure during this year's Winter Season Rainfall (01.01.2026 to 28.02.2026) is -60%. 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		
	26.02.2026 TO 04.03.2026			01.01.2026 TO 28.02.2026		
	Actual (mm)	Normal (mm)	Departure (%)	Actual (mm)	Normal (mm)	Departure (%)
EAST & NORTHEAST INDIA	2.6	10.1	-74%	5.0	47.2	-89%
NORTHWEST INDIA	0.0	12.0	-99%	35.6	78.7	-55%
CENTRAL INDIA	0.0	2.3	-99%	3.2	14.9	-79%
SOUTH PENINSULA	2.4	2.2	9%	16.1	15.7	2%
THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE	0.9	6.5	-86%	16.0	39.8	-60%

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 6 with an amplitude less than 1. It is likely to migrate to Phase 7, with an amplitude remaining less than 1, during the early days of week 1. Thereafter, it is likely to remain in Phase 7, with the amplitude exceeding 1 for the remaining duration of week 1. During the early days of week 2, it is likely to migrate to Phase 8 with amplitude remaining greater than 1, and is likely to remain there for the remaining period of week 2.

3. Forecast for the next two weeks

Weather systems & associated Precipitation during Week 1 (05 to 11 March 2026) and Week 2 (12 to 18 March 2026)

Weather systems & associated Precipitation during Week 1 (05 to 11 March 2026):

- ❖ An upper air **cyclonic circulation** lies over north Odisha and adjoining Gangetic West Bengal and a **trough** runs from central parts of north Uttar Pradesh to the

above cyclonic circulation over north Odisha and adjoining Gangetic West Bengal in lower tropospheric levels.

- ❖ An upper air **cyclonic circulation** lies over Northeast Bangladesh & neighbourhood in lower tropospheric levels.
- ❖ An upper air **cyclonic circulation** lies over south Assam & neighbourhood in lower tropospheric levels.
- ❖ A **trough** runs from Telangana to South Interior Karnataka in lower tropospheric levels.
- ❖ A fresh **Western Disturbance** seen as a trough in middle level tropospheric westerlies runs roughly along Long. 50°E to the north of Lat. 30°N.

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

- ❖ **Isolated to scattered** light rainfall/snowfall likely over Jammu-Kashmir during 05th -11th; Himachal Pradesh during 07th -11th and **isolated light rainfall/snowfall** likely over Uttarakhand during 08-11th March, 2026.
- ❖ **Isolated to Scattered** light/moderate rainfall with **thunderstorm, lightning & gusty winds speed reaching (30-40 kmph)** likely over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during 08th-11th; Odisha on 08th & 09th; Gangetic West Bengal & Jharkhand on 09th; Bihar on 11th March; with **thunderstorm & lightning** likely over Jammu-Kashmir during 07th-11th; Northeast India during 08th-11th March.

Precipitation for week 2 (12 to 18 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) 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 (05 to 11 March 2026) and Week 2 (12 to 18 March 2026)

Temperature forecast for Week 1 (05 to 11 March 2026):

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

- ❖ **Maximum Temperatures** were in the range of 37-40°C over West Rajasthan, Gujarat State, north Maharashtra, Vidarbha, Marathawada, Odisha, interior parts of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh & Tamil Nadu; 32-36°C over remaining parts of North, East and South Peninsular India except over Northeast India, North

Punjab, North Haryana and Northwest Uttar Pradesh where maximum temperatures were less than 30°C. **The highest maximum temperature of 39.6°C was observed at Jharsuguda (Odisha) over the plains of India.**

- ❖ **Maximum Temperature Departures** were appreciably to markedly above normal by 4-8°C over Jammu-Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, Rajasthan, West Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat State, Konkan & Goa, Assam; above normal by 2-4°C over remaining parts of India except South Peninsular India and Northeast India where maximum temperatures were near normal.
- ❖ **Minimum temperatures** were in the range of 14-18°C over Jammu division, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, East Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Maharashtra, Vidarbha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Assam; 18-22°C over remaining parts of the plains of the country. **The lowest minimum temperature of 11.9°C was observed at Fatehpur AWS (Rajasthan) over the plains of India.**
- ❖ **Minimum Temperature Departures** were markedly above normal by (>5.0°C) over Jammu-Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan; appreciably above normal by 2-5°C over Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya, Gujarat State, Konkan & Goa, Marathawada. It is near normal over rest parts of the country.

