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NATIONAL CENTRE FOR HYDROLOGY AND METEOROLOGY
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23 February, 2024

Extended Range Prediction for Bhutan

Background

Extended Range Prediction (ERP) for Bhutan is prepared with the support from the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Government of India. The model used for the system is CFSv2 coupled model (Atmospheric and Ocean model) which runs once every week (Wednesday), with the 16 Ensemble Members at the horizontal resolution of around 25 km, and the products are made available the next day (Thursday). Therefore, the ERP products for Bhutan will be generated every Friday. ERP for Bhutan is carried out for two climate variables, rainfall and temperature.

Generally, the forecast output is produced on a weekly basis for a period of a month for both the variables. The current products available from NCHM are on pilot basis which needs further studies and validation with the ground observations until the product is fully operationalized.



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Observed weather over last week

Most of the stations across the country showed a decrease in maximum and minimum temperature throughout the week. No rain was observed over the most part of the country for the last week except for the isolated rain in the northern, central and southern parts on the last day. The table below displays observed real time rain and temperature data from regional meteorological stations over the last week.

Station	Parameter	16 Feb	17 Feb	18 Feb	19 Feb	20 Feb	21 Feb	22 Feb
Babesa	Tmax (°C)	19.0	20.5	14.0	14.0	15.0	13.5	8.5
	Tmin (°C)	0.0	-2.0	5.0	3.0	0.0	-1.0	3.0
	Rain (mm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.8
Dagana	Tmax (°C)	23.0	21.5	17.0	20.0	15.0	18.5	12.0
	Tmin (°C)	7.0	9.0	10.0	7.0	8.0	8.0	7.0
	Rain (mm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6
Chamkhar	Tmax (°C)	16.5	14.0	10.0	11.5	13.0	13.0	4.0
	Tmin (°C)	-3.5	-1.0	3.0	4.5	2.5	2.5	1.0
	Rain (mm)	0	0	0	0	0	0.3	4.4
Deothang	Tmax (°C)	23.0	22.0	20.0	20.0	21.0	21.0	21.0
	Tmin (°C)	12.0	13.0	12.0	13.0	13.0	11.0	12.0
	Rain (mm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.0
Gasa	Tmax (°C)	17.0	13.5	8.5	5.5	12.0	5.0	1.5
	Tmin (°C)	-2.5	-2.5	1.5	1.5	1.0	1.0	-1.0
	Rain (mm)	0	0	3.8	0.2	2.0	13.2	14.4



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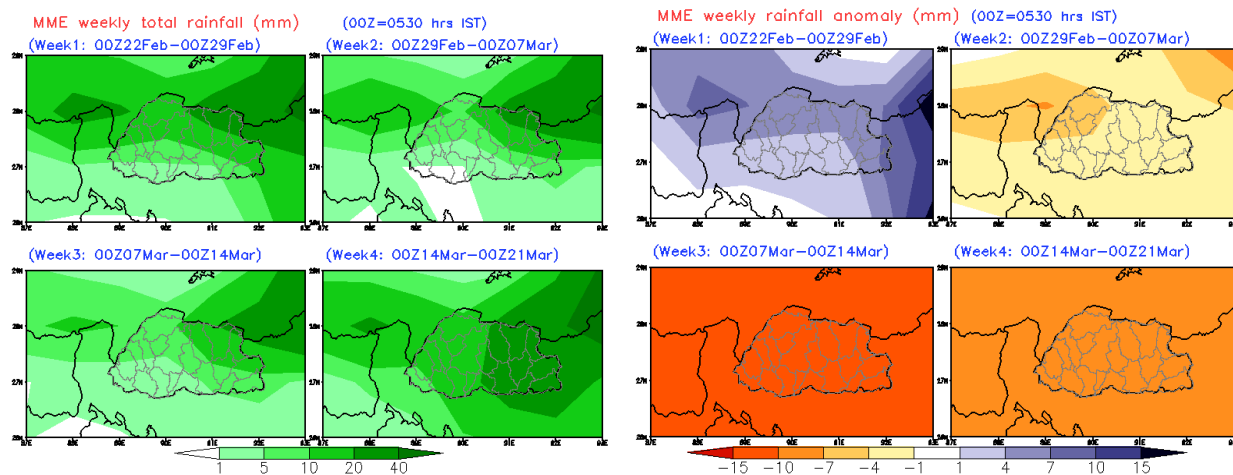
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Weekly forecast for Bhutan

1. Rainfall Prediction



Week 1 (22 February - 28 February)

Above normal rainfall is expected throughout the region.

Week 2 (29 February - 06 March) , Week 3 (07 March - 14 March) and Week 4 (14 March - 21 March)

Below normal rainfall is expected throughout the region.



