

All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology

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Daily Crop Weather Information as on 20 March 2018

Attention: Rajiv Maheshwari, OSD, ICAR

Significant Weather Features (IMD)

- The Western Disturbance over Afghanistan & adjoining Pakistan is likely to cause scattered to fairly widespread rain/snow over Western Himalayan region on 21st & 22nd March. Thunderstorms/hailstorms are also very likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand on 21st. Thunderstorms/dust storms/gusty winds are very likely at isolated places over plains of Northwest India on 21st.
- Dust raising winds very likely at isolated places over Rajasthan during next 24 hours.
- The parts of East India is likely to experience isolated thunder squalls on 22nd & 23rd March.
- Thunderstorm observed at a few places over North Interior Karnataka and at isolated places over West Madhya Pradesh from 1730 hours IST of yesterday to 0830 hrs IST of today.
- The images showing the latest satellite picture in figure. 1.

Main Weather Observations (IMD)

- Rainfall recorded from 0830 hours IST of yesterday to 0830 hours IST of today: Rain/thundershowers observed at a few places over Lakshadweep & West Madhya Pradesh and at isolated places over West Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, East Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Maharashtra, Marathawada, Vidharbha, Karnataka and Kerala.
- Maximum temperature departures as on 19.03.2018: Maximum temperatures were markedly above normal (5.1°C or more) at most places over Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh; appreciably above normal (3.1°C to 5.0°C) at most places over Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi; at a few places over Punjab and at isolated places over West Rajasthan; above normal (1.6°C to 3.0°C) at most places over Uttarakhand and West Uttar Pradesh; at a few places over East Madhya Pradesh, Gangetic West Bengal and Konkan & Goa; at isolated places over East Rajasthan, West Madhya Pradesh, Sub Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Assam & Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh Odisha, Saurashtra & Kutch and Kerala. They were appreciably below normal (3.1°C to 5.0°C) at isolated places over South Interior Karnataka and below normal (1.6°C to 3.0°C) at isolated over North Interior Karnataka and Tamilnadu & Puducherry and near normal over rest of the country.

- Yesterday's the highest maximum temperature of 39.2°C recorded at Hoshangabad (West Madhya Pradesh) over the country.
- Minimum temperature departures as on 20.03.2018: Minimum temperatures are markedly above normal (5.1°C or more) at isolated places over West Madhya Pradesh; appreciably above normal (3.1°C to 5.0°C) at most places over West Rajasthan; at a few places over Jammu & Kashmir, East Rajasthan and rest West Madhya Pradesh; above normal (1.6°C to 3.0°C) at most places over Vidarbha; at many places over Sub Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim; at a few places over West Uttar Pradesh, East Madhya Pradesh Gujarat and Marathwada; at isolated places over Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi. They are appreciably below normal (3.1°C to 5.0°C) at a few places over Bihar; below normal (1.6°C to 3.0°C) at a few places over Gangetic West Bengal & Odisha; at isolated places over East Uttar Pradesh, interior Karnataka and Tamilnadu & Puducherry and near normal over rest parts of the country.
- The lowest minimum temperature of 13.0°C recorded at Mandla & Narsinghpur (East Madhya Pradesh) over the plains of the country.

Weather Warning during next 5 days (IMD)

- 20 March (Day 1): No weather warning.
- 21 March (Day 2): Thunderstorm accompanied with hailstorm very likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh Uttarakhand. Thunderstorm accompanied with gusty winds very likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab. Thunderstorm accompanied with dust storm very likely at isolated places over Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, north Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.
- 22 March (Day 3): Thunderstorm accompanied with squall very likely at isolated places over Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal & Sikkim, Assam & Meghalaya and Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.
- 23 March (Day 4): Thunderstorm accompanied with squall very likely at isolated places over Gangetic West Bengal, Assam & Meghalaya and Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.
- 24 March (Day 5): No weather warning.
- The weather outlook for the period of seven days *i.e* 20 March to 28 March 2018 forecasted (*Provided by Real-Time Weather Forecasts from NOAA/NCEP collected from <http://monsoondata.org/wx2/>*) rain/thundershower may occur over Rajasthan, West Uttar Pradesh, West Madhya Pradesh, East Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Maharashtra, Marathawada, Vidharbha, Karnataka and Kerala and Lakshadweep. (Fig. 2).