Heat Wave and Hot & Humid weather Warnings:

- ❖ **Heat wave conditions** very likely in isolated pockets over Konkan on 05th March.
- ❖ **Hot & humid conditions** very likely to prevail in isolated pockets over coastal areas of Gujarat State on 05th & 06th and Konkan on 06th & 07th March.

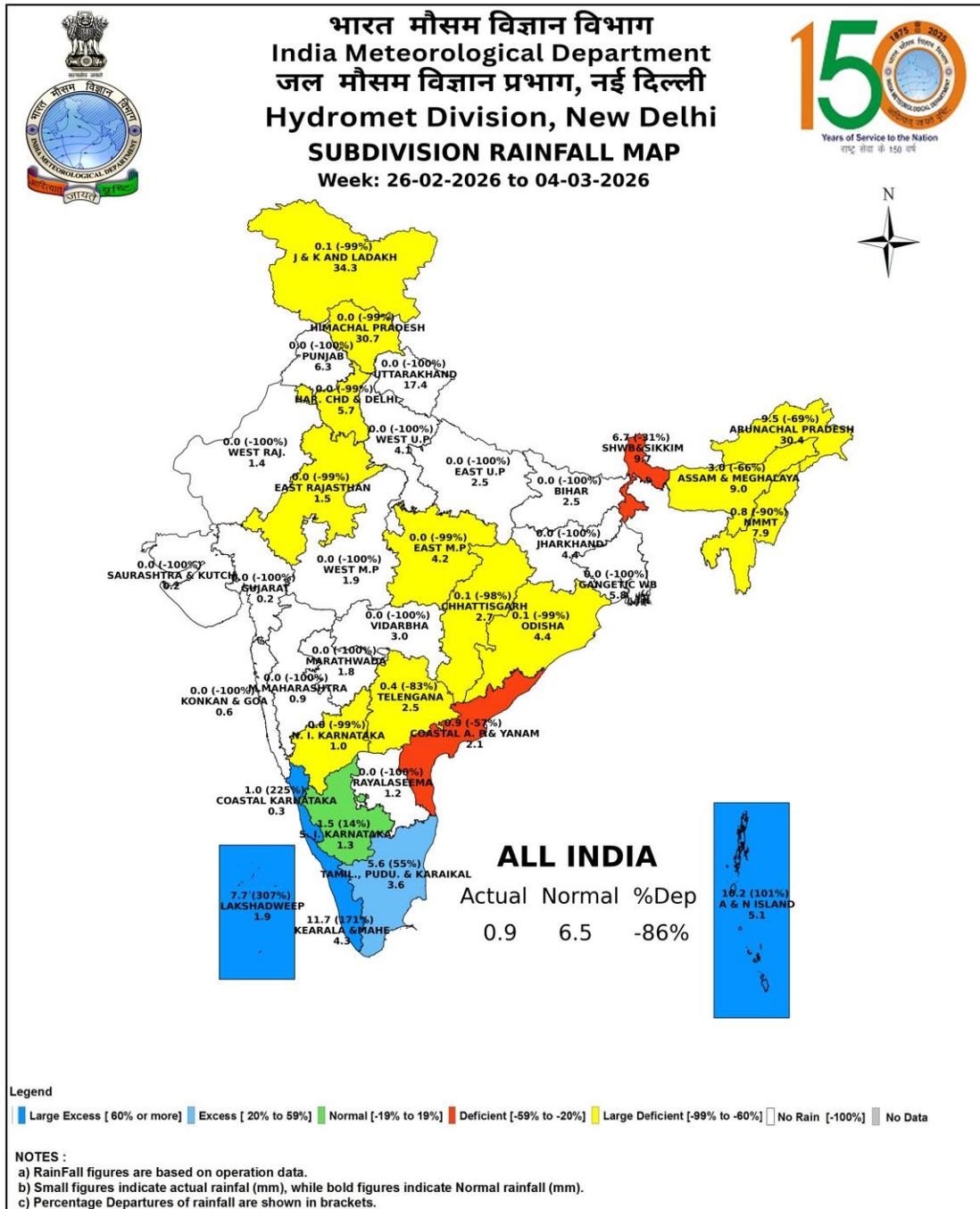
Forecast of maximum temperatures:

