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29 May, 2026

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

Maximum and minimum temperatures remained relatively consistent across most parts of the country throughout the week, with slight fluctuations observed on some days. Rainfall was recorded across several regions, with predominantly light rainfall observed in most areas. Moderate to heavy rainfall occurred at isolated locations, particularly over Samdrup Jongkhar, where heavy to very heavy rainfall events were recorded during the beginning and middle of the week. Gasa also experienced moderate rainfall towards the end of the week. The table below presents the observed real-time rainfall and temperature data from regional meteorological centres over the past week.

Station		22 May	23 May	24 May	25 May	26 May	27 May	28 May
Thimphu	Tmax (°C)	19.5	19.0	23.5	23.0	22.0	17.5	22.0
	Tmin (°C)	14.0	14.5	12.0	12.5	12.5	9.5	11.5
	Rain (mm)	8.4	1.4	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.9	6.6
Dagana	Tmax (°C)	21.5	21.0	24.0	24.5	24.0	21.5	24.5
	Tmin (°C)	18.0	18.5	16.0	16.0	15.5	15.0	16.0
	Rain (mm)	8.4	1.6	0.0	10.4	0.0	6.0	0.0
Bumthang	Tmax (°C)	19.0	17.0	20.0	20.5	20.0	19.0	19.0
	Tmin (°C)	13.0	14.0	12.0	11.5	12.5	15.0	10.0
	Rain (mm)	4.1	1.3	0.1	3.4	0.6	1.7	0.6
S/Jongkhar	Tmax (°C)	31.0	25.0	26.0	26.5	28.0	28.5	29.0
	Tmin (°C)	22.5	22.0	22.0	21.0	20.5	20.0	20.0
	Rain (mm)	97.2	46.0	9.8	1.6	69.4	2.4	0.0
Gasa	Tmax (°C)	15.0	15.0	17.0	18.5	15.0	16.0	19.0
	Tmin (°C)	12.0	12.0	10.5	10.5	11.0	9.0	9.5
	Rain (mm)	5.8	10.2	6.6	8.8	17.6	6.2	23.6



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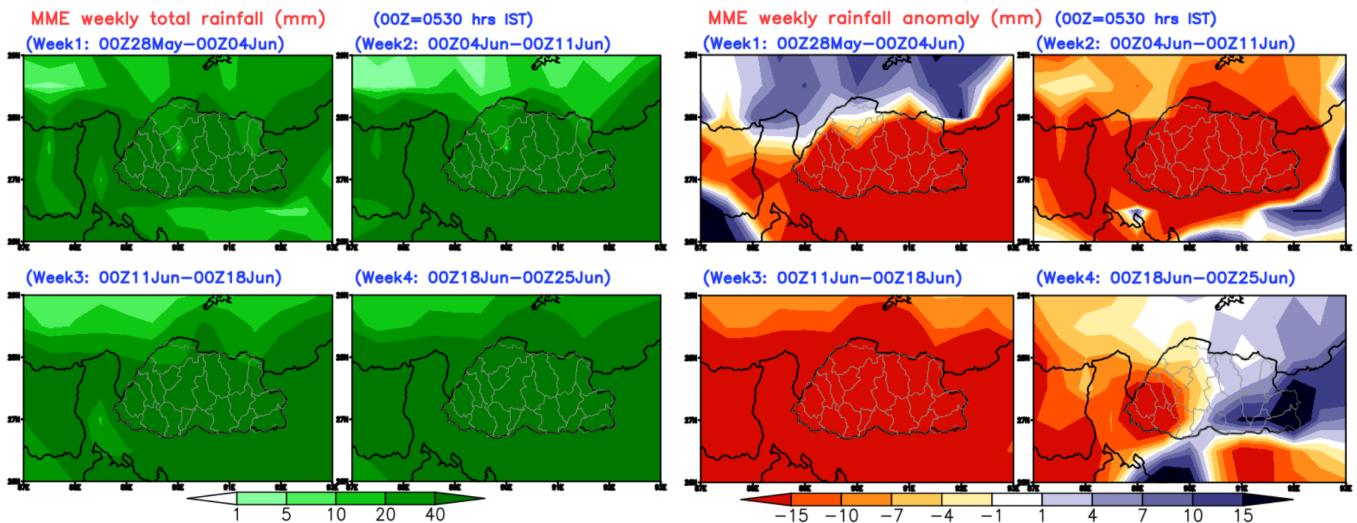
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Weekly forecast for Bhutan

1. Rainfall Prediction



Week 1 (28 May - 04 June), Week 2 (05 June - 11 June) and Week 3 (12 June - 18 June)

Below-normal rainfall is expected over most parts of the country from the first to the fourth week, with some rainfall likely over the northern region during the first week.

Week 4 (19 June - 25 June)

Above-normal rainfall is expected across the eastern parts of the country, while slightly below-normal rainfall is likely over the western parts.



