All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology CRIDA, Santoshnagar, Hyderabad – 500 059

Daily Crop Weather Information as on 14 March 2018

Attention: Rajiv Maheshwari, OSD, ICAR

Significant Weather Features (IMD)

- The depression over southeast Arabian sea moved northwestwards with speed of about 14 kmph during past 06 hours and lay centred at 0830 hours IST of today, the 14th March 2018 over southeast Arabian sea near Latitude 7.5°N and Longitude 74.0°E, about 130 km southeast of Minicoy, 340 km west southwest of Thiruvananthapuram and 380 km north northeast of Male (Maldives). It is likely to move northwestwards and maintain the intensify of depression during next 24 hours. There is low probability for further intensification of the system into deep depression. It is likely to weaken gradually over southeast and adjoining eastcentral Arabian Sea after 24 hours.
- Thunderstorm observed at isolated places over Assam & Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura, Kerala and Lakshadweep from 1130 hours IST of yesterday to 0830 hours IST of today.
- The images showing the latest satellite picture in figure. 1.

Main Weather Observations (IMD)

- Rainfall recorded (0830 hours IST of yesterday to 0830 hours IST of today): Rain / snow observed at a few places over Jammu & Kashmir. Rain / thundershowers observed at most places over Kerala & Lakshadweep; at many places over Tamilnadu; at a few places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura and at isolated places over Assam & Meghalaya.
- Maximum temperature departures as on 13032018: Maximum temperatures were markedly above normal (5.1°C or more) at most places over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi; at a few places over Uttarakhand and Punjab; at isolated places over West Rajasthan; appreciably above normal (3.1°C to 5.0°C) at most places over East Rajasthan; at many places over Madhya Pradesh; at a few places over Gangetic West Bengal, Odisha and Vidarbha; above normal (1.6°C to 3.0°C) at most places over Konkan & Goa and Coastal Karnataka; at many places over Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand; at a few places over Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Maharashtra, Sub Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim and Bihar. They were appreciably below normal (1.6°C to 3.0°C) at a few places over Tamilnadu & Puducherry and Assam & Meghalaya and near normal over rest parts of the country.

- Yesterday, the highest maximum temperature of 39.6°C recorded at Kothagudem (Telangana) over the country.
- Minimum temperature departures as on 14.03.2018: Minimum temperatures are markedly above normal (5.0°C or more) at many places over Punjab; at a few places over Jammu & Kashmir; appreciably above normal (3.1°C to 5.0°C) at many places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, Rajasthan, Marathawada, Rayalaseema & Bihar; at a few places over rest Jammu & Kashmir, West Uttar Pradesh & West Madhya Pradesh; above normal (1.6°C to 3.0°C) at most places over Coastal Karnataka, Konkan & Goa; at many places over Sub Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Gujarat region, Madhya Maharashtra, Vidarbha, South Interior Karnataka, Tamilnadu & Pudducherry; at a few places over rest Uttar Pradesh, North Interior Karnataka, Andaman & Nicobar Islands. They are below normal (1.6°C to 3.0°C) at a few places over Coastal Andhra Pradesh; at isolated places over Assam & Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura, Odisha, Saurashtra & Kutch and near normal over rest parts of the country.
- The lowest minimum temperature of 13.0°C recorded at Rewa (East Madhya Pradesh) over the plains of the country.

Weather Warning during next 5 days (IMD)

- 14 March (Day 1): Heavy rain at a few places very likely over Lakshadweep area and at isolated places over south Tamilnadu & Kerala. Squally winds speed reaching 40-50 kmph gusting to 60 kmph is very likely over Comorin area and along and off south Tamilnadu. Squally winds speed reaching 45-55 kmph gusting to 65 kmph is very likely over Lakshadweep Islands and adjoining southeast Arabian Sea and along & off Kerala coast. Sea conditions will be rough to very rough over Comorin Maldives area and adjoining sea areas, Lakshadweep area and adjoining southeast Arabian Sea off Kerala coast. Thunderstorm accompanied with gusty winds & hailstorm very likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh. Thunderstorm accompanied with gusty winds very likely at isolated places over Assam & Meghalaya and Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.
- 15 March (Day 2): Heavy rain at a isolated places very likely over Kerala & Lakshadweep area. Squally winds speed reaching 40-50 kmph gusting to 60 kmph is very likely over along & off Kerala coast. Squally winds speed reaching 45-55 kmph gusting to 65 kmph is very likely over Lakshadweep Islands and adjoining southeast Arabian Sea. Sea conditions will be rough to very rough over Lakshadweep area and adjoining southeast Arabian Sea off Kerala coast. Thunderstorm accompanied with gusty winds very likely at isolated places over Vidarbha, Telangana, Rayalaseema, South Interior Karnataka, Assam & Meghalaya and Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.
- 16 March (Day 3): Thunderstorm accompanied with gusty winds very likely at isolated places over Telangana, Rayalaseema & South Interior Karnataka.
- 17 March (Day 4): No weather warning.
- 18 March (Day 5): No weather warning.

• The weather outlook for the period of seven days *i.e* 14 March to 22 March 2018 forecasted (*Provided by Real-Time Weather Forecasts from NOAA/NCEP collected from http://monsoondata.org/wx2/)* rain/thundershower may occur over Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Tamilnadu, Lakshadweep and North Eastern States. (Fig. 2).

