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No SF-09

## Monthly and weekly Rainfall Forecasts for September 2020

Issued on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 by Seasonal forecasting Division of the Department of Meteorology, Sri Lanka.

According to the global numerical model outputs and prevailing atmospheric conditions, following monthly and weekly rainfall forecasts are prepared.

### **Monthly Rainfall Forecast for September 2020**

Above normal rainfalls are likely over most parts of the country during the month of September 2020. Enhanced showery condition is expected during the first week of the month, particularly over southwestern part of the country.

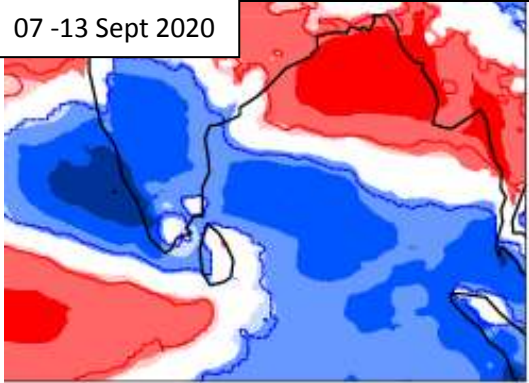
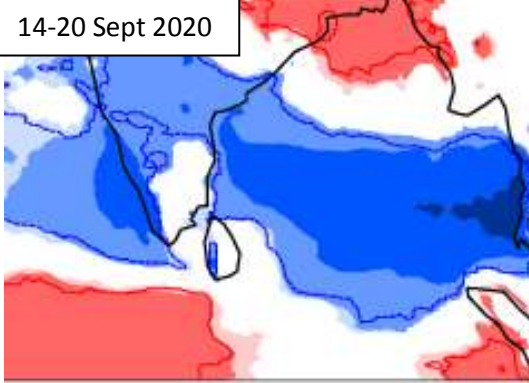
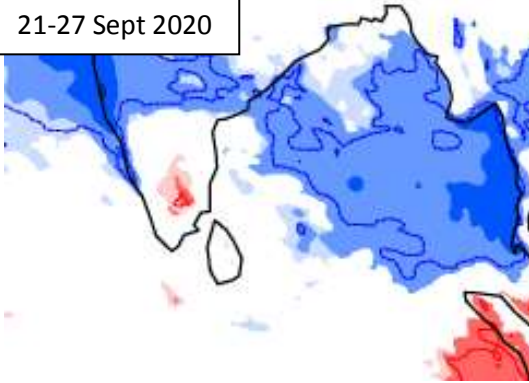
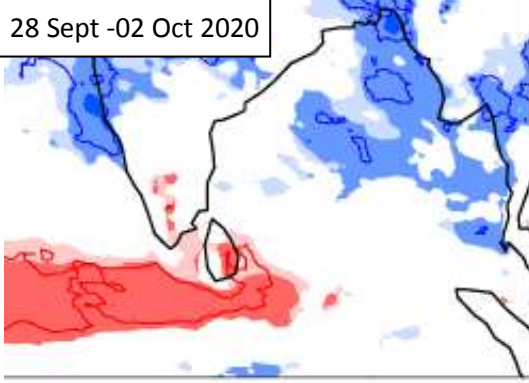
(District wise normal (mean) rainfall values are indicated in annex -1)

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, depressions and intraseasonal Oscillations such as Madden Julian Oscillations (MJO).