Agricultural activities (AICRPAM-CRIDA)

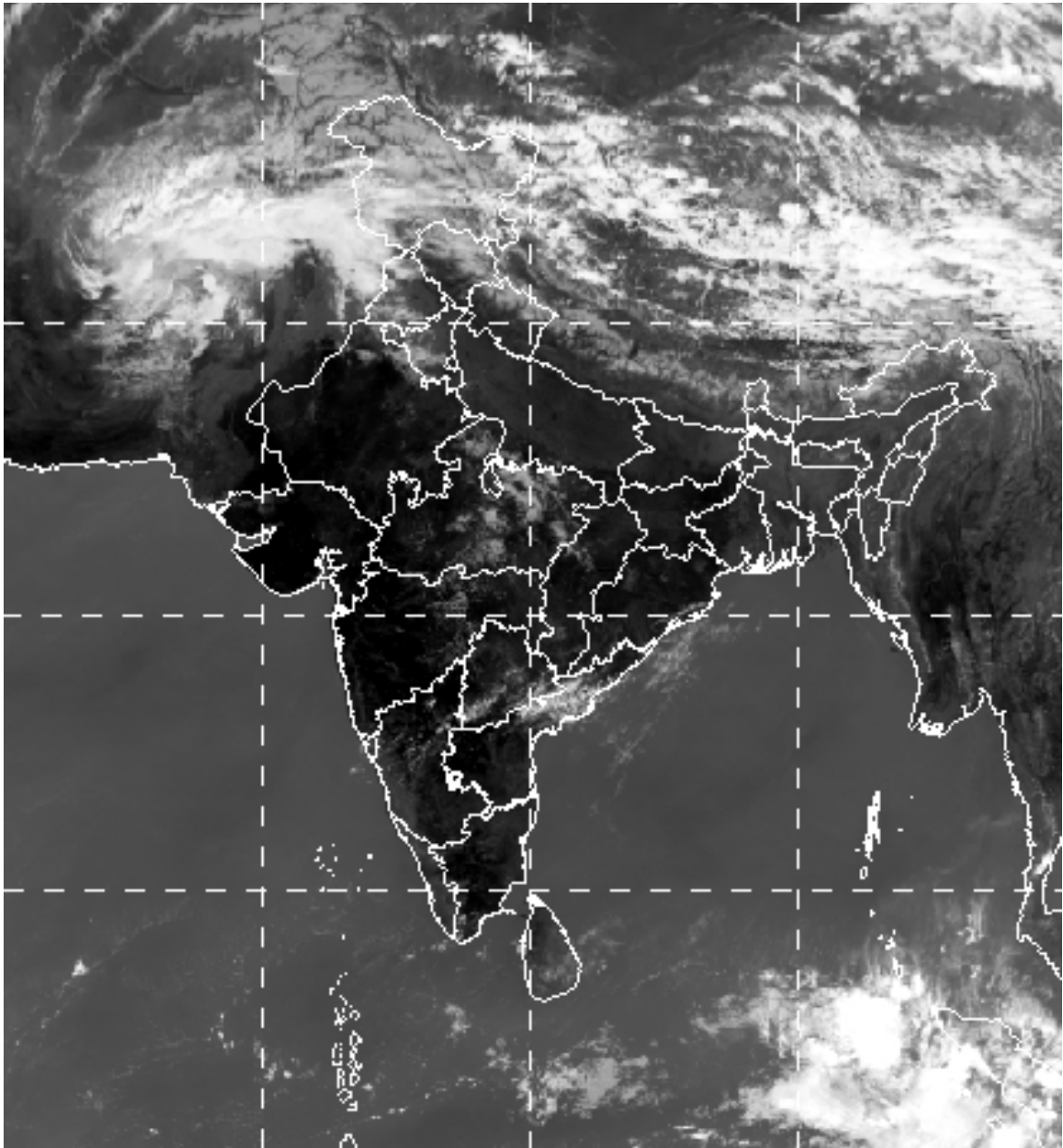
West Bengal

Weather condition

Light rainfall received in West Bengal state during past few days. state. Maximum temperature ranged from 35.2 to 37.8 °C and minimum temperature ranged from 18.0 to 24.5 °C.

