

Press Release: Dated: 20 August 2026

Subject: Current Weather Status and Extended Range Forecast for the next two weeks (20 August to 02 September 2026)

1. Salient Observed Features for the week ending 19 August 2026:

- ❖ Last week's Well-Marked Low Pressure Area over North Bay of Bengal & adjoining Bangladesh-West Bengal coasts moved northwestwards, concentrated into a Depression and lay centred at 0830 hrs IST of 13th August, over coastal West Bengal, close to northwest of Canning (West Bengal). It moved west-northwestwards and lay centred at 0830 hrs IST of 14th August, over Jharkhand & adjoining Gangetic West Bengal. It moved west-northwestwards and weakened into a Well-Marked Low Pressure Area over Jharkhand at 1730 hrs IST of 14th August and further weakened into a Low Pressure Area over southeast Jharkhand & neighbourhood at 0530 hrs IST of 15th August and became less marked at 1730 hrs IST of the same day.
- ❖ It caused isolated **extremely heavy rainfall** over Gangetic West Bengal, Odisha on 13th August, Jharkhand on 14th August, East Madhya Pradesh on 16th August and isolated **heavy to very heavy rainfall** over Jharkhand on 13th August, Gangetic West Bengal, Odisha, Chhattisgarh on 14th & 15th August, East Uttar Pradesh, Bihar on 14th August.
- ❖ Under the influence of an upper air cyclonic circulation over northwest Bay of Bengal, a Low Pressure Area formed over Northwest Bay of Bengal & adjoining West Bengal-North Odisha coasts in the morning hours of 16th August and lay as a Well-Marked Low Pressure Area over the same region in the afternoon hours of the same day. It moved nearly northwestwards, concentrated into a Depression in the morning hours of 17th August, over coastal West Bengal and adjoining areas of Bangladesh & northwest Bay of Bengal, close to Kolkata. It moved west-northwestwards and lay centred at 0830 hrs IST of 18th August, over Jharkhand & adjoining northern parts of Gangetic West Bengal. It weakened into a Well-Marked Low Pressure Area over north Jharkhand and adjoining southwest Bihar & southeast Uttar Pradesh at 1130 hrs IST of 19th August.
- ❖ It caused isolated **extremely heavy rainfall** over Odisha on 17th & 18th August, Gangetic West Bengal on 18th August, Chhattisgarh on 19th August. **Heavy to very heavy rainfall** recorded at isolated places over Odisha on 16th August, Gangetic West Bengal on 17th August, Chhattisgarh on 17th & 18th August, East Madhya Pradesh on 17th & 19th August, Jharkhand, East Uttar Pradesh on 18th & 19th August, Bihar on 18th August.
- ❖ The **Monsoon Trough** at mean sea level was near to its normal position during most days of the week. All-India weekly cumulative rainfall was 16% below normal of long-period average due to subdued rainfall activity over many parts of south peninsular, west and northeast India.
- ❖ **Extremely heavy rainfall** also recorded at isolated places over Uttarakhand on 18th August. **Heavy to very heavy rainfall** recorded at isolated places over West Uttar Pradesh on 13th, 14th & 16th – 18th August, Uttarakhand during 13th – 15th & 17th August, East Rajasthan on 13th, 15th & 16th August, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & Karaikal on 14th August, Himachal Pradesh on 15th & 19th August, East Uttar Pradesh on 16th & 17th August, Assam & Meghalaya on 18th August.
- ❖ During the past week, rainfall was 16% below Long Period Average (LPA) over the country as a whole (Annexure I).
- ❖ Cumulatively from 1 June to 19 August 2026, the country as a whole had rainfall under the normal category, i.e., -13% of LPA (Annexure II).

- ❖ Details of weekly and cumulative rainfall distribution are given in Table 1.