Agricultural activities (AICRPAM-CRIDA)

Vidarbha region of Maharashtra

Weather condition

Dry weather prevailed in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state during past few days. Maximum temperature across the week was $0.4~^{\circ}\text{C}$ below normal and minimum temperature across the week was 4.0°C above normal.

Contingency measure:

- Ensure harvest of matured rabi crops/fruits/vegetables and safe storage of harvested produce in view of forecasted (11 and 15 March) unseasonal rainfall events. To safeguard the agricultural produce quality brought for sale at Agriculture Produce Market, keep protective covering ready for any eventuality of rainstorm.
- With increasing evaporative demand, basin mulching in orchards particularly of new/young plantation is advisable to conserve moisture and maintain thermal regime. With availability of irrigation water, sowing of summer greengram is advisable by first fortnight of March.
- Recommended variety includes Pusa Vaishakhi. Seed rate @ 12 kg/ha drilled with 30 cm row sowing. Seed treatment should be followed with biofungicide Trichoderma @ 5g/kg seed and biofertilizers Rhizobium and PSB each @ 25g/kg seed.
- Harvesting of orange orchards (Mriga bahar) be completed during March, followed by light irrigation and pruning of dried branches. Cut end of branches should be smeared with Bordeaux paste (1:1:10) and undertake spray of carbendazim @ 10 g/10 litres of water.
- For control of mango hoppers during flowering formation stage in mango, undertake spraying of Dimethoate 30% EC @ 16.5 ml or Deltramethrin 2.8% EC @ 5 ml or Methyl demeton 25% EC @ 10 ml per or Imidachloprid 17.8% SL @ 4 ml or Lambda-cyhalothrin 5% EC @ 5 ml, in 10 litres of water.
- With irrigation facility cultivation of summer vegetables like okra, bitter gourd, tinda, gourds, cowpea, cluster bean, coriander and leafy vegetables fenugreek/spinach can be initiated during this period. For summer green fodder purpose recommended crops/varieties are maize (African tall) or sorghum (Pusa-Chari, MP-Chari and SSG898).
- Farm livestock should be vaccinated against foot and mouth disease (FMD).

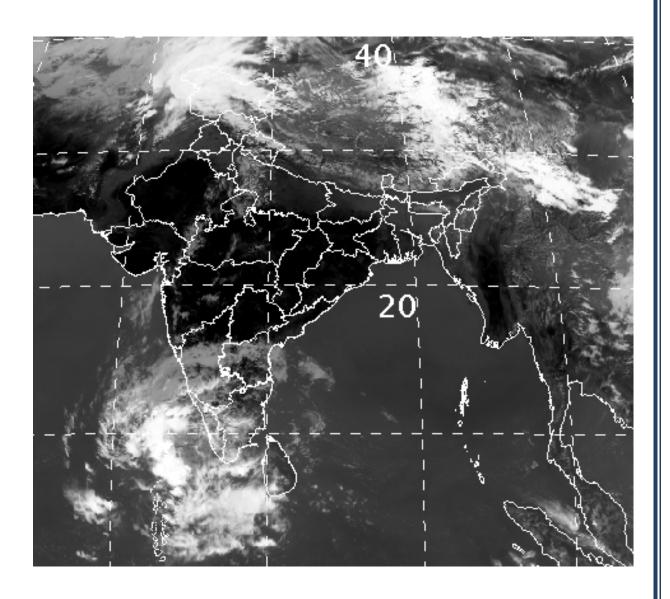
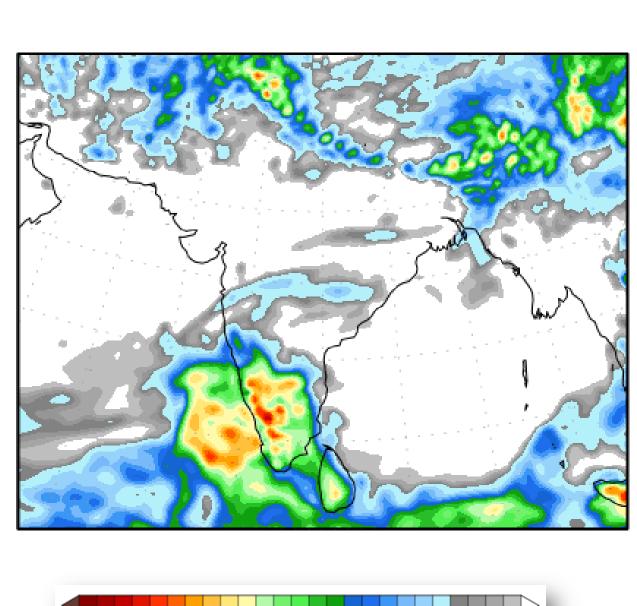


Figure: 1. Latest available satellite picture as on 14 March 2018 at 0230 Hrs (IST). (Source: IMD).



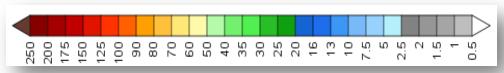


Figure: 2. Precipitation forecast for 14 March to 22 March 2018 (Source: NOAA NCEP).