

Weekly Weather Summary

15 -21 January 2021

1. Rainfall

Northeast monsoon conditions were continued over the country, but northeasterly wind flow was not much stronger during this week. Some showers had been reported in Uva province and Batticaloa, Trincomalee and Polonnaruwa districts and some pockets of Potuvil and Hambantota areas during this week. And isolated afternoon thunder showers were reported from Galle, Rathnapura, Kaluthara, Matara and Gampaha districts in some days. It was enhanced on 16th and 18th January and heavy rainfall was reported from Rathnapura and Kaluthara respectively.

Light to moderate or moderate showers had been reported from some hydro catchment areas on last three days of the week.

Highest daily (24 hour) rainfall, 135.5 mm was reported from Opanayake (Rathnapura district) on 16th January. Highest weekly total rainfall, 196.0 mm was reported at Baddegama during this week.

Figure 1 represents total rainfall during this week and Figure 2 reported daily highest rainfall, daily maximum and minimum temperatures during this week respectively. Table 1 represents weekly total rainfall at main meteorological stations, catchment areas and reported highest weekly total rainfall at some rainfall stations.

**TOTAL RAINFALL
FROM 15th TO 22nd JANUARY OF 2021**

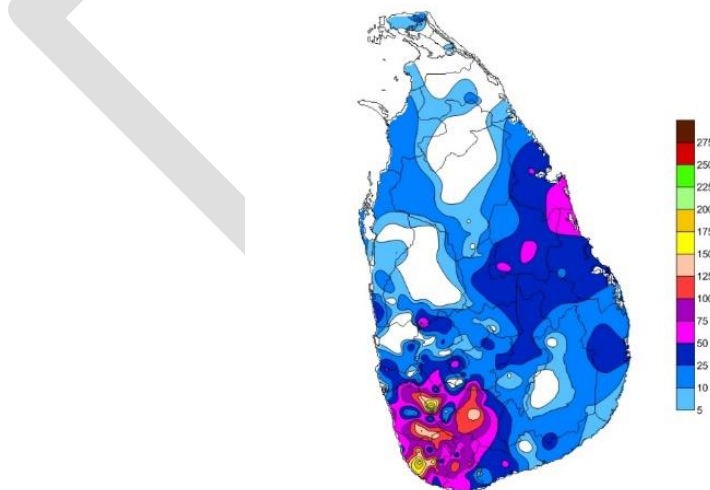


Figure 1: Total rainfall (mm) during the week

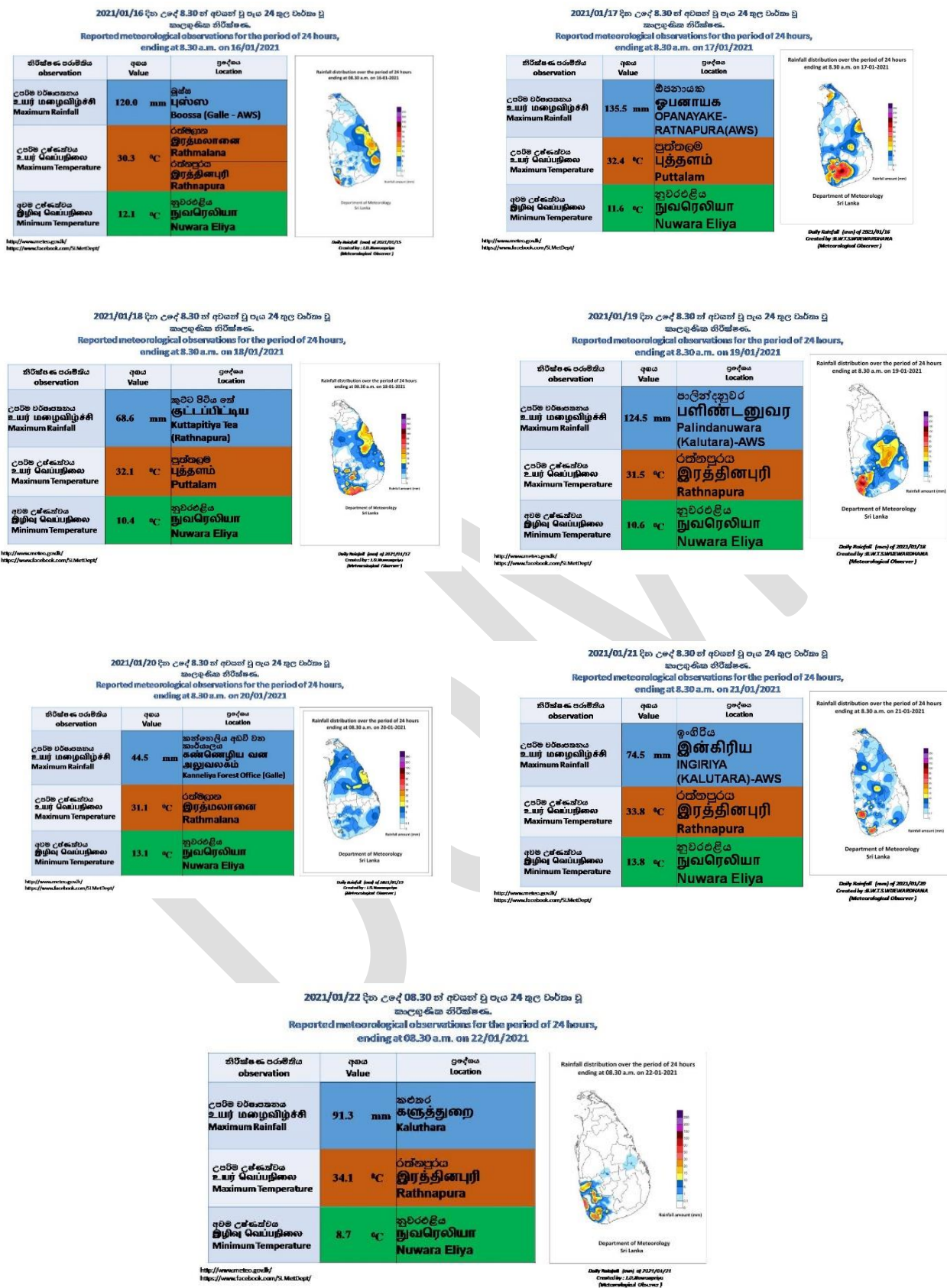


Figure 2. Daily Rainfall (mm) and maximum and minimum temperatures (°C) during the week.

Main Meteorological Stations	Rainfall (mm)