Table 1: Rainfall status (Week and season)

Region	Week			Season		
	13.08.2026 TO 19.08.2026			01.06.2026 TO 19.08.2026		
	Actual (mm)	Normal (mm)	Departure (%)	Actual (mm)	Normal (mm)	Departure (%)
EAST & NORTHEAST INDIA	72	81.8	-12%	715.9	960.1	-25%
NORTHWEST INDIA	45.6	49.2	-7%	377	420.9	-10%
CENTRAL INDIA	60.1	67.1	-10%	683.9	693.1	-1%
SOUTH PENINSULA	19.5	42.7	-54%	380.4	488.6	-22%
THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE	49.6	59.2	-16%	535.0	611.8	-13%

2. Large-scale features:

- ❖ Moderate El Niño conditions currently prevail over the equatorial Pacific Ocean, with sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies remaining above normal across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific. These conditions are expected to strengthen further during the Southwest Monsoon season. Forecasts from the Monsoon Mission Coupled Forecast System (MMCFS) also indicate a continued strengthening of El Niño conditions throughout the remaining period of Southwest Monsoon season.
- ❖ At present, neutral Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions prevail over the Indian Ocean. Forecasts from the Monsoon Mission Coupled Forecast System (MMCFS) indicate that these neutral IOD conditions are likely to persist throughout the remaining period of Southwest Monsoon season. However, climate forecasts from some international forecasting centers suggest that positive IOD conditions are likely to develop during September 2026.
- ❖ Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) index is currently in Phase 6, with an amplitude greater than 1. It is likely to migrate to Phase 7, with a decreasing trend in amplitude by the end of week 1. It is likely to remain in Phase 7 with amplitude less than 1 for the entire week 2.

3. Forecast for the next two weeks

Weather systems & associated Precipitation during Week 1 (20 to 26 August 2026) and Week 2 (27 August to 02 September 2026)

Weather systems & associated Precipitation during Week 1 (20 to 26 August 2026):

Weather systems during week 1:

- ❖ Currently, **the well-marked low-pressure area** lies over northeast Madhya Pradesh & neighbourhood. It is likely to weaken over the same region during the subsequent 2 days.
- ❖ The associated upper-air cyclonic circulation is likely to prevail over East India & neighbourhood during the week.
- ❖ The western end of the monsoon trough will remain near normal to north of its normal position. The eastern end of the monsoon trough is likely to remain near normal to south of its normal position during the week.

- ❖ The low-level Somali Jet is likely to be weaker in strength and likely to prevail south of its normal position during the week.
- ❖ Currently, a Western Disturbance is affecting northwest India, and another Western Disturbance is likely to affect northwest India thereafter.
- ❖ The Tropical Easterly Jet is likely to prevail over peninsular India near its normal position.
- ❖ The Tibetan Anticyclone is likely to remain weaker in intensity and positioned near to its normal position during the week.

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

- ❖ **Fairly Widespread to Widespread** rainfall likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during 20th-26th August; Gangetic West Bengal and Jharkhand during 22nd-26th August; Bihar during 22nd-24th August; Odisha during 21st-26th August.
- ❖ Isolated **heavy rainfall** likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands during 20th-21st August; Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during 20th-22nd August and during 25th-26th August; Gangetic West Bengal during 23rd-25th August; Jharkhand on 23rd August; Bihar during 22nd-25th August; Odisha during 21st-22nd August and during 24th-26th August with isolated **very heavy rainfall** also likely over Odisha on 23rd August.
- ❖ Isolated **thunderstorm, lightning & gusty winds (speed reaching 40-50 kmph gusting to 60 kmph)** likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands during 20th-26th August, **with gusty winds (speed reaching 30-40 kmph gusting to 50 kmph)** likely over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during 20th-22nd August; Bihar, Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand and Odisha during 20th-24th August.
- ❖ **Fairly Widespread to Widespread** rainfall likely over Arunachal Pradesh during 20th-22nd August; Assam & Meghalaya during 20th-22nd August and on 26th August; Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura during 20th-26th August. Isolated **heavy rainfall** likely over Arunachal Pradesh and Assam & Meghalaya during 20th-25th August; Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura during 20th-23rd August.
- ❖ **Fairly Widespread to Widespread** rainfall with Isolated **heavy falls** likely over the Western Himalayan Regions during the first half of the week, with isolated **very heavy rainfall** also likely over West Uttar Pradesh on 20th August.
- ❖ **Fairly Widespread to Widespread** rainfall is likely over central India for many days of the week. Isolated **heavy** rainfall likely over West Madhya Pradesh during 20th-25th August; East Madhya Pradesh during 22nd-26th August; Chhattisgarh during 20th-26th August with isolated **very heavy** rainfall also likely over East Madhya Pradesh during 20th-21st August.
- ❖ **Fairly Widespread to Widespread** rainfall likely over Konkan & Goa during 20th-26th August. **Isolated to Scattered** rainfall likely over Gujarat Region, Madhya Maharashtra, Marathwada and Saurashtra & Kutch during 20th-26th August.
- ❖ **Fairly Widespread to Widespread** rainfall likely over Kerala & Mahe and Lakshadweep on 20th August and during 23rd-26th August; Coastal Karnataka during 20th-26th August.
- ❖ Isolated **heavy rainfall** likely over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & Karaikal during 24th-25th August; Kerala & Mahe during 23rd-24th August.
- ❖ Strong Surface Winds likely over Coastal Andhra Pradesh & Yanam, Coastal Karnataka, North Interior Karnataka, Rayalaseema and South Interior Karnataka during 20th-24th August.
- ❖ Rainfall activity is likely to be normal to above normal over Central India, normal over most parts of East & Northeast India, below normal over Peninsular India during the week (Annexure III).
- ❖ **Overall, Country as a whole, the rainfall is likely to be below normal during the week.**

