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Maldives Meteorological Service

Rainfall Outlook over Maldives For February 2020

Summary:

Below normal rainfall is likely for whole country during February 2020.

Introduction:

This consensus rainfall outlook for Maldives has been developed through an expert assessment of the prevailing regional and global climate conditions, seasonal forecast products of WMO Lead Centre for Long-Range Forecast Multi-Model Ensemble (LC-LRFMME) and calibrating climate models.

El Niño -Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD):

Both the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) are currently neutral, and likely to remain so at least until March 2020. When these main climate drivers are neutral, Maldives climate can be influenced by more local or short-term climate drivers.

Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO):

The current MJO forecast indicate that MJO will be active in Maritime continent (Not in the Indian Ocean) so MJO may not impact in Maldives weather during February 2020.

Global Producing Centers and Lead Centre:

Probabilistic Multi-Model Ensemble of WMO lead centre for long-range climate models forecast indicate Below normal rainfall over Maldives area during February 2020. However, few individual models suggest Normal Rainfall over southern and central Maldives in February 2020.



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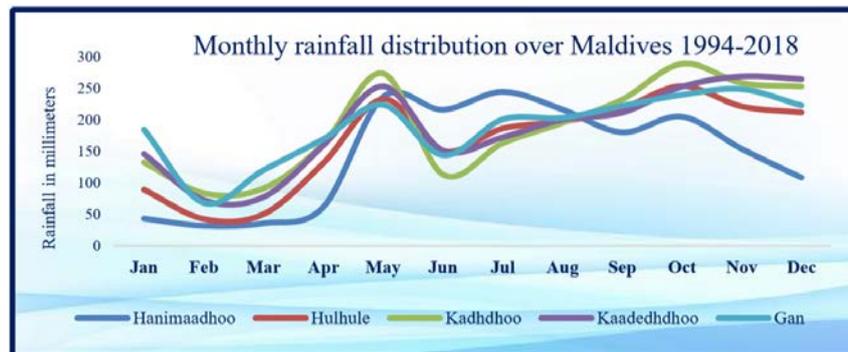
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Climate condition:

February is the 3rd month of Northeast monsoon (Iruvai moosun). Thus, rainfall amount normally less over the country. During February, almost all stations receive lowest rainfall and normally it is hot dry throughout the country.



Conclusion:

By considering ENSO and IOD neutral condition and MJO index is weak and most of the model indicate that MJO will be active in Maritime continent (Not in the Indian Ocean). This would suggest the MJO may not have a significant influence on Indian Ocean rainfall patterns in February 2020. Multi-Model Ensemble of WMO Lead Centers with individual models suggest that the rainfall is likely to be below normal over the country during February 2020.

Note: Normal: Amount of rainfall between 90% -110% of the average for the period. Above normal: Amount of rainfall more than 110% of the average for the period. Below Normal: Amount of rainfall less than 90% of the average for the period.

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