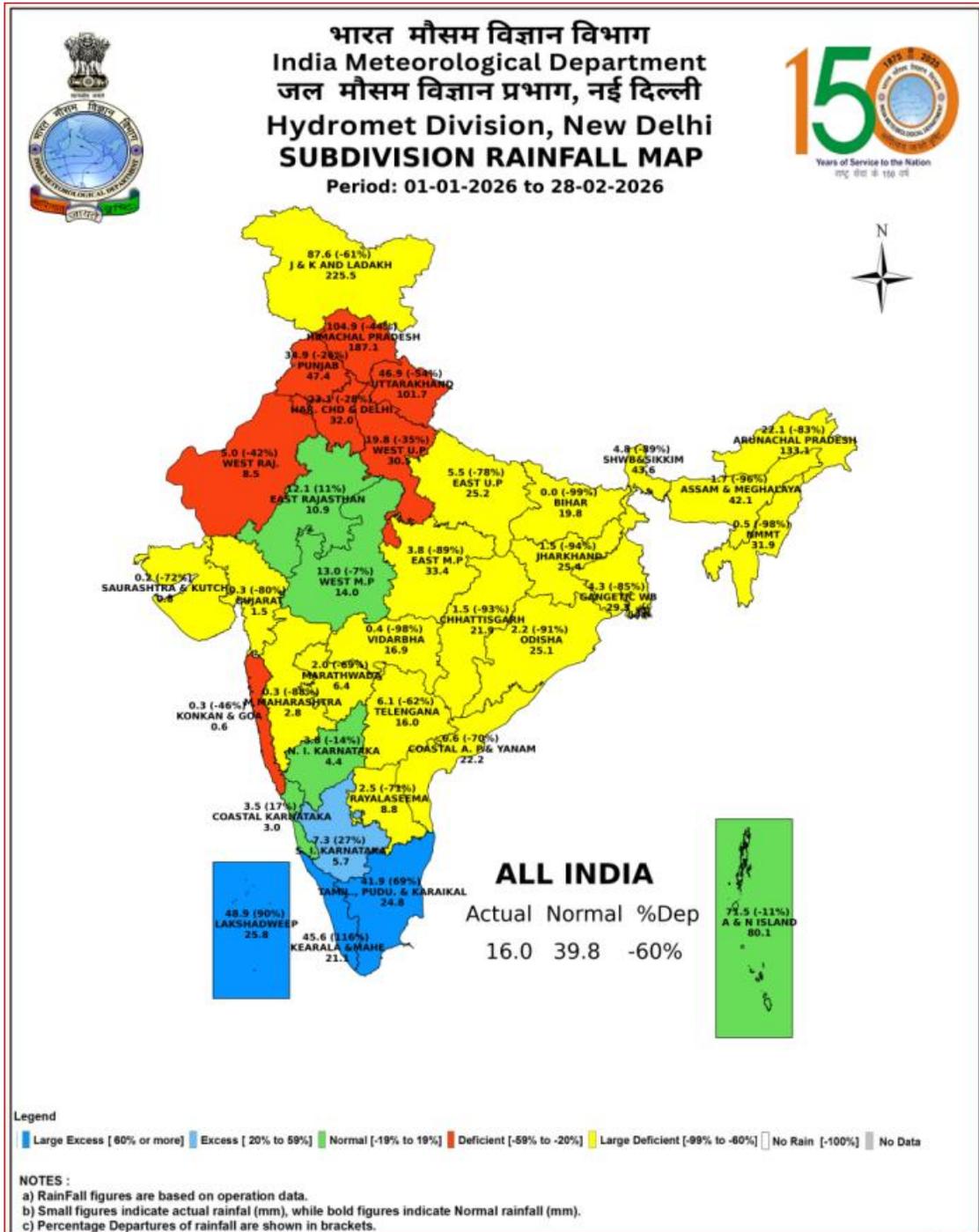
- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperature likely over Western Himalayan region during next 2 days and gradual fall by 4-6°C during subsequent 5 days. Over the plains of Northwest India & adjoining Central India, maximum temperatures are likely to rise by 2-3° C during next 4 days and no significant change during subsequent 3 days. **Hence, Maximum temperatures are likely to continue to be above normal by 4-6°C over many parts of Northwest & 3-5°C over adjoining Central India during most days of the week.**
- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperature likely over interior Maharashtra during next 24 hours and gradual rise by 2-3°C during subsequent 5 days.

- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperature likely over Gujarat State during next 24 hours and gradual fall by 2-3°C during subsequent 2 days and gradual rise by 2-3°C thereafter.
- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperature likely over Konkan & Goa during next 24 hours; gradual fall by 2-3°C during subsequent 3 days and gradual rise by about 2°C thereafter.
- ❖ No significant change in maximum temperatures likely over rest parts of the country.

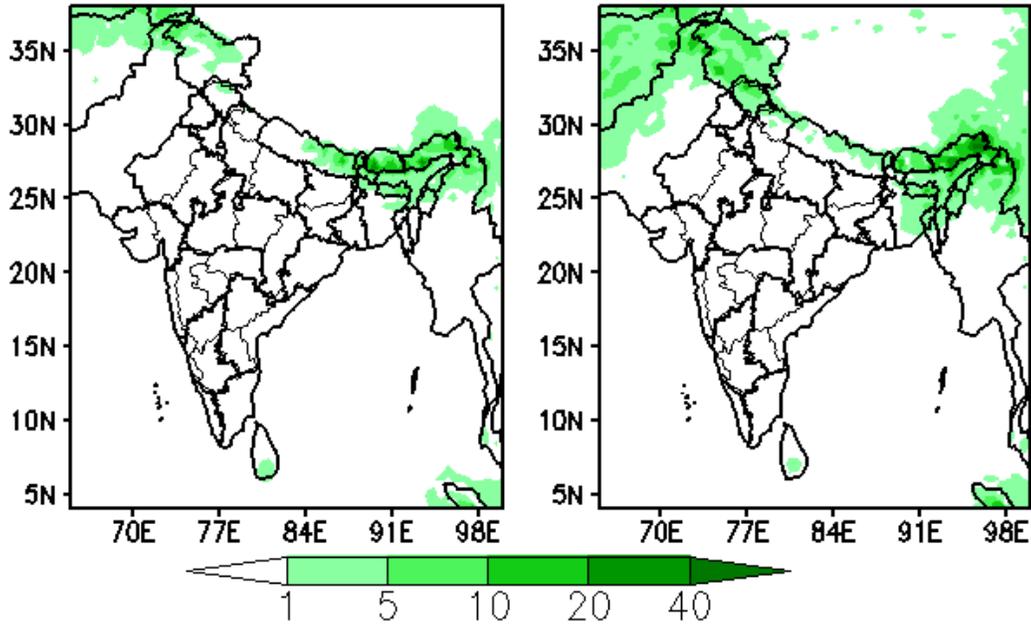
Temperature forecast for Week 2 (12 to 18 March 2026):

- ❖ Maximum temperatures are likely to be above normal (by 3-5°C) over most parts of the country except interior peninsular India & adjoining central 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 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).