Weather systems & associated Precipitation during Week 2 (27 August to 02 September 2026):

- ❖ The western end of seasonal monsoon trough is likely to be north of or near its normal positions and eastern end is likely to be near normal or south of its normal position during the week.
- ❖ A fresh upper air cyclonic circulation is likely to form over the north Bay of Bengal (BoB) by the end of week 1. Under its influence, a low-pressure area is likely to form over northwest BoB at the beginning of week 2.
- ❖ The low-level Somali Jet is likely to remain weak during the week.
- ❖ The Tibetan Anticyclone is likely to be near its normal position during the week.
- ❖ The Tropical Easterly Jet is likely to be normal over South Peninsular India during the week.

Under the influence of the above system:

- ❖ Light/moderate fairly widespread to widespread rainfall is likely over most parts of the Western Himalayan region during some days of the week. Isolated **heavy to very heavy** rainfall is also likely over Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand and isolated heavy rainfall over Jammu & Kashmir during many days of the week.
- ❖ Light/moderate fairly widespread to widespread rainfall is likely over Northeast & East India during the week. Isolated **heavy to very heavy falls** are likely over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya, West Bengal & Sikkim, and Odisha during many days of the week.
- ❖ Widespread rainfall with isolated **heavy falls** likely over Konkan & Goa, Coastal Karnataka, during some days of the week. Scattered rainfall with isolated **heavy falls** also likely over the remaining parts of Peninsular India during some days of the week.
- ❖ Rainfall is likely to be normal to above normal over East & Northeast India and adjoining central India. It is likely to be below normal over the remaining parts of the country during the week (Annexure III).
- ❖ **Overall, the country as a whole, the rainfall is likely to be below normal during the week.**

Temperature forecast for Week 1 (20 to 26 August 2026) and Week 2 (27 August to 02 September 2026)

Temperature forecast for Week 1 (20 to 26 August 2026):

- ❖ Above normal maximum temperatures by 2-3°C are very likely over some parts of the plains of Northwest India and Northeast India during some/many days of the week. Near-normal (-1.5 to +1.5°C) maximum temperatures are likely over the rest of the country. (**Annexure IV**).
- ❖ No probability of a heat wave over any part of the country during the week.
- ❖ No probability of warm nights in any part of the country during the week. Minimum temperatures are likely to be near normal (-1.5 to +1.5°C) for the country.