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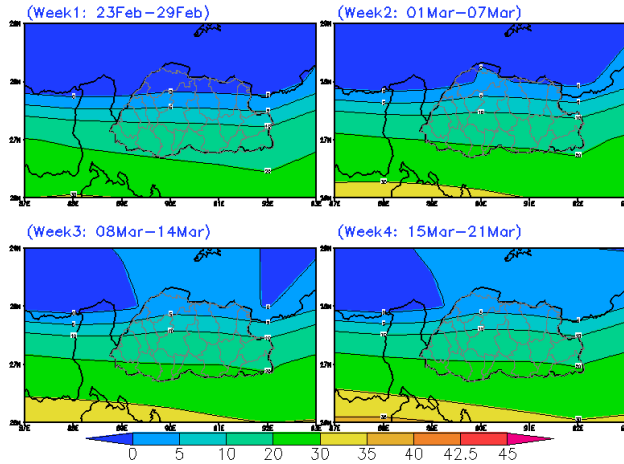
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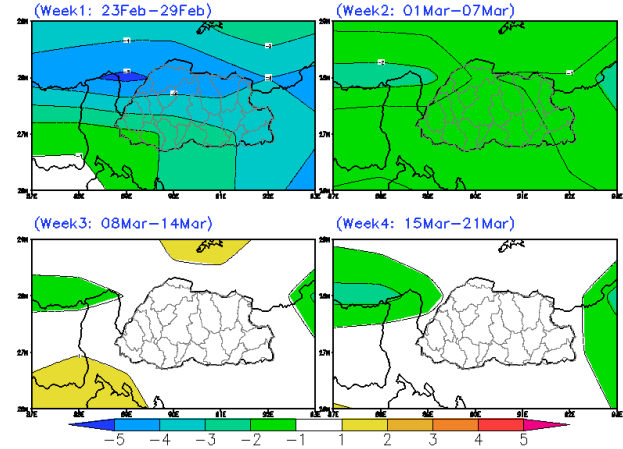


2. Maximum Temperature Prediction

MME weekly mean Tmax(Deg C)



MME weekly Tmax anomaly (Deg C)



Week 1 (23 February - 29 February) and Week 2 (01 March - 07 March)

Below normal maximum temperature is expected throughout the region.

Week 3 (08 March - 14 March) and Week 4 (15 March - 21 March)

Normal maximum temperature is expected throughout the region.



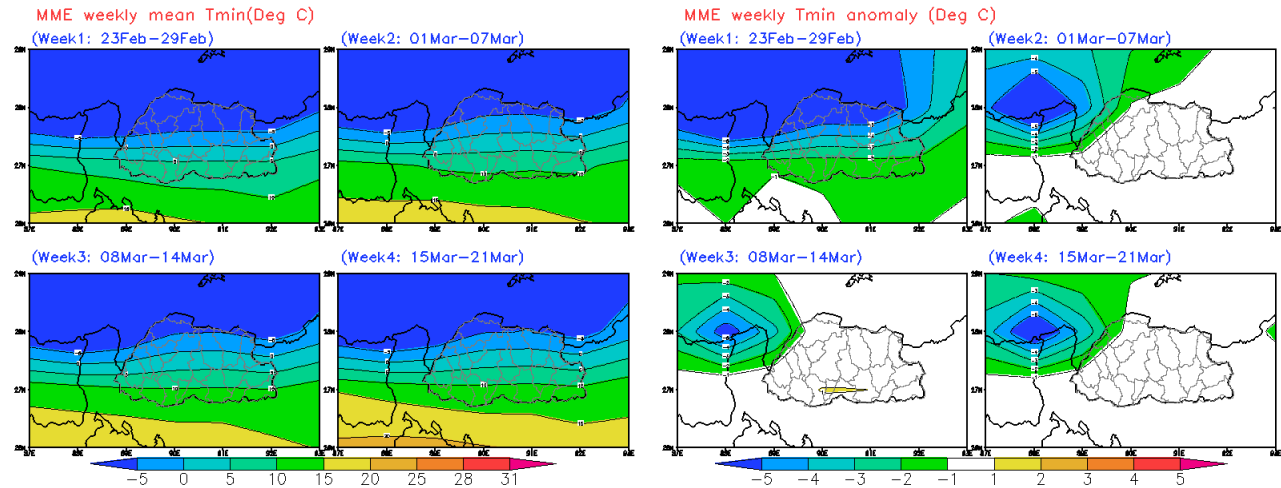
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3. Minimum Temperature Prediction



Week 1 (23 February - 29 February)

Below normal minimum temperature is expected throughout the region.

Week 2 (01 March - 07 March), Week 3 (08 March - 14 March) and Week 4 (15 March - 21 March)

Normal maximum temperature is expected throughout the region except for the western parts.



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Summary

- The rainfall is likely to be above normal for the first week, and below normal for the last three weeks.
- The maximum temperature is likely to be below normal for the first two weeks and normal for the last two weeks.
- The minimum temperature is likely to be below normal in the first week and normal for the rest of the month except for western parts.

Classification of rainfall for 24 Hours

No rainfall	0.0 mm
Very light rainfall	0.1 to 0.9 mm
Light rainfall	1.0 to 10.0 mm
Moderate rainfall	11.0 to 30.0 mm
Heavy rainfall	31.0 to 70.0 mm
Very heavy rainfall	71.0 to 150.0 mm
Extremely heavy rainfall	Equal or more than 151.0 mm