Anuradhapura	1.9
Badulla	14.3
Bandarawela	6.4
Batticaloa	20.2
Colombo	13.9
Galle	76.5
Hambanthota	0.6
Jaffna	4.6
Monaragala	19.9
Katugasthota	7.1
Katunayake	1.7
Kurunagala	0.6
Maha Illuppallama	12.7
Mannar	22.8
Polonnaruwa	55.5
Nuwara Eliya	11.9
Pothuvil	7.7
Puttalam	5.8
Rathmalana	6.8
Rathnapura	92.4
Trincomalee	49.8
Vavuniya	1.4
Mattla	6.6

Hydro-Catchment Areas	
Station	Rainfall (mm)
Castlereigh	21.1
Norton	21.0
Maussakele	35.1
Canyon	39.0
Lakshapana	27.3
Upper Kotmale	16.7
Kotmale	5.3
Victoriya	4.8
Randenigala	17.2
Rantambe	20.8
Bowatenna	36.7
Ukuwela	20.0
Samanala Wawa	71.0
Kukuleganaga	85.0
Maskeliya	49.0
Neboda	0.0

Other Rainfall Stations	
Station	Rainfall (mm)
Baddegama	196.0
Poddiwela Farm	171.3
Ilubuluwa Estate	149.0
Monrovia	123.7
Batuwangala	118.0
Hiniduma	116.0
Kuttapitiya Tea Factory	112.5
Mathugama	104.7
Kalutara	104.0
Deniyaya	94.5

Table-01 Total weekly Rainfall (mm) at Main Meteorological stations, hydro catchment areas and other rainfall stations during the week.

2. Temperature

2.1 Maximum temperature

The highest day time (maximum) temperature, 34.1 °C was reported from Rathnapura on 21st January (Fig 3.a). Nuwara Eliya was reported its highest maximum temperature 21.1⁰C, on 20th as well.

Below normal maximum temperatures were reported at all most all stations on 17th, 20th and 21st (Fig 3.b). Weekly highest positive anomaly of maximum temperature, 3.7⁰C reported at Katugastota on 21st. Further, same station has been reported highest negative anomaly of maximum temperature as, 5.0⁰C at on 15th January.

