Probabilistic Rainfall Forecast for March 2017

The probabilistic rainfall forecast for March 2017 for Sri Lanka as given below.

The district wise average rainfall is given in the column 2 of the table 1. Chance (probability) of receiving below/about/above average is given in the columns 3, 4, and 5 respectively in the table 1.

Near normal rainfall can be expected for all districts for March 2017

Figure 2 represents the weekly rainfall anomaly forecast for March 2017 from Japanese Meteorological Administration (JMA) model. Positive rainfall anomaly can be expected for first week starting from 01 March to 08 March and negative rainfall anomaly can be expected for second weeks starting from 09 March to 15 March. Near normal rainfall can be expected for last two weeks. According to the monthly rainfall anomaly forecast for March 2017 from JMA model (Fig 3), slightly positive rainfall anomaly can be expected over Sri Lanka for March 2017.

Figure 4 represents the multi-model ensemble probabilistic rainfall forecast for March 2017 from Forecast Customization System (FOCUS) for Sri Lanka developed by Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning SystemRIMES.According to the FOCUS, above normal rainfall can be expected for intermediate zone for March 2017 and there is no signal for other 2 zones.

The probabilistic rainfall forecast for March 2017 for Sri Lanka as given below.

District	Average rainfall (mm) – (March)	Probability %		
		Below	Normal	Above
Colombo	169.5	35	40	25
Kalutara	219.6	30	45	25
Galle	210.1	30	45	25
Matara	173.1	30	45	25
Hambantota	85.9	30	45	25
Ampara	101.8	35	40	25
Batticaloa	83.0	35	40	25
Trincomalee	54.8	35	40	25
Mullaithivu	40.5	35	40	25
Jaffna	22.2	35	40	25
Killinochchi	30.2	35	40	25
Mannar	46.2	30	45	25
Puttalam	70.7	30	45	25
Gampaha	147.8	30	45	25
Kegalle	198.0	30	45	25
Ratnapura	219.0	30	45	25
Monaragala	115.7	30	45	25
Badulla	137.8	30	45	25
Pollonnaruwa	85.3	30	45	25
Vavuniya	48.9	35	40	25
Anuradapura	61.6	35	40	25
Kurunegala	95.2	35	40	25
Matale	104.3	35	40	25
Kandy	119.3	35	40	25
Nuwaraeliya	132.1	30	45	25