Fig 1.Consensus Probabilistic Monthly rainfall forecast for September2020

## Weekly Rainfall forecasts for the month of September 2020

<p>07 -13 Sept 2020</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Above normal rainfalls are likely in Western and Sabaragamuwa provinces and in Puttalam and Jaffna districts and near normal rainfalls elsewhere.</li> <li>• Afternoon thundershowers are possible at some places, particularly in Central, Uva Sabaragamuwa, Western and Eastern provinces and in Jaffna district</li> <li>• Morning showers are also possible in SW coastal areas.</li> <li>• <b>Temporally strong gusty wind and lightning activities are possible during thundershowers</b></li> </ul>
<p>14-20 Sept 2020</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Above normal rainfalls are likely in Western and Sabaragamuwa provinces and in Galle and Jaffna districts and near normal rainfalls elsewhere.</li> <li>• Afternoon thundershowers are possible at some places in Central, Uva Sabaragamuwa, and Western provinces and in Jaffna, Galle and Matara districts.</li> <li>• Morning showers are also possible in SW coastal areas.</li> <li>• <b>Temporally strong gusty wind and lightning activities are possible during thundershowers</b></li> </ul>
<p>21-27 Sept 2020</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Near Normal rainfalls are likely over most parts</li> <li>• Afternoon thundershowers are possible in central and Sabaragamuwa, provinces and in Anuradhapura and Vavniya districts</li> </ul>
<p>28 Sept -02 Oct 2020</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Below normal rainfalls are likely Eastern, Northcentral and Uva provinces and near normal elsewhere.</li> </ul>

## Seasonal Rainfall forecast September- November 2020



Fig 2.Consensus Probabilistic Monthly rainfall forecast for September- November2020

Considering the prevailing global climate conditions, forecasts from different global climate models and statistical downscaling of GCM output using Climate Predictability Tool, consensus rainfall forecast for September- October 2020 three months period is **below normal** over Sri Lanka.

## Observed rainfall anomaly during the month of August 2020

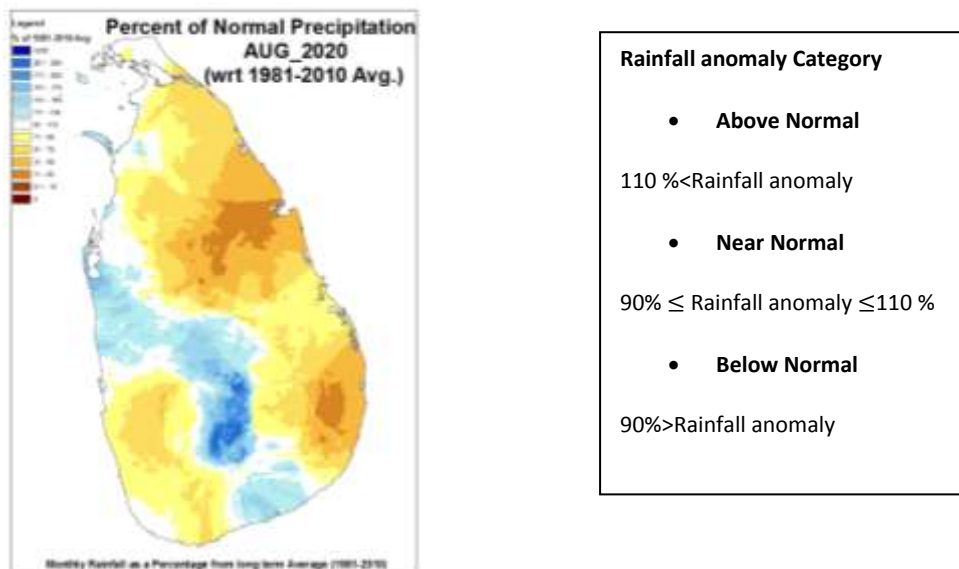


Fig 3: Observed rainfall anomaly during month of August 2020

According to the available rainfall data in Department of Meteorology, below normal rainfalls were reported over most parts of the country except some parts in Northwestern, Central and Sabaragamuwa provinces and in Hambantota district, where they received about or above normal rainfalls during the month of August 2020.

## Probabilistic Temperature Forecast for September 2020

The probabilistic Temperature forecasts in Sri Lanka for September 2020 as given below.



Fig 4:



Fig 5:

Figure 4 shows the Probabilistic forecast for Maximum Temperatures in Sri Lanka during September 2020. Accordingly, there is a chance of experiencing slightly above the normal Maximum(day) temperatures in Kurunegala and Hambantota Districts and below normal Maximum temperatures in Colombo, Gampaha, Galle, Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, Trincomalee, Badulla, Ampara, Kandy and Nuwaraeliya districts for the month of September 2020.