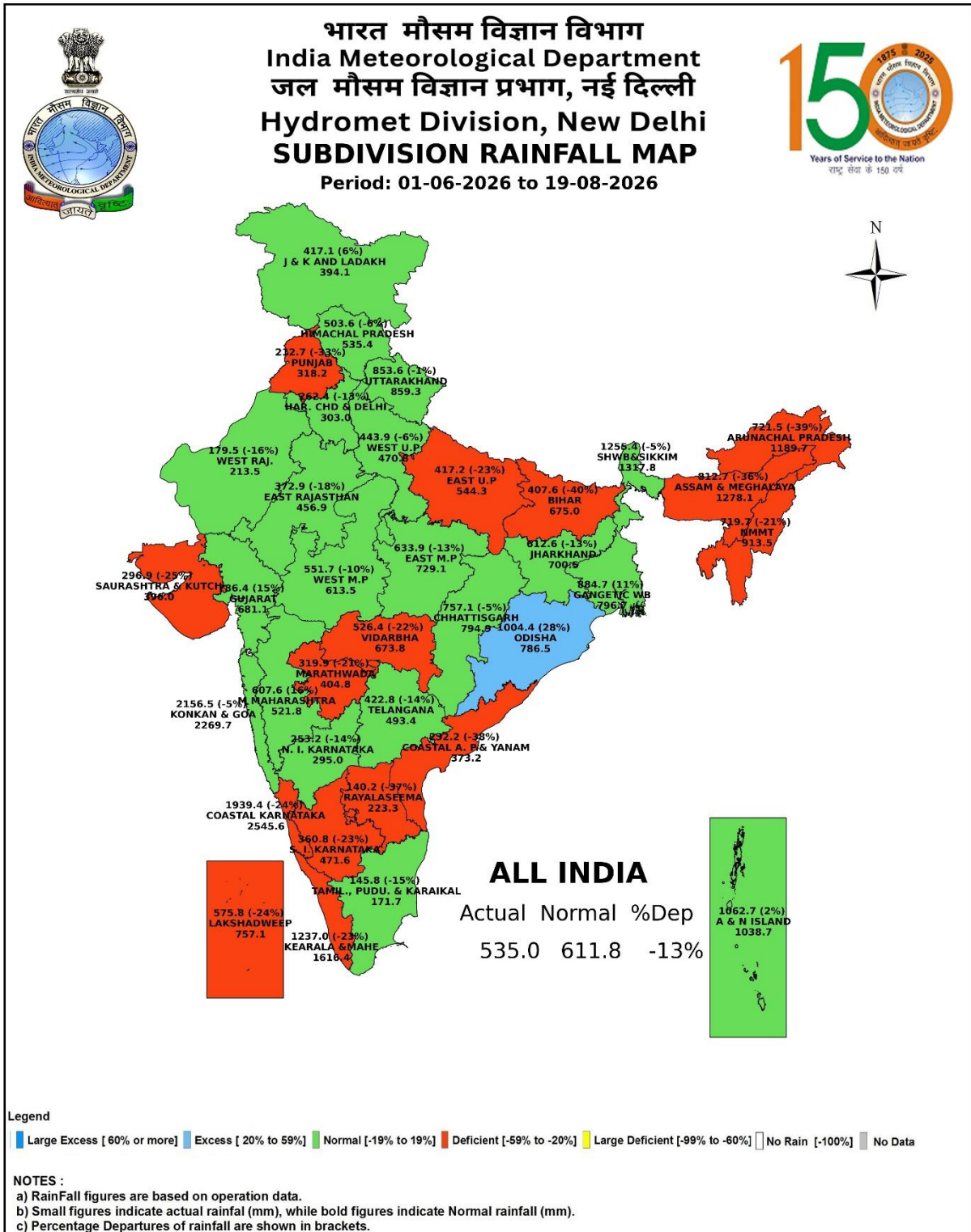
Temperature forecast for Week 2 (27 August to 02 September 2026):

- ❖ Above normal maximum temperatures by 2-3°C are very likely over some parts of the plains of Northwest India during some days of the week. Near-normal (-1.5 to +1.5°C) maximum temperatures are likely over the rest of the country. (**Annexure IV**).
- ❖ No probability of a heat wave over any part of the country during the week.