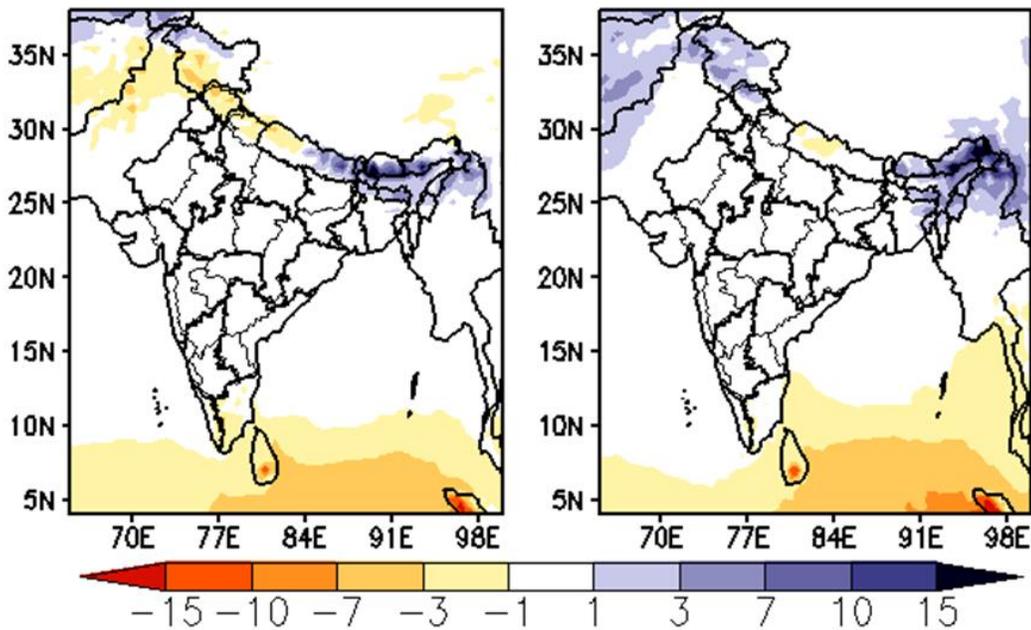




Forecast Rainfall (mm/day) (00Z=0530 hrs IST)
(Week1:00Z05Mar-00Z12Mar) (Week2:00Z12Mar-00Z19Mar)



Forecast Rainfall Anomaly (mm/day) (00Z=0530 hrs IST)
(Week1:00Z05Mar-00Z12Mar) (Week2:00Z12Mar-00Z19Mar)