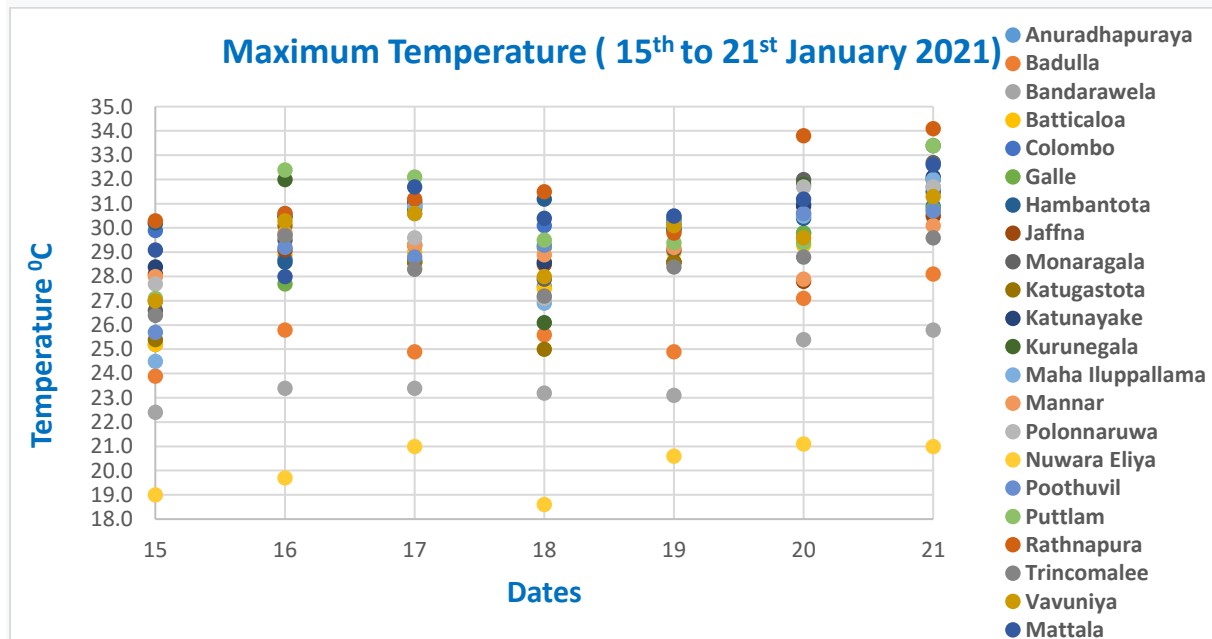


Fig 3.a: maximum temperature

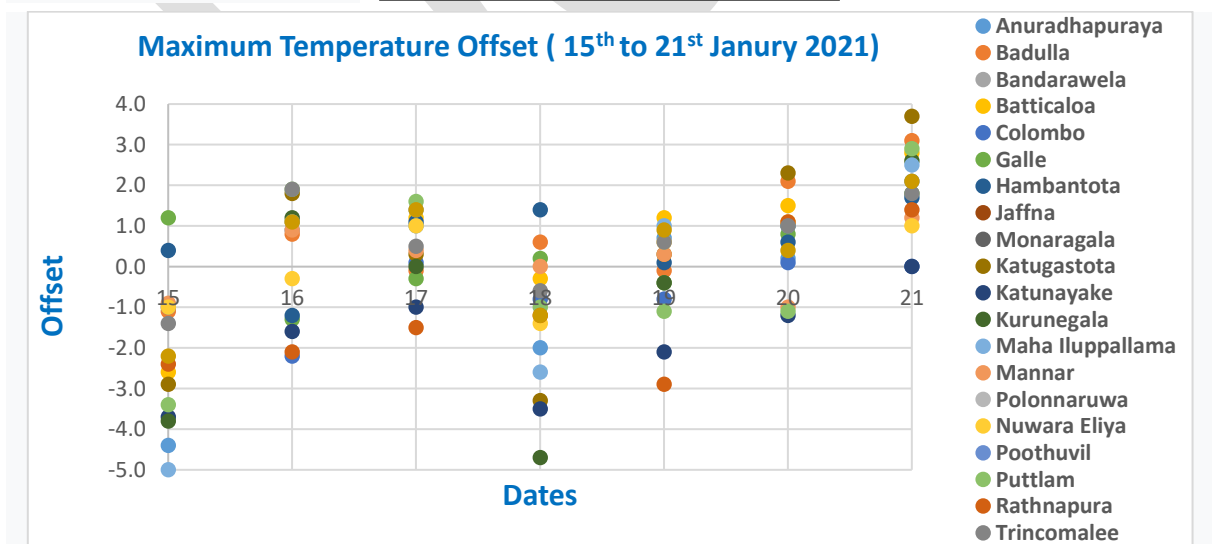


Fig 3.b: maximum temperature anomaly

Figure 3. Maximum temperatures (°C) and anomalies (°C) during the week

2.2 Minimum temperature

The weekly lowest minimum temperature, 10.4 °C was reported as usual from Nuwara-Eliya station on 18th January. The weekly highest minimum temperature 25.5 °C, was reported at Mannar on 17th and 18th (Fig 4.a). Further, Galle station had been reported 25.5 °C on 21st. Except of 19th, above normal minimum temperatures had been reported from all most all main Meteorological stations throughout the week. Highest positive anomaly of minimum temperature 4.5 °C was reported at Vavuniya (Fig 4.b) on 21st. Highest negative anomaly of minimum temperature, 2.2 °C was reported at Trincomalee on 19th.