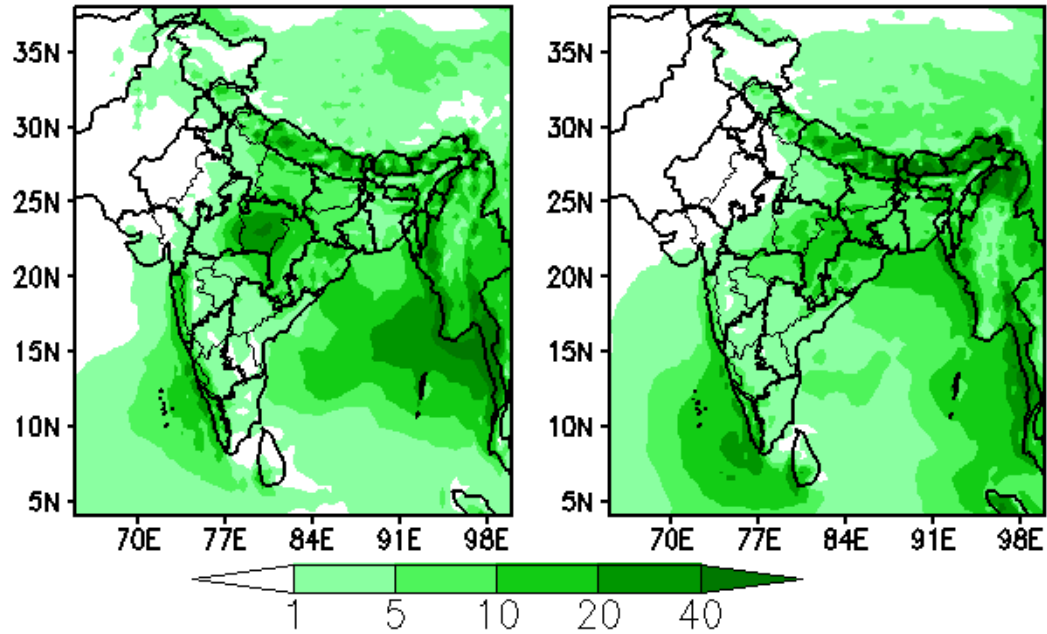
- ❖ No probability of warm nights in any part of the country during the week. Minimum temperatures are likely to be near Normal (-1.5 to +1.5°C) for the country.

Advisories on the likely impact and suggested actions for Heavy Rainfall/ High temperatures/ Heat Waves are provided in Annexure-V.

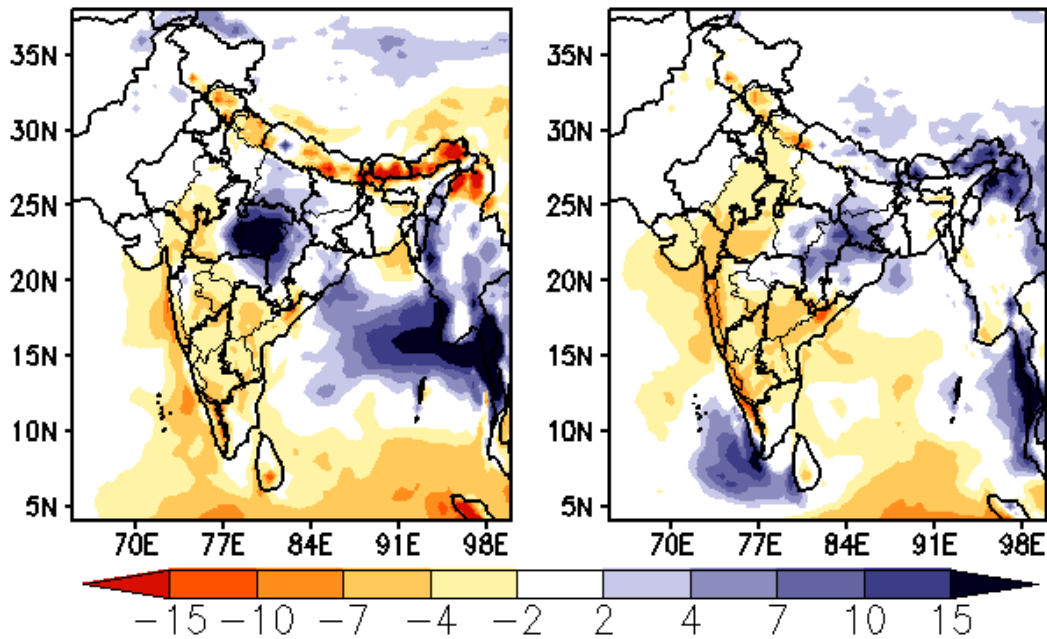




Forecast Rainfall (mm/day) (00Z=0530 hrs IST)
 (Week1:00Z20Aug–00Z27Aug) (Week2:00Z27Aug–00Z03Sep)