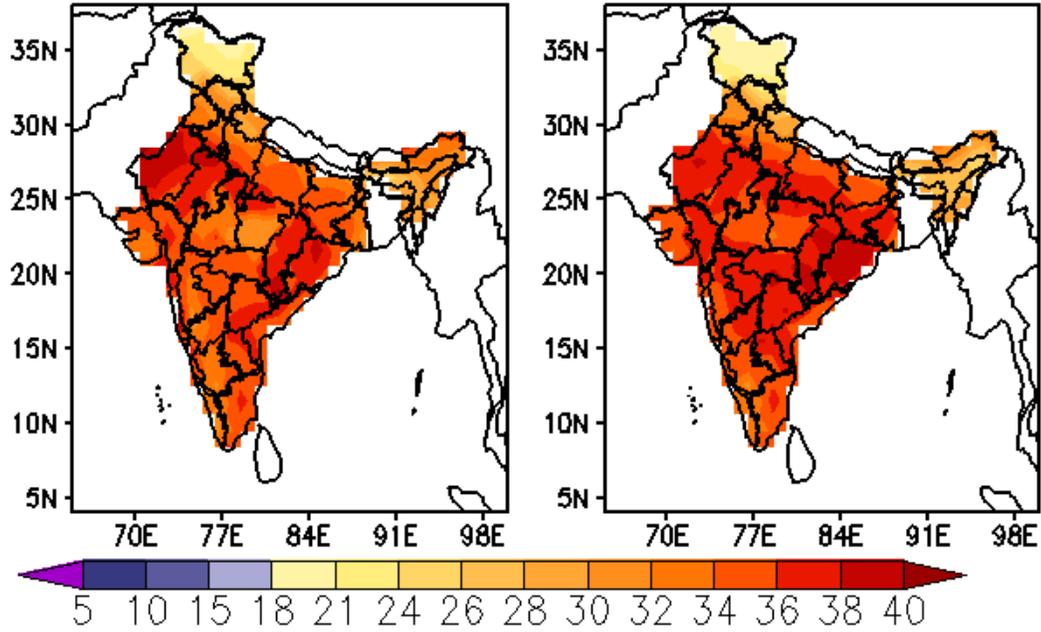


Extended range forecast of weekly distribution of rainfall in mm per day (top panel) and anomalies (lower panel) from IMD MME

MME Bias corrected forecast Tmax (Deg C)

(Week1: 06Mar-12Mar)

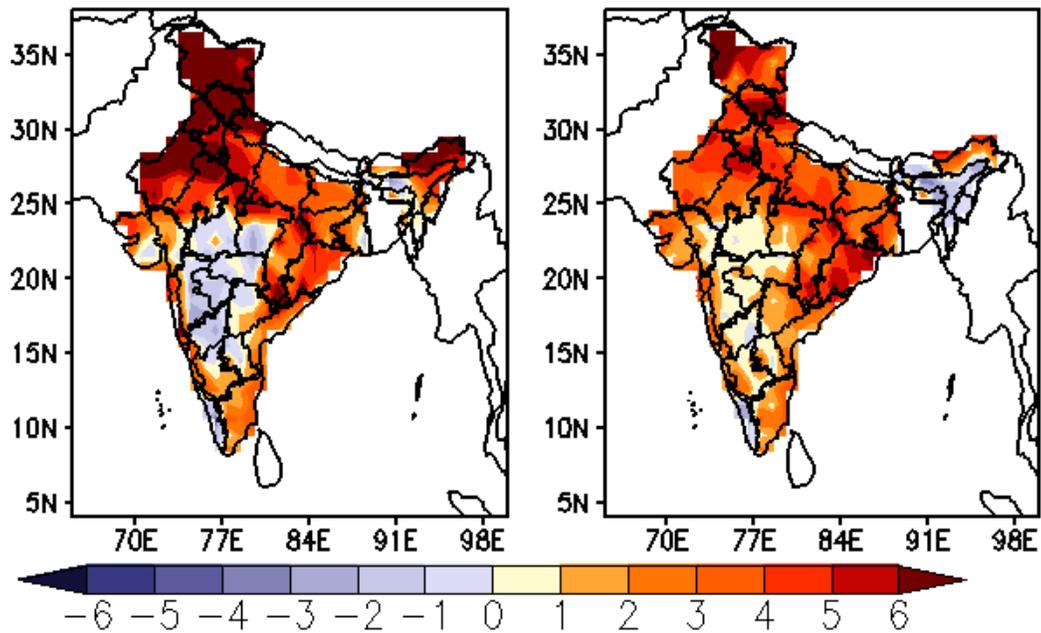
(Week2: 13Mar-19Mar)



MME forecast Tmax anomaly (Deg C)

(Week1: 06Mar-12Mar)

(Week2: 13Mar-19Mar)