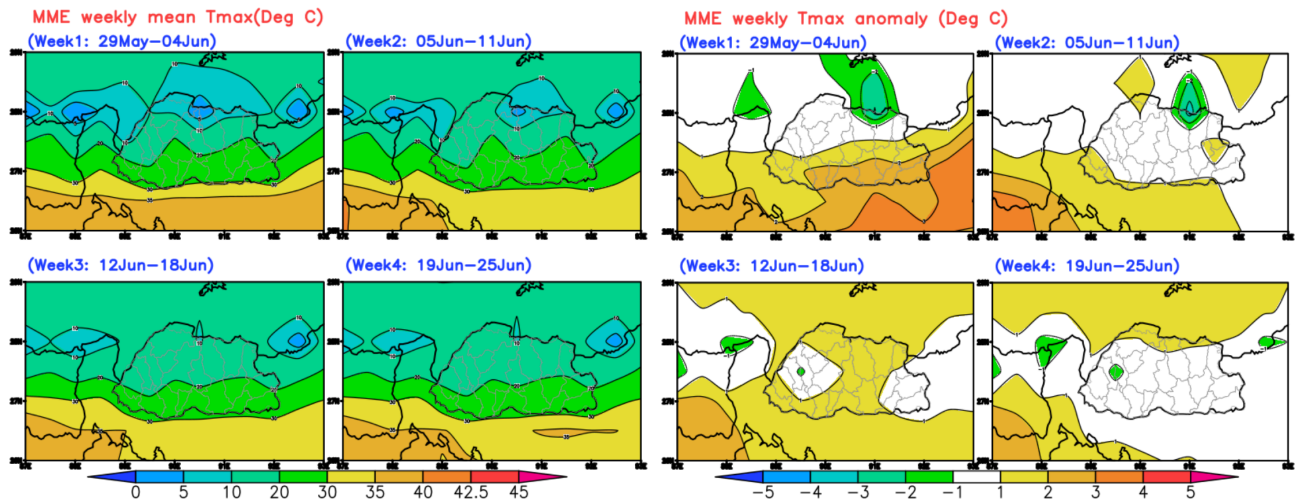
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2. Maximum Temperature Prediction



Week 1 (28 May - 04 June), Week 2 (05 June - 11 June), Week 3 (12 June - 18 June) and Week 4 (19 June - 25 June)

Above-normal maximum temperatures are likely over the southern parts of the country, and are also expected to extend to the northern parts during the later weeks.



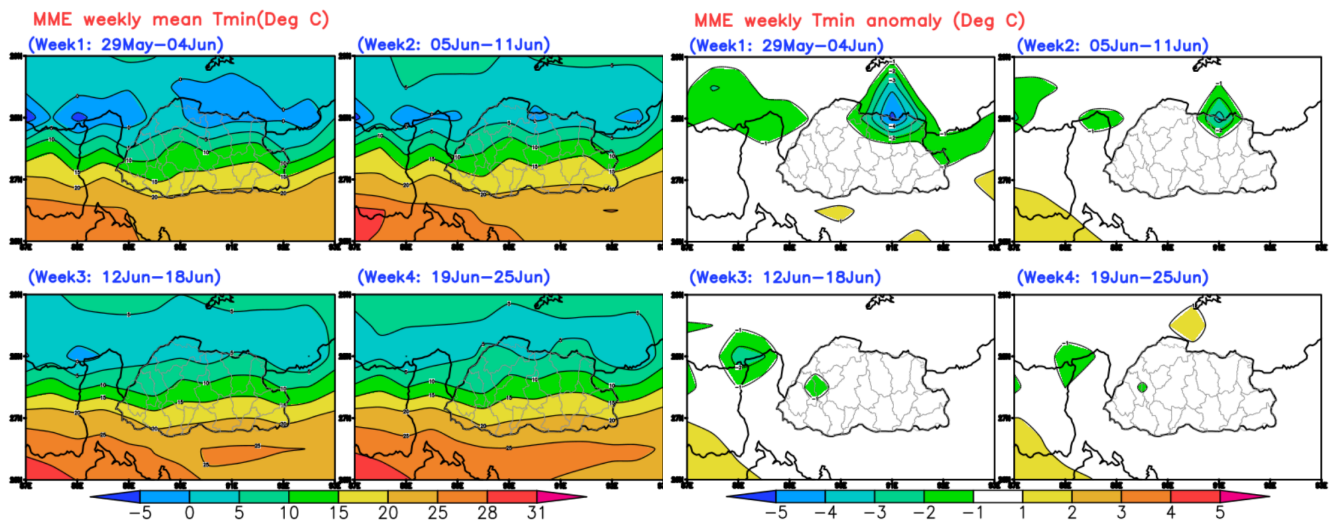
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3. Minimum Temperature Prediction



Week 1 (28 May - 04 June), Week 2 (05 June - 11 June), Week 3 (12 June - 18 June) and Week 4 (19 June - 25 June)

Near-normal minimum temperatures are likely during the upcoming weeks, although some isolated areas may experience slightly below-normal minimum temperatures.

Summary

- Below-normal rainfall is expected over most parts of the country, with relatively higher rainfall likely over the eastern and northern regions during the first and last week.
- Above-normal maximum temperatures are likely over the southern parts of the country, and are also expected to extend to the northern parts during the later weeks.
- Near-normal minimum temperatures are likely during the upcoming weeks, although some isolated areas may experience slightly below-normal minimum temperatures.



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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