Forecast Rainfall Anomaly (mm/day) (00Z=0530 hrs IST)
 (Week1:00Z20Aug–00Z27Aug) (Week2:00Z27Aug–00Z03Sep)

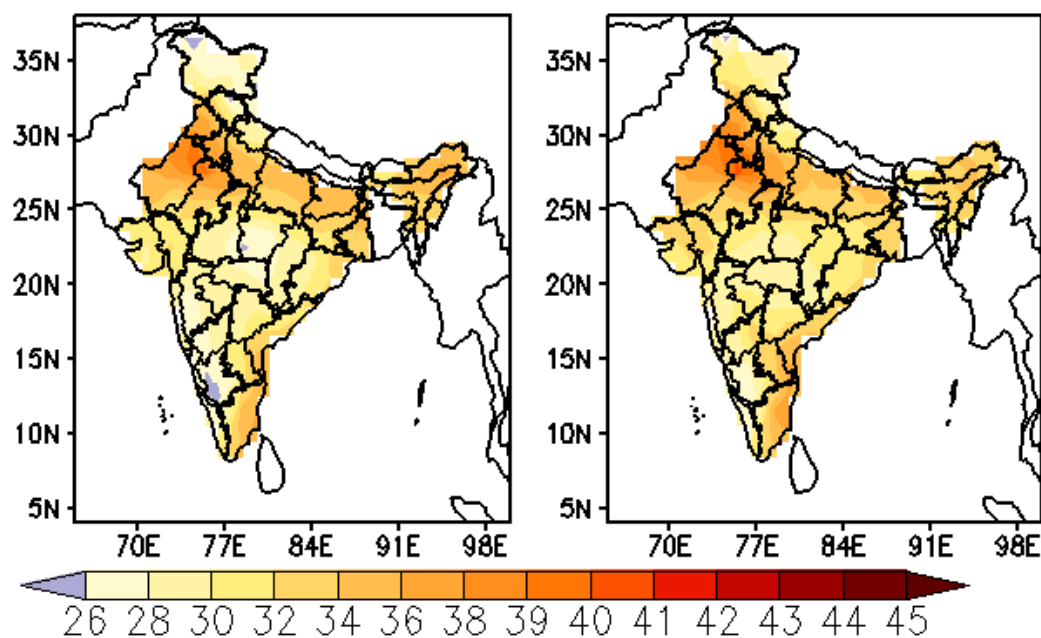


Extended range forecast of weekly distribution of rainfall in mm per day (top panel) and anomalies (lower panel) from IMD MME

MME Bias corrected forecast Tmax (Deg C)

(Week1: 21Aug–27Aug)

