

## Weekly SAHF Forecasters' Forum (FF) #202

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### Discussion Notes

<p><b>Realized Weather-Country Reports (19<sup>th</sup>–25<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bhutan observed predominantly dry weather throughout the period, with sunny to partly cloudy conditions prevailing across most parts of the country. No significant rainfall or snowfall was recorded. Daytime temperatures remained near normal, while minimum temperatures dropped noticeably in higher elevations.</li> <li>▪ Bangladesh experienced stable winter weather conditions, with dry weather prevailing across the country. Skies remained mostly clear to partly cloudy, and no rainfall was recorded during the period. Light to moderate fog was observed during late night and early morning hours.</li> <li>▪ Nepal experienced mainly fair weather conditions, with partly cloudy skies over hilly and mountainous regions. Dense fog persisted over the southern plains during the morning hours, while isolated light snowfall was observed over some higher elevations.</li> <li>▪ Maldives experienced generally unsettled weather conditions, particularly over the central and southern atolls which caused swell surge. Scattered showers were reported on several days, with occasional heavy spells and isolated thunderstorms, especially during the early part of the week. Surface winds were predominantly northeasterly to easterly, with moderate gusts observed at times. Visibility was locally reduced due to haze over parts of the northern and central atolls.</li> <li>▪ Sri Lanka experienced variable weather during the period, with rainfall activity mainly confined to the eastern, southeastern and parts of the central regions. Light to moderate showers were recorded during the first half of the week, while localized heavy rainfall occurred at a few locations, particularly along the eastern seaboard. Several low-lying areas remained waterlogged following previous extreme rainfall events, although overall rainfall intensity was lower compared to earlier weeks.</li> <li>▪ Myanmar experienced generally dry weather over most parts of the country, with isolated light rainfall over eastern regions. Night-time temperatures dropped below average in northern and hilly regions.</li> <li>▪ Pakistan experienced predominantly dry conditions, with dense to very dense fog over the Punjab plains. Light rainfall and snowfall occurred over northern mountainous regions toward the latter part of the period.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Significant Weather Features in the region for the coming week (26<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025 – 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2026)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A mid-latitude westerly trough is expected to affect Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the Hindu Kush Himalayan region during the forecast period, bringing light to moderate rainfall and snowfall over higher elevations. The passage of this system may be accompanied by a temporary cooling, followed by the re-establishment of stable conditions conducive to fog formation over adjoining plains.</li> <li>▪ Concurrently, easterly trough activity along the ITCZ is likely to sustain convective activity over the central and southern atolls of Maldives and adjoining oceanic regions. A weak low-pressure area may develop over the near-equatorial Indian Ocean during the latter part of the period; however, any further organization is expected to remain limited. Rainfall over Sri Lanka is likely to be isolated and localized as the ITCZ continues its gradual southward shift.</li> <li>▪ MJO is expected to remain active over the eastern Indian Ocean and Maritime</li> </ul>

	<p>Continent, supporting enhanced convection over equatorial and near-equatorial oceanic areas while having limited influence over most continental parts of South Asia during this period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A persistent anti-cyclonic circulation over much of the Indian subcontinent is expected to maintain generally stable weather conditions. This pattern will favor the development of dense fog over the Indo-Gangetic Plains during late night and early morning hours, potentially disrupting road, rail, and aviation operation.</li> </ul>
<b>Weather Outlook</b> <b>(26<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025 – 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2026)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bhutan is likely to experience mainly fair weather conditions during the forecast period, with sunny to partly cloudy skies prevailing over most parts of the country. Isolated light snowfall may occur over high mountain passes due to weak westerly influence, while the rest of the country remains dry. Minimum temperatures are expected to remain low, particularly over higher elevations, with cold morning conditions persisting, while daytime temperatures remain near normal.</li> <li>▪ Nepal is expected to experience mainly fair to partly cloudy weather during the forecast period. Isolated light snowfall or rainfall may occur over high mountainous regions associated with passing westerly disturbances, while lower elevations remain dry. Morning fog is likely to persist over the Terai and valley regions, particularly during early morning hours. Both maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to remain near seasonal averages, with colder conditions over higher elevations.</li> <li>▪ Bangladesh is expected to remain largely dry throughout the forecast period under the influence of prevailing northeasterly flow. Skies are likely to remain clear to partly cloudy, with no significant rainfall anticipated. Light to moderate fog may form over river basin areas and low-lying regions during late night and early morning hours, potentially affecting visibility. Both day and night temperatures are expected to remain near seasonal norms, with a slight cooling tendency during clear nights.</li> <li>▪ Pakistan is expected to be influenced by mid-latitude westerly systems passing north of the region. These systems may bring light to moderate rainfall and snowfall over higher elevations of the Hindu Kush and Karakoram ranges, with isolated snowfall possible over northern mountainous areas. Lower elevations are likely to remain largely dry. Night temperatures are expected to remain low, with episodic cold conditions following the passage of westerly troughs, while daytime temperatures remain near seasonal averages.</li> <li>▪ Myanmar is likely to experience mostly dry conditions during the forecast period, with isolated light rainfall possible over northern and eastern mountainous regions. Central and southern parts of the country are expected to remain largely dry under stable atmospheric conditions. Night temperatures may decrease slightly over northern and eastern regions, while daytime temperatures remain near normal.</li> <li>▪ The Maldives is expected to experience isolated to scattered showers during the forecast period, particularly over the central and southern atolls, associated with weak equatorial trough activity. Northern atolls are likely to experience mostly fair weather with brief passing showers. Winds are expected to remain moderate, with generally calm to moderate sea conditions. No widespread hazardous weather is anticipated.</li> <li>▪ Sri Lanka is expected to experience a reduction in rainfall intensity compared to the previous week as the ITCZ shifts southward. Isolated showers may still occur, mainly over eastern, southeastern, and southern coastal areas during the early part of the forecast period. Most other regions are likely to experience partly cloudy conditions with generally dry weather prevailing. Given the saturated ground conditions following recent extreme rainfall events, localized impacts may still occur where isolated showers persist.</li> </ul>

**Extended Range Outlook  
(26<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2025 – 31<sup>st</sup> Jan,  
2026)**

**Extended Temperature outlook**

- Over the extended range period, near-normal to slightly above-normal temperatures are likely to prevail across much of South Asia. Northern parts of Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the western Himalayan region may experience episodic cooler conditions associated with the passage of mid-latitude westerly disturbances, particularly during late December and early January.
- Minimum temperatures are expected to remain