Table 1
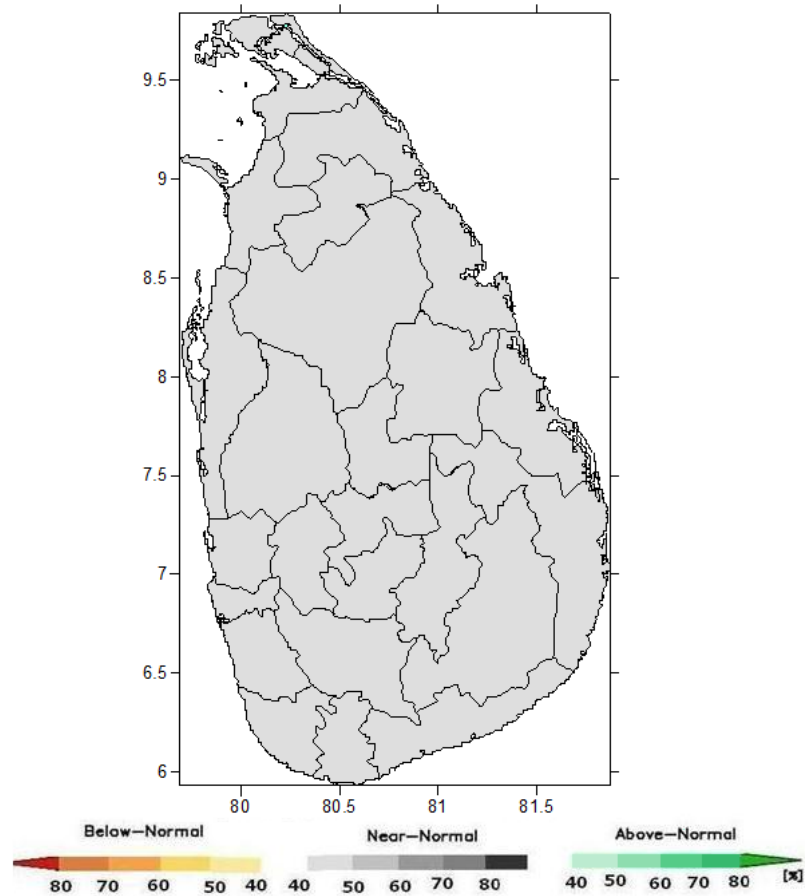
Fig 1. Probabilistic rainfall forecast for March 2017
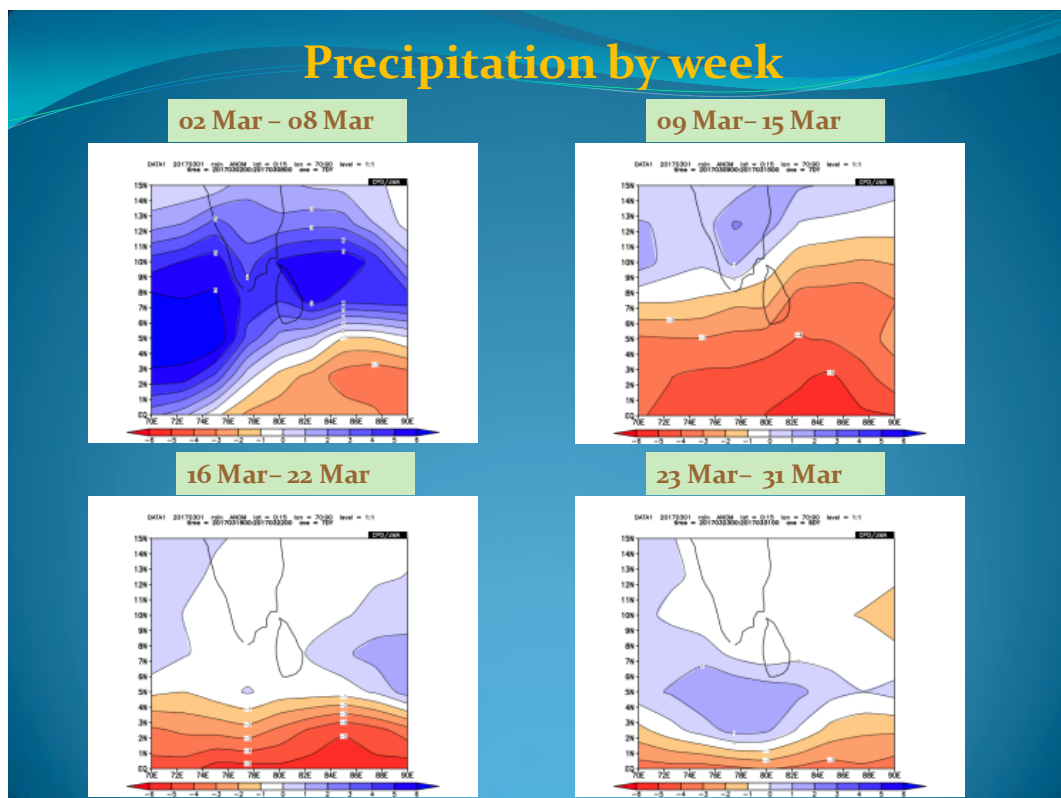

