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Maldives Meteorological Service

Rainfall Outlook over Maldives

For August 2019

Summary

Average (normal) rainfall likely throughout the country during August 2019. Monsoonal rainfall occurs during August.

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): Weak El Niño prevailed during July with above average Equatorial sea surface temperatures (SSTs) through most of the Pacific Ocean along with anomalous convection and wind pattern over relevant areas. ENSO-neutral condition is expected during August 2019.

Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD): IOD is currently positive and models indicate continuing in the same condition throughout August.

Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO): MJO signal was less well defined and interfered by other climatic phenomena. MJO signal expected to strengthen over Eastern Indian Ocean and Maritime continent with eastward propagation.

Calibration of climate models

Calibration of GCM precipitation using global data set with station observed data depicts above normal rainfall for northern atolls and below normal rainfall for central and southern atolls during August 2019.

Probabilistic Multi-Model Ensemble of WMO lead centres for long-range climate indicates normal rainfall throughout the country during this month.



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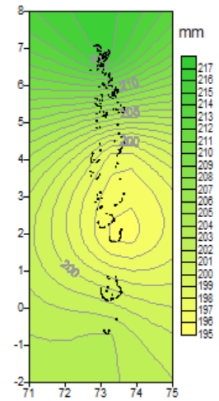


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Climate condition

During August, rainfall on average accounts for 12%, 10% and 09% of annual rainfall that occur in northern, central and southern atolls respectively. Monthly rainfall represents 21%, 19%, 19%, 20% and 20% in Hdh.Hanimaadhoo, Hulhule', L.Kadhdhoo, Gdh.Kaadedhdhoo and S.Gan area respectively. Northern atolls have relatively higher rainfall gradient than central and southern atolls.



Spatial distribution of rainfall over the country during August

Conclusion

By considering the prevailing weak El Niño status, positive IOD condition and expected MJO signal over Indian Ocean as well as Multi-Model Ensemble of WMO Lead Centres, average rainfall likely throughout the country during August 2019.

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.

References

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