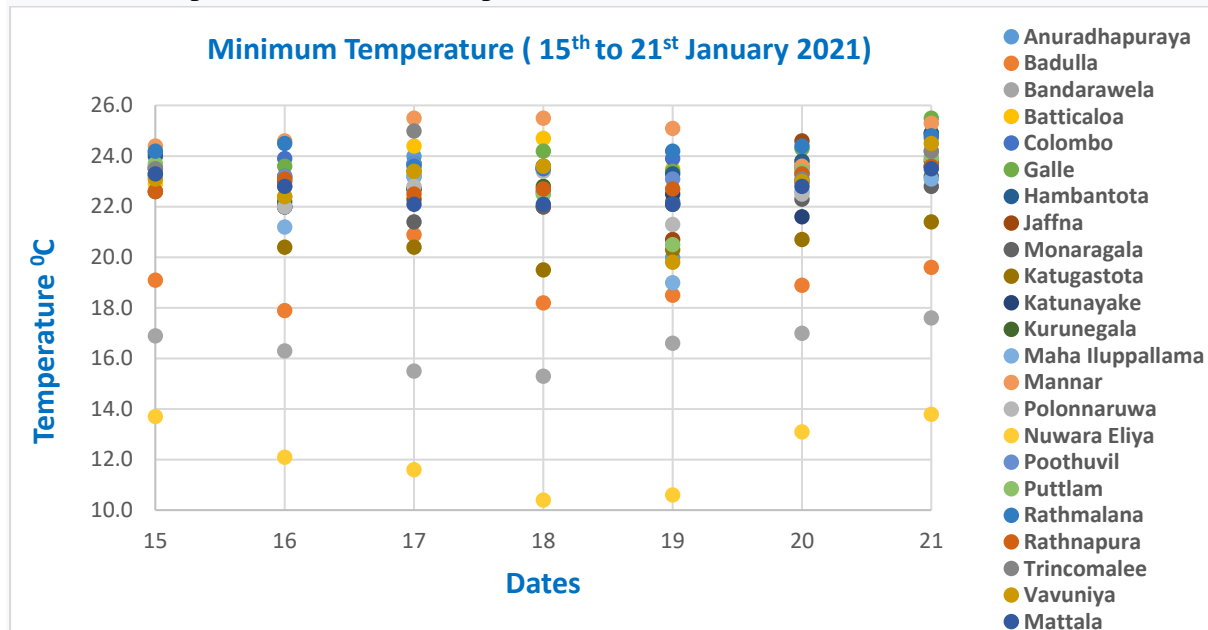


Fig 4.a: minimum temperature

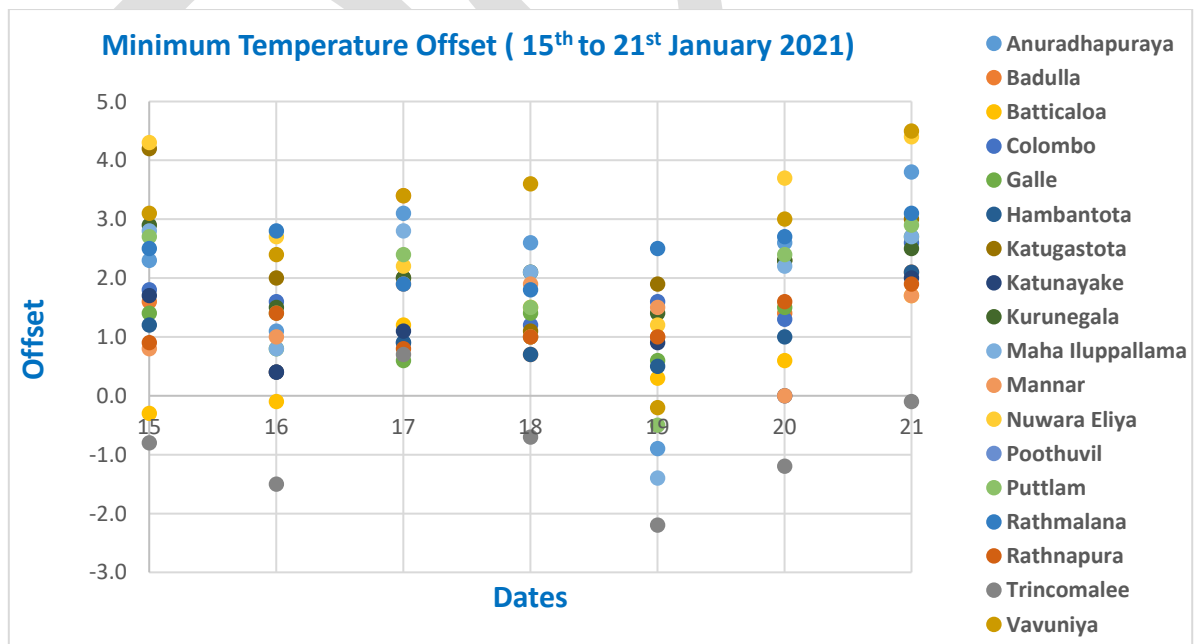


Fig 4.b: anomaly of minimum temperature

Figure 4. Minimum temperatures (°C) and anomalies (°C) during the week

3. Wind

Light to moderate northeasterly surface winds were prevailed over the Island during this week.

Upper winds at 850hPa:

Northeasterly to southeasterly (10-20 kts) winds were prevailed over the Island during this week at 850hpa. Northwest-Southeast oriented trough axis over southern sea area.

Easterly weekly average winds were prevailed over the island (Figure 5.a) at 850hpa during this week. Northeasterly, dry