Fig 2.Weekly Rainfall anomaly forecast for March2017 (01March- 07March, Upper left), (08March- 14March, Upper right), (15March- 21March, Lower left), and (22March - 28March, Lower right) from JMA
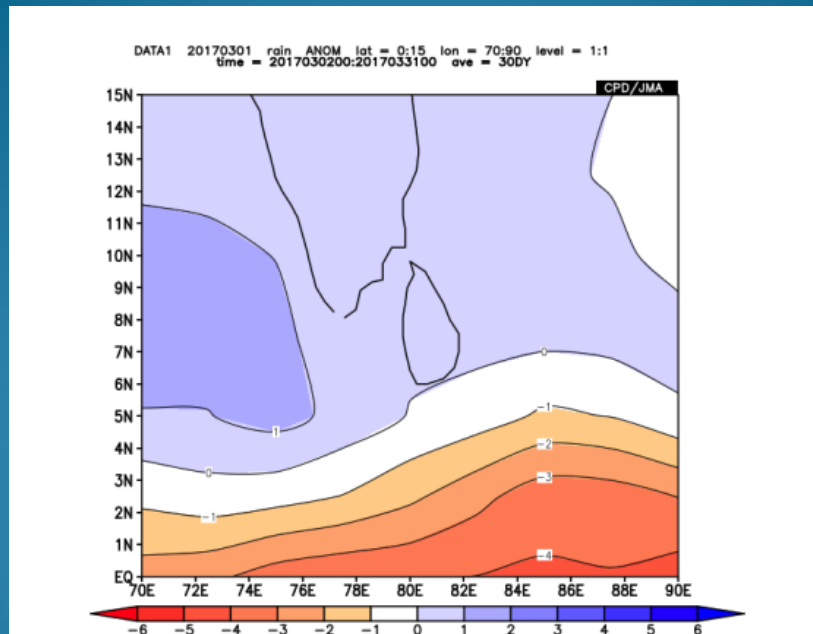
Fig 3. Rainfall anomaly forecast for March 2017 (mm/day) from JMA model
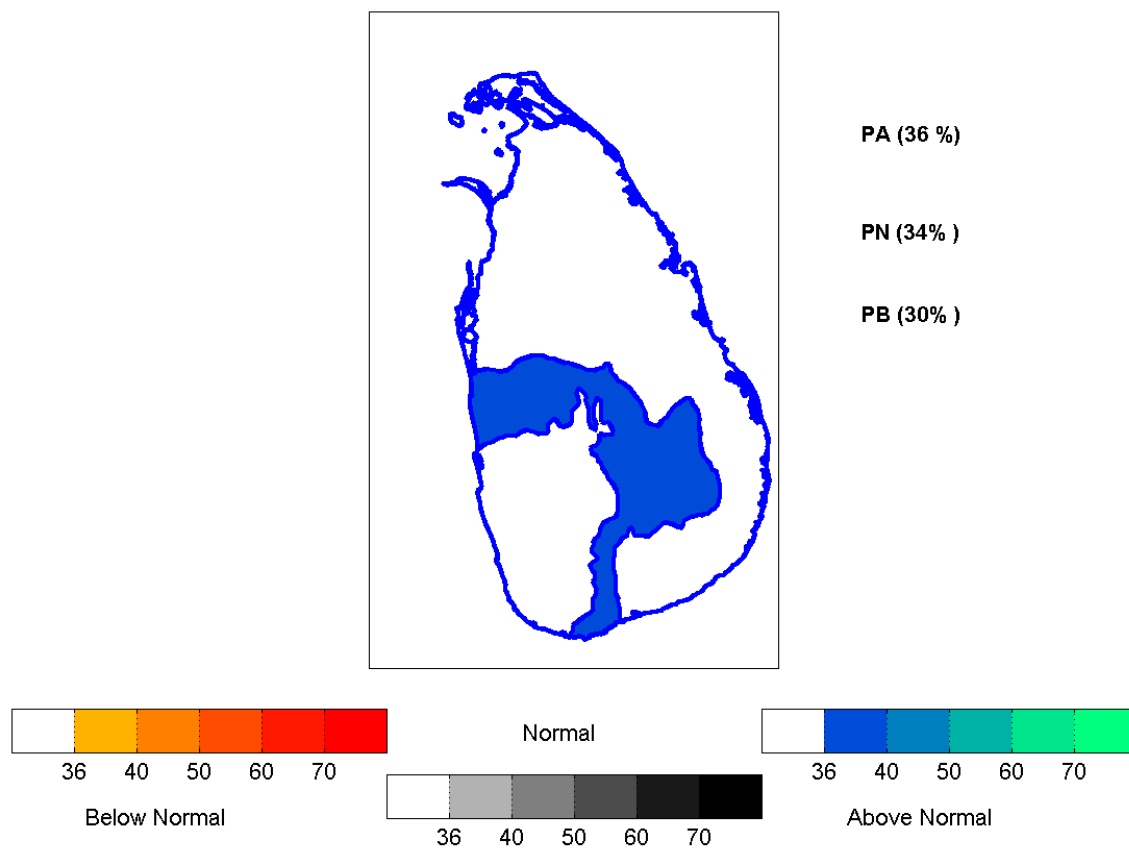

Fig 4. Multi-model ensemble probabilistic forecast for March 2017 from RIMES Forecast Customization