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Seasonal, Monthly and weekly Rainfall Forecasts for April-June 2024

Issued on 4th April 2024 by Seasonal forecasting Division of the Department of Meteorology, Sri Lanka.

This consensus Climate Outlook for April to June 2024 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. A transition from El Niño to ENSO-neutral is expected by April-June season 2024, with ENSO-neutral persisting through May-July 2024. Thereafter, La Niña is favored in June-August, and chances increase through the October-December season. Most global climate models suggest IOD values will remain neutral until at least April. Beyond this time, models tend towards a positive IOD. 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 April–June 2024(AMJ)

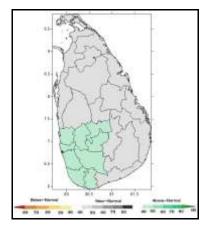


Fig 1. Consensus Probabilistic Monthly rainfall forecast for AMJ 2024

Above normal rainfalls are likely over Southwestern parts and near normal rainfalls are likely elsewhere of the country during April- June 2024 season (Fig.01).

Monthly Rainfall Forecasts for April, May and June 2024

Month	Rainfall forecast	
April 2024	There is a higher chance of having near normal rainfall over Western, Southern, Sabaragamuwa, Central and Uva provinces and there is no clear signal indicated for the remaining areas of the country. Accordingly, there is an equal probability for below or near or above normal rainfall over these area during the month of April 2024.	
May 2024	There is a higher chance of having above normal rainfalls over Southwestern parts and near normal rainfalls over elsewhere of the country during the month of May 2024. In addition to that, generally there is a possibility for developing atmospheric disturbances, low-pressure systems and cyclones in the vicinity of Sri Lanka during the latter part of the month of May.	
June 2024	There is a chance of having above normal rainfalls over Southwestern parts and near normal rainfalls over elsewhere of the country during the month of June 2024	

Fig 2.Monthly rainfall forecasts for April, May and June 2024

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 April 2024

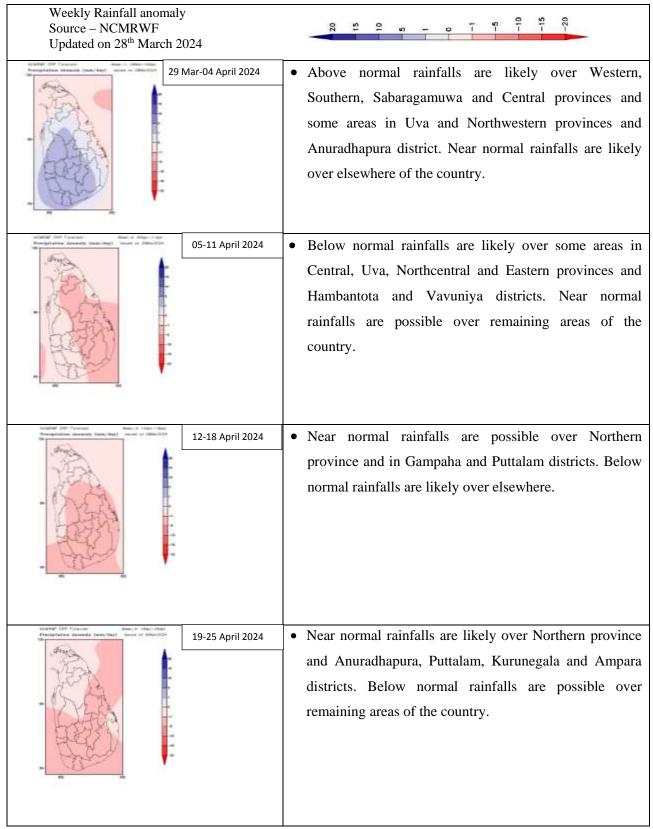


Fig 3.Weekly rainfall forecast for April 2024

Attention is requested for following areas

- More attention for the instructions and advisories issued by authorized agencies particularly related to extreme weather and water management.
- Generally there is a possibility for developing atmospheric disturbances, low pressure areas or depressions over and vicinity of Sri Lanka during the latter half of the month of May
- Floods and Landslides are also possible during the month of May and June.

Annex-1 District wise mean (30 years (1981-2010) of average) rainfalls during the months of April, May and June

	Average rainfall-	Average rainfall-	Average rainfall-
District	April (mm)	May (mm)	June(mm)
Colombo	273.8	348.9	237.6
Kalutara	333.4	477.9	341.0
Galle	291.3	408.0	296.6
Matara	231.8	274.0	234.0
Hambantota	109.3	73.6	45.2
Ampara	85.9	50.2	24.2
Batticaloa	64.8	43.9	23.1
Trincomalee	65.4	54.0	17.8
Mullaithivu	69.2	53.4	19.7
Jaffna	46.0	42.2	17.0
Killinochchi	64.2	43.2	15.4
Mannar	110.1	51.2	14.5
Puttalam	150.6	106.2	44.8
Gampaha	234.7	284.9	194.4
Kegalle	334.0	363.3	353.3
Ratnapura	323.3	321.1	279.8
Monaragala	149.4	83.3	27.0
Badulla	193.4	107.0	37.7
Pollonnaruwa	101.4	59.7	11.8
Vavuniya	96.8	59.2	22.8
Anuradapura	126.3	67.0	16.8
Kurunegala	197.1	121.4	76.6
Matale	167.2	91.4	45.7
Kandy	193.1	147.8	159.0
Nuwaraeliya	221.6	246.2	287.0

Table 01: 30 year Average (1981-2010) district wise rainfalls during the month of April, May and June

Table 01 shows the mean (30 year Average (1981-2010)) rainfalls during the month of April, May and June in each district.