climatological (Figure 5.b) wind pattern is prevailed over the Island during this week. There was South-southwesterly slightly moist wind anomaly (Figure 5.c) was prevailed at 850hpa.

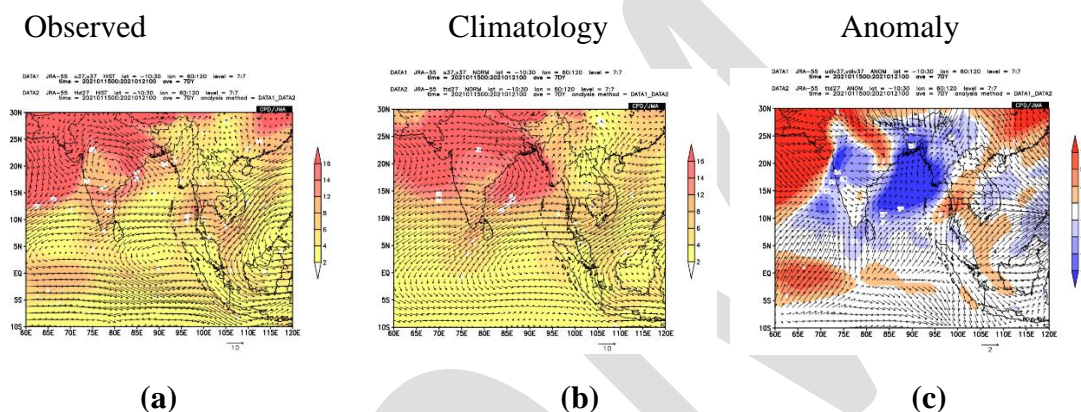


Figure 5: wind pattern with dewpoint departures at 850hpa

Upper winds at 700hPa:

Prevailed Northerly to Northeasterly winds (10-15kts) were changed as Easterly on 19th over the Island at 700hpa. Anticyclonic circulation over the India land till 19th and then it was moved to the central Bay of Bengal as well. And, there was northwest-southeast oriented trough axis over the southern sea area at 700hpa.