Figure 5 shows the Probabilistic forecast for Minimum(night) temperature forecast for Sri Lanka during September 2020. Accordingly, there is a chance of experiencing slightly above the normal Minimum Temperatures in Vavuniya, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Ampara, Hambantota, Galle, Ratnapura, Kandy, Nuwaraeliya, Colombo, Gampaha, Kurunegala, Puttalam and Mannar districts and below the normal Minimum temperatures in Badulla District for the month of September 2020.

Table 1 and 2 provide district wise probabilistic forecasts for Maximum and Minimum temperatures during September 2020 respectively. 30 years of average of Maximum and Minimum Temperatures during September is given in the column 2 and the chance (probability) of receiving below/about/above average is given in the columns 3, 4, and 5 respectively in the table 1 and table 2.

Table 1: probabilistic forecast for Maximum Temperature for September2020

District	Average Maximum Temperature (°C) – (September)	Probability %		
		Below	Normal	Above
Anuradhapura	33.1	40	30	30
Badulla	30.1	40	30	30
Batticaloa	32.2	35	30	35
Colombo	30.2	40	30	30
Galle	28.5	45	25	30
Hambantota	29.9	25	30	45
Katugastota	28.3	45	25	30
Katunayake	30.6	40	30	30
Mannar	30.8	35	35	30
MahaIlluppallama	33.1	40	30	30
NuwaraEliya	19.2	45	25	30
Pottuvil	33.6	45	30	25
Puttalam	31.6	40	30	30
Ratnapura	30.9	30	35	35
Ratmalana	30.2	40	30	30
Trincomalee	34.0	45	30	25
Vavuniya	33.6	45	35	20
Kurunegala	31.4	35	25	40
Bandarawela	25.3	40	30	30

Table 2: Probabilistic forecast for Minimum Temperatures for September2020

District	Average Minimum Temperature (°C) – (September)	Probability %		
		Below	Normal	Above
Anuradhapura	23.3	25	30	45
Badulla	18.6	50	20	30
Batticaloa	24.3	25	30	45
Colombo	24.0	25	25	50
Galle	24.1	25	30	45
Hambantota	24.1	30	30	40
Katugastota	20.1	25	30	45
Katunayake	23.5	30	30	40
Mannar	25.3	30	25	45
MahaIlluppallama	23.0	25	30	45
NuwaraEliya	11.9	35	25	40
Pottuvil	24.8	30	30	40
Puttalam	24.1	30	25	45
Ratnapura	22.9	30	25	45
Ratmalana	23.7	30	30	50
Trincomalee	24.7	35	20	45
Vavuniya	23.0	35	20	45
Kurunegala	22.8	25	30	45
Bandarawela	15.8	45	20	35

**Note: Temperature forecasts are not available for Kegalle, Matara, Matale, Mulative, Kilinochchi, Polonnaruwa, Monaragala, Jaffana, and Kalutara districts due to unavailability of long term temperature observation data.**

### **Attention is requested for following areas**

- Flood and Landslides in Southwestern parts.
- Strong gusty winds are possible during thundershowers.
- Prevention of severe Lightning activities.
- Water conservation and management activities Northern, Eastern, Northcentral and Uva provinces.

## Annex-1

### District wise mean (30 years (1961-1990) of average) rainfalls during the month of September.

<b>District</b>	<b>Average rainfall (mm) –(September)</b>
Colombo	289.7
Kalutara	388.1
Galle	341.2
Matara	258.6
Hambantota	72.4
Ampara	77.2
Batticaloa	86.6
Trincomalee	109.9
Mullaithivu	83.4
Jaffna	63.0
Killinochchi	60.9
Mannar	46.1
Puttalam	67.5
Gampaha	232.3
Kegalle	360.6
Ratnapura	284.1
Monaragala	83.8
Badulla	118.2
Pollonnaruwa	100.3
Vavuniya	97.5
Anuradapura	83.0
Kurunegala	116.6
Matale	94.3
Kandy	189.6
Nuwaraeliya	250.8

Table-01. 30 year Average (1961-1990) district wise rainfalls during the month of September.

Table 01 shows the mean (30 year Average (1961-1990)) rainfalls during the month of September in each districts and it is kindly informed that it is not the expected rainfalls amounts for each districts during September 2020.This is provided for your references.