Contingency measure:

- Boro rice: In the next five days, clear and bright sunny sky with increase in temperature is expected . Thus, farmers are advised to give irrigation to the field. Always try to maintain 5 to 7 cm of stagnant water in the field. For timely sown crop, apply second dose of top dressing at the rate of 25 Kg nitrogen per ha of land. In the prevailing weather condition, there may be a chance of the attack of Stem-borer. If the infestation is more than 10%, then only apply control measures. Please do not use insecticide unnecessarily.
- Pointed gourd: In this weather, there is a chance of leaf-blight and collar-rot. To prevent the disease, apply 1ml Ridomil or Indofil-M-85 per litre of water at an interval of three weeks.
- Moong: Complete the sowing operation of moong. Sow the seeds of improved variety such as Sonali (B-1), Panna (B-105), Pusa-Baishakhi etc.



**Figure: 1. Latest available satellite picture as on 20 March 2018 at 0230 Hrs (IST).
(Source: IMD).**

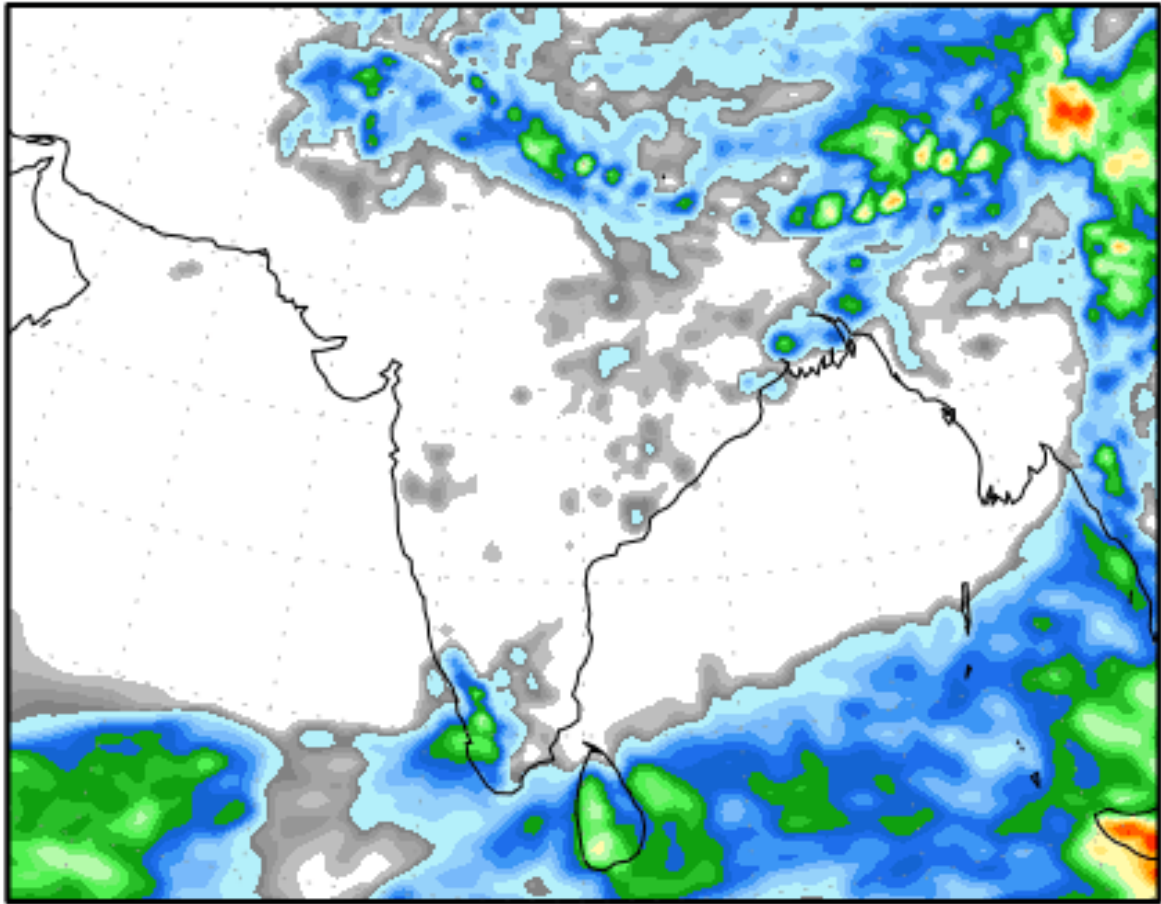


Figure: 2. Precipitation forecast for 20 March to 28 March 2018 (Source: NOAA NCEP).