Northeasterly to easterly dry weekly averaged Observed winds were prevailed over the country during this week (Figure 6.a). Easterly dry climatological (Figure 6.b) winds are prevailed at 700hPa level during this week. And Northerly moist wind anomaly (Figure 6.c) was prevailed over the country at 700hpa.

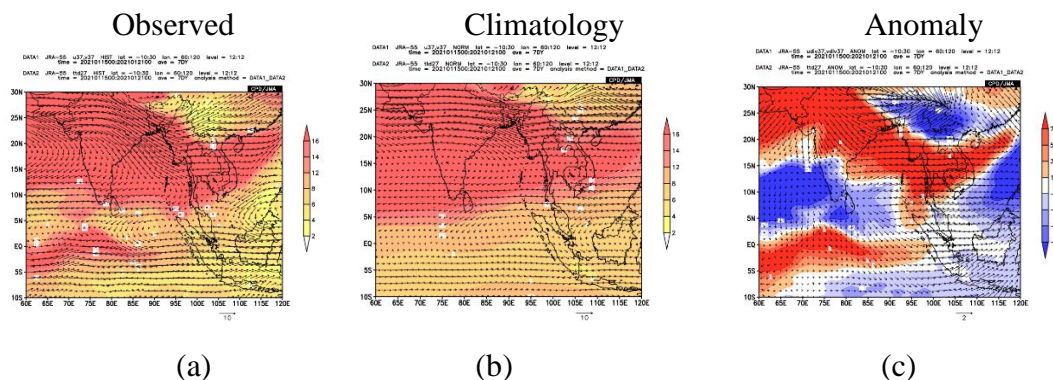


Figure 6: wind pattern with dewpoint departures at 700hpa

Upper winds at 500hPa:

Northeasterly to Easterly (15-30kts) winds were prevailed during the first two days of the week at 500hpa. And northwest-southeast oriented trough axis over to the south of Sri Lanka. Mild circulation over southwestern and southeastern areas on 17th and 18th. Winds were strong on 19th January onwards.

Easterly, dry weekly observed (Figure 7.a) winds were over the island during this week at 500hpa. The climatological wind pattern is Easterly and dry (Figure 7.b). However, north-westerly moist wind anomaly (Figure 7.c) was prevailed over the Island at 500hpa during this week.

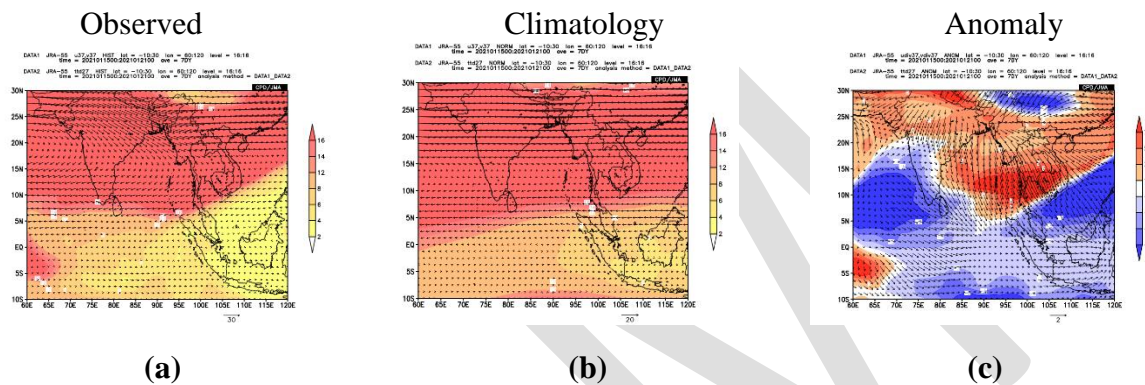


Figure 7: wind pattern with dewpoint departures at 500hpa

Remarks:

Rainfall (mm)		Winds (knots)		Pressure distribution (hpa)		Pressure gradient (hpa)	
Light	: 00-12.5	Light	:00-05	Even	:0.0-0.4	Mild	: 1.0-1.9
Light to moderate: 12.5-25.0		Light to moderate :05-10		Fairly even: 0.5-0.9		Moderate : 2.0-2.9	
Moderate	: 25.0-50.0	Moderate	:10-15			Steep	: 3.0-3.9
Fairly heavy	: 50.0-100.0	Fresh	:15-20			Very steep	:4.0-4.9
Heavy	: 100.0-150.0	Strong	:20-30				
Very heavy	: 150 and over	Very strong	:30 and over				