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Seasonal, Monthly and weekly Rainfall Forecasts for October-December 2021

Issued on 3rd October 2021 by Seasonal forecasting Division of the Department of Meteorology, Sri Lanka.

This consensus climate outlook for the OND 2021 season over Sri Lanka has been developed through an assessment of the prevailing global climate conditions influencing the Sri Lankan climate and seasonal forecasts from different climate models around the world. Currently cool neutral ENSO conditions are prevailing over equatorial Pacific region and weak negative Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are prevailing over the Indian Ocean. These parameters are known to influence the climate variability over Sri Lanka. Latest forecasts from many climate models indicate that La Niña conditions are likely to re-emerge during October to December 2021 season and the negative IOD conditions are likely to weaken (SASCOF-20).

Seasonal Rainfall Forecast for October –December 2021(OND 2021)



Fig 1.Consensus Probabilistic Monthly rainfall forecast for OND 2021

Below normal rainfall is likely over most parts of the island with a slight possibility for near normal rainfall in extreme North of Sri Lanka (particularly over Jaffna and Kilinochchi districts) during OND 2021 season (Fig. 1)

Monthly Rainfall Forecasts for October, November and December 2021




Month	Rainfall forecast
 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">October 2021</div>	<p>There is a possibility for below normal rainfalls over most parts of the country during the month of October 2021.</p> <p>However, there is a possibility to develop low-pressure systems and depressions over and vicinity of Sri Lanka, which could enhance the rainfall over the country during the month of October.</p>
 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">November 2021</div>	<p>There is a possibility for below normal rainfalls over most parts of the country during the month of November 2021.</p> <p>However, there is a possibility to develop low-pressure systems and depressions over and vicinity of Sri Lanka, which could enhance the rainfall over the country during the month of November.</p>
 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">December 2021</div>	<p>There is no clear signal to provide forecast for the month of December 2021. Therefore, there are equal chances of receiving below normal, about normal or above normal rainfall over Sri Lanka during the month of December 2021.</p> <p>There is a possibility to develop low-pressure systems depressions and cyclones in the Bay of Bengal, which could enhance the rainfall over the country during the month of December.</p>