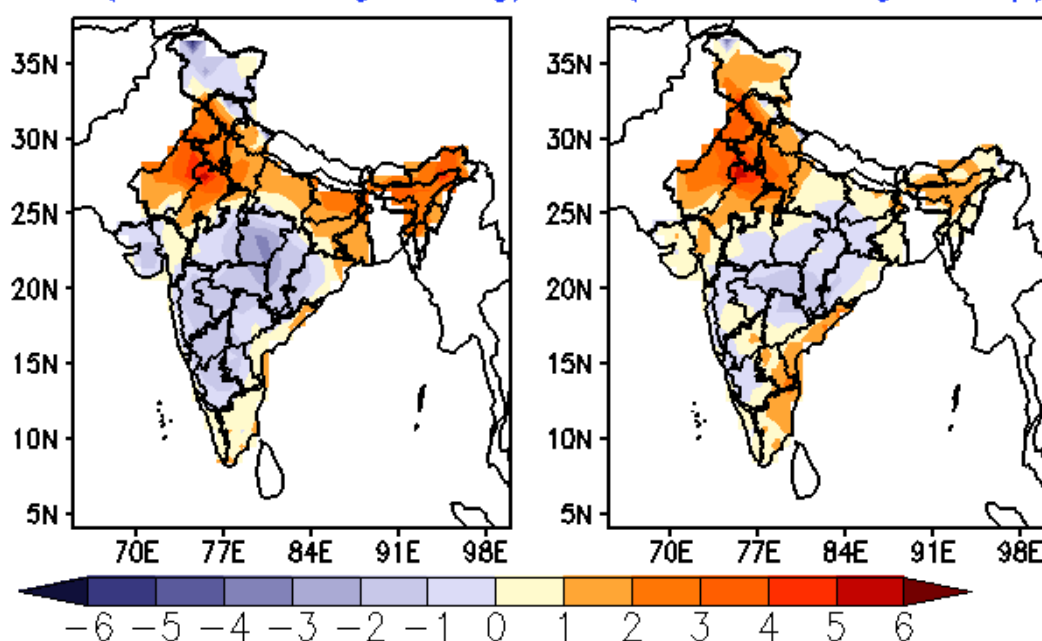
(Week2: 28Aug–03Sep)



MME forecast Tmax anomaly (Deg C)

(Week1: 21Aug–27Aug)

(Week2: 28Aug–03Sep)



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

Impact Expected & Action Suggested due to heavy/very heavy/extremely heavy rainfall

- ❖ **Isolated very heavy rainfall likely over East Madhya Pradesh and west Uttar Pradesh on 20th August.**
- ❖ **Moderate to severe lightning activity over Bihar on 22nd August.**

Impact expected:

- ❖ Breaking of tree branches, uprooting of small trees like banana, papaya, drum sticks. Strong wind and rain may damage plantation, horticulture and standing crops.
- ❖ Partial damage to vulnerable structures due to strong winds and rain.
- ❖ Minor damage to kutcha houses/walls, huts and roads due to heavy rain.
- ❖ Loose objects may fly.
- ❖ Small ships, trawlers and boats may be affected.
- ❖ Road and rail traffic may be affected due to heavy rain and squally winds.
- ❖ There could be localised landslides, mudslides, landslips, water logging, inundation and flooding over low lying areas.
- ❖ Occasional reduction in visibility due to heavy rainfall.
- ❖ Helicopter services may get affected.

Action suggested:

- ❖ People are advised to keep a watch on the weather for worsening conditions and be ready to move to safer places accordingly.
- ❖ Take safe shelters; do not take shelter under trees, as there could be lightning.
- ❖ In case of expected lightning, unplug electrical/ electronic appliances, immediately, get out of water bodies and keep away from all the objects that conduct electricity.
- ❖ Tourism and recreational activities to be regulated.
- ❖ Onshore and offshore activities to be judiciously regulated.
- ❖ Helicopter services to be regulated.

Agromet advisories for likely impact of Heavy Rainfall

- ❖ In West Uttar Pradesh, maintain effective drainage in paddy, pigeon pea, pulses, oilseeds and vegetable fields, particularly in low-lying areas, and promptly remove excess rainwater. Continue nursery raising of brinjal, chilli and early cauliflower and sowing of cucurbits and okra only where field conditions permit.
- ❖ In East Madhya Pradesh, ensure continuous drainage of excess water from soybean, maize, paddy and vegetable fields and keep field channels clear. Postpone field operations, fertilizer application and plant protection measures in waterlogged fields and provide staking/support to vegetables and tall crops to minimize lodging.
- ❖ In Odisha, ensure continuous and effective drainage of excess water from kharif rice, maize, pulses, cotton, pigeon pea, banana, vegetable fields and nursery beds. Keep field drains, outlets and bunds clear and functional. In waterlogged areas, postpone sowing/re-sowing of maize and green gram and rice and horticultural crop transplanting until suitable soil conditions are restored. Prevent water stagnation in pearl millet and provide staking/support to climbing vegetables, banana, papaya and young horticultural plants.
- ❖ In Chhattisgarh, Remove excess water and ensure effective drainage from rice, maize, groundnut, minor millets and pulses fields.
- ❖ In Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura, maintain proper drainage in rice, soybean, black gram, ginger, turmeric, cole crops and vegetable fields and prevent water stagnation.

