



No SF-2022-01-R

Seasonal, Monthly and weekly Rainfall Forecasts for January-March 2022

Issued on 1st January 2022 by Seasonal forecasting Division of the Department of Meteorology, Sri Lanka.

This consensus climate outlook for January to March 2022 season over Sri Lanka has been developed through an expert assessment of the prevailing global climate conditions influencing the South Asian climate and seasonal forecasts from different climate models around the world. Currently La Niña conditions are prevailing in the tropical Pacific Ocean and it is expected to continue through winter 2021-2022 and return to neutral during spring. Neutral Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are prevailing over the Indian Ocean and likely to continue coming months in 2022. These parameters are known to influence the climate variability over Sri Lanka. Careful consideration is also given to other regional and global factors as well as the intraseasonal variability of the region that can affect the rainfall and temperature patterns over the country.

Seasonal Rainfall Forecast for January–March 2022(JFM)



Fig 1.Consensus Probabilistic Monthly rainfall forecast for JFM 2022

There is no clear signal to issue a forecast for the season of JFM 2022. As such there are equal probabilities of having above, near or below normal rainfalls, during JFM 2022 season (Fig. 1).

Monthly Rainfall Forecasts for January, February and March 2022




Month	Rainfall forecast
 <p style="text-align: center;">January 2022</p>	<p>Near normal rainfalls are likely over Uva and Eastern provinces and no signal for other areas, where there are equal probabilities of having above, near or below normal rainfall, during the month of January 2022.</p> <p>However there is a chance to develop wavy type disturbances over and vicinity of Sri Lanka, which could have enhanced the rainfall over the country, during the month of January.</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">February 2022</p>	<p>There is a possibility for near normal rainfalls over most parts during the month of February 2022.</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">March 2022</p>	<p>There is no clear signal to issue a forecast for the month of March 2022. As such there are equal probabilities of having above, near or below normal rainfalls, during March 2022.</p>

Fig 2.Monthly rainfall forecasts for January, February and March 2022

District wise normal (mean) rainfall values are indicated in annex -1)

The predictability is also limited due to strong day-to-day atmospheric variability caused by the passage of the synoptic scale systems such as lows and depressions as well as intraseasonal Oscillations such as Madden Julian Oscillations (MJO).

Weekly Rainfall forecasts for the month of January 2022


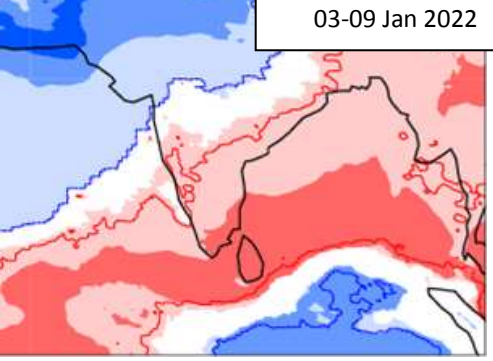
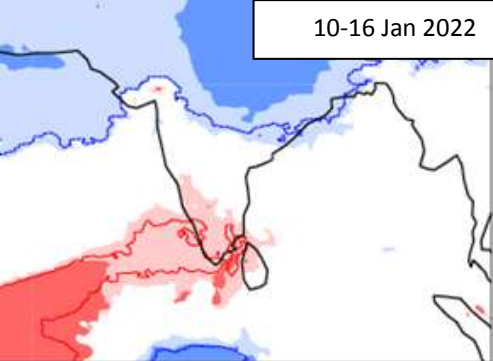
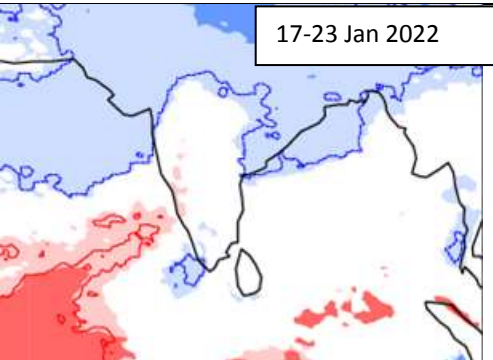
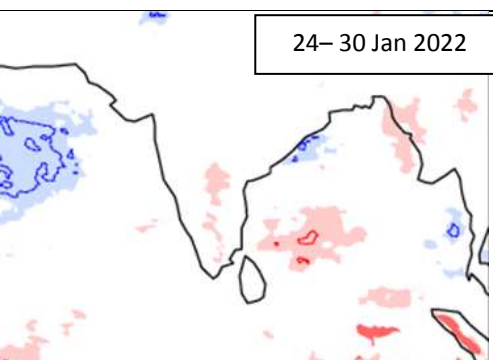
Weekly Rainfall anomaly Source – ECMWF Updated 30 th December 2021	
	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">03-09 Jan 2022</div> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rainfalls are expected to be lower than the normal (climatological average) over most parts of the country during this week. <p>However, showers are likely in Northern, Eastern, Northcentral and Uva provinces at any time of the day and afternoon thundershowers elsewhere.</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">10-16 Jan 2022</div> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slightly below normal rainfalls are likely over Northern, North central, Western and North western provinces.
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">17-23 Jan 2022</div> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal probabilities for below/Near/Above normal rainfalls over the country.
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">24– 30 Jan 2022</div> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal probabilities for below/Near/Above normal rainfalls over the country.

Fig 3. Weekly rainfall forecast for January 2022

Attention is requested for following areas

- General public are kindly requested to pay more attention for the instructions and advisories issued by authorized agencies particularly on agriculture, water sectors and weather related activities.
- Possibility of wave type disturbances over and vicinity of Sri Lanka, which could have enhanced rainfall over Sri Lanka.

Annex-1

District wise mean (30 years (1961-1990) of average) rainfalls during the months of January, February and March season.

District	Average rainfall- January (mm)	Average rainfall- February (mm)	Average rainfall- March(mm)
Colombo	77.2	89.7	169.5
Kalutara	122.7	119.3	219.6
Galle	127.0	118.2	210.1
Matara	125.2	99.7	173.1
Hambantota	70.9	63.7	85.9
Ampara	210.1	144.9	101.8
Batticaloa	194.3	121.9	83.0
Trincomalee	127.4	82.4	54.8
Mullaithivu	77.2	59.9	40.5
Jaffna	70.7	32.5	22.2
Killinochchi	76.7	50.3	30.2
Mannar	53.8	48.4	46.2
Puttalam	46.9	38.5	70.7
Gampaha	53.7	76.8	147.8
Kegalle	77.4	98.3	198.0
Ratnapura	117.0	117.9	219.0
Monaragala	129.7	110.4	115.7
Badulla	232.3	160.6	137.8
Pollonnaruwa	164.1	106.2	85.3
Vavuniya	74.2	53.7	48.9
Anuradapura	84.6	55.7	61.6
Kurunegala	63.5	62.5	95.2
Matale	202.0	121.5	104.3
Kandy	159.8	118.3	119.3
Nuwaraeliya	138.3	104.8	132.1

Table 01: 30 year Average (1961-1990) district wise rainfalls during the month of January, February and March

Table 01 shows the mean (30 year Average (1961-1990)) rainfalls during the month of January, February and March in each district.