Fig 2.Monthly rainfall forecasts for September, October and November 2021

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

However, 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 September 2021

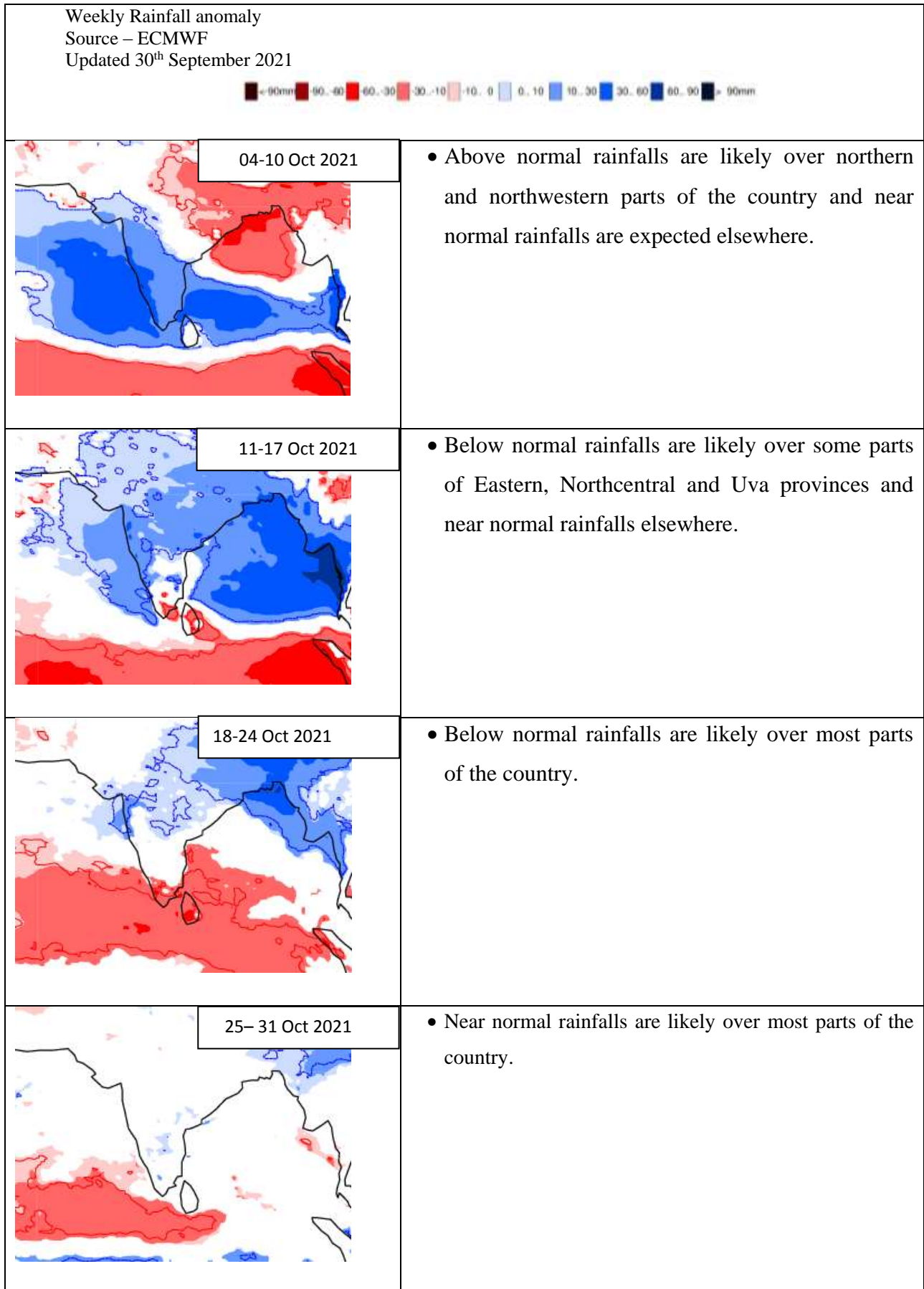


Fig 3. Weekly rainfall forecast for October 2021

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 for Lightning and temporally strong gusty winds associated with afternoon thunder showers
- Possibility of Low pressure, depression and cyclones in Bay of Bengal

Annex-1

District wise mean (30 years (1961-1990) of average) rainfalls during the months of October, November and December season.

District	Average rainfall- October (mm)	Average rainfall- November (mm)	Average rainfall- December(mm)
Colombo	391.7	340.8	191.7
Kalutara	463.7	403.1	258.0
Galle	420.3	378.9	239.6
Matara	328.2	352.7	219.9
Hambantota	174.3	222.5	159.2
Ampara	172.3	271.9	350.5
Batticaloa	182.2	303.2	388.0
Trincomalee	208.1	303.1	335.6
Mullaithivu	200.8	312.5	291.0
Jaffna	227.4	324.8	257.4
Killinochchi	211.0	329.6	274.0
Mannar	185.3	242.8	206.4
Puttalam	231.2	233.2	126.2
Gampaha	362.5	313.1	141.1
Kegalle	460.9	394.1	188.5
Ratnapura	371.5	370.2	231.5
Monaragala	237.4	289.6	253.5
Badulla	270.9	327.3	356.1
Pollonnaruwa	217.7	292.9	369.5
Vavuniya	228.2	272.3	256.7
Anuradapura	226.1	240.4	232.8
Kurunegala	288.6	270.1	150.2
Matale	260.4	309.0	357.7
Kandy	309.7	342.5	308.8
Nuwaraeliya	315.6	305.9	250.1

Table 01: 30 year Average (1961-1990) district wise rainfalls during the month of October, November and December

Table 01 shows the mean (30 year Average (1961-1990)) rainfalls during the month of October, November and December in each district.