Keep drainage channels clear and postpone fertilizer, plant protection and other field operations in saturated fields. Provide staking/support to vulnerable crops wherever required.

- ❖ In West Madhya Pradesh, maintain proper drainage in soybean, maize, cotton, sugarcane and vegetable fields and remove excess rainwater promptly. Provide staking/support to vegetables and tall crops to minimize lodging and postpone sowing of kharif vegetables until excess water drains and suitable field conditions prevail.
- ❖ In Arunachal Pradesh, maintain proper drainage in maize, finger millet, soybean, cowpea, vegetable fields and orchards to prevent waterlogging. Remove excess water promptly.
- ❖ In Assam and Meghalaya, maintain proper drainage and keep field channels clear in rice, sugarcane, soybean, pigeon pea, jute, sesame and vegetable fields and orchards. Remove excess water promptly from low-lying fields and prevent water stagnation in sugarcane. In Meghalaya, ensure drainage in maize, cowpea, okra and ginger fields and remove excess water from the root zone.
- ❖ In Sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim, clear drainage channels in vegetable fields, orchards, rice and finger millet nurseries to prevent waterlogging. Protect chilli seedlings with plastic cover from heavy rain and maintain proper drainage in rice and vegetable fields.
- ❖ In Jammu & Kashmir, prevent water stagnation in pulses and vegetable fields and provide proper support to cucurbit plants. Ensure effective drainage in maize fields and promptly remove excess rainwater from low-lying areas.
- ❖ In Himachal Pradesh, keep drainage channels in ginger and turmeric fields clear and functional and ensure prompt removal of excess rainwater from maize fields. Harvest mature vegetables such as cucumber, bottle gourd, bitter gourd, snake gourd, ridge gourd and sponge gourd wherever field conditions permit and keep harvested produce in a safe place.
- ❖ In Uttarakhand, maintain proper and effective drainage in rice, soybean, maize, red gram, ginger, garlic, barnyard millet, finger millet, tomato and other standing crop fields. Continue rice transplanting only where field conditions permit and delay sowing of groundnut, soybean and maize until suitable conditions prevail. Harvest mature tomato, French bean and potato and keep the produce in a safe, dry place.
- ❖ In Punjab, maintain proper drainage in standing crop fields and promptly remove excess rainwater from low-lying areas. Avoid irrigation, fertilizer application and plant protection operations during wet conditions and resume field operations only when soil conditions become suitable.
- ❖ In Bihar, ensure proper drainage of excess rainwater from rice, maize, pulses and other standing crop fields, particularly in low-lying areas. Postpone fertilizer and pesticide application during wet conditions and undertake rice transplanting and planting of banana and yam only where field conditions permit.
- ❖ In Jharkhand, maintain proper drainage in maize, pigeon pea and other standing crop fields and promptly remove excess rainwater.

Agromet advisories for likely impact of Thunderstorm / Gusty Winds

- ❖ Shift the harvested produce in safer places or cover the produce with tarpaulin sheets in the fields. Tie the harvested crops securely and cover them to minimize the risk of displacement from strong surface winds.
- ❖ Provide mechanical support to horticultural crops and staking or support to vegetables and young fruit plants / fruit-bearing plants to avoid lodging due to strong winds.

Livestock / Poultry / Fisheries

- ❖ Keep the animals inside the shed during heavy rainfall and provide them balanced feed.

- ❖ Store the feed and fodder in a safe place to prevent spoilage.
- ❖ In regions with high temperatures and heat wave conditions, provide clean, cool drinking water to animals, and cover the roofs of poultry sheds with grass to reduce the adverse effects of heat.
- ❖ Construct an outlet with proper netting around the ponds to drain excess water, thereby preventing fish from escaping in the event of overflow.