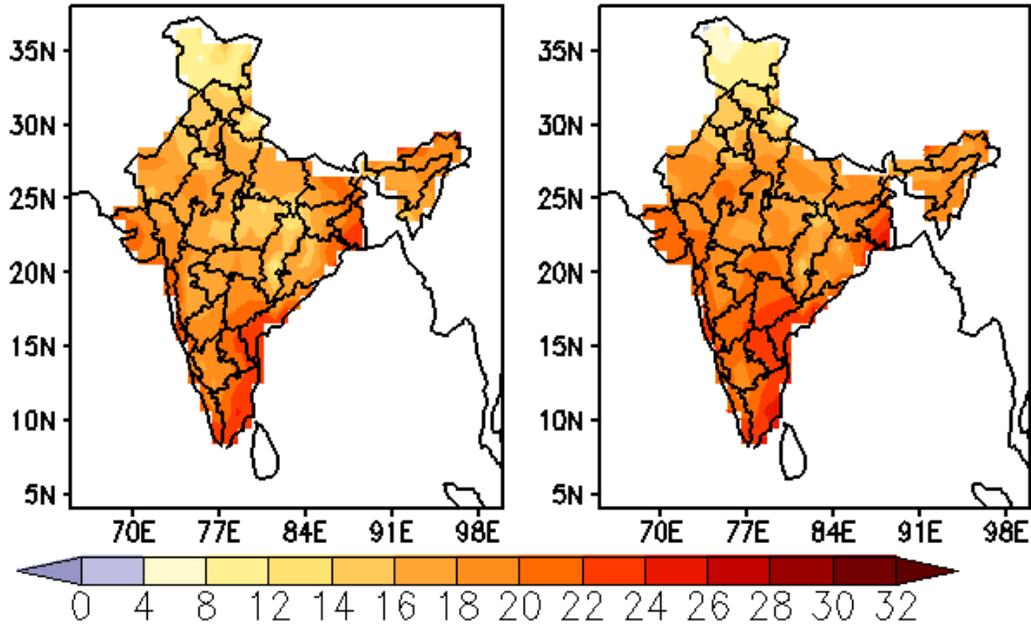


Extended range forecast of weekly distribution of Maximum Temperature in °C (top panel) and anomalies (lower panel) from IMD Bias Corrected Forecast

MME Bias corrected forecast Tmin (Deg C)

(Week1: 06Mar-12Mar)

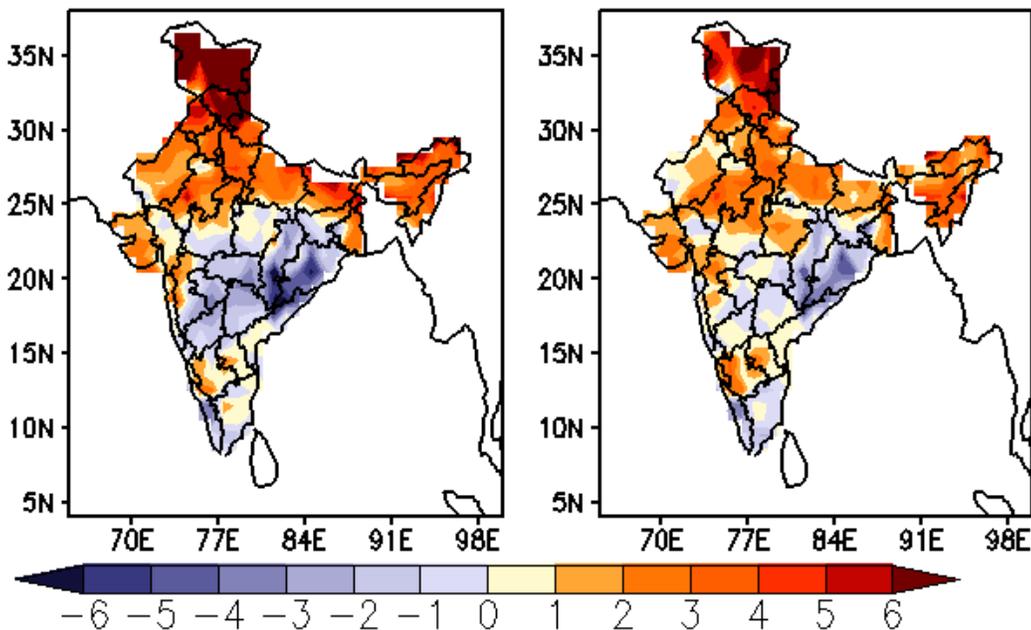
(Week2: 13Mar-19Mar)



MME forecast Tmin anomaly (Deg C)

(Week1: 06Mar-12Mar)

(Week2: 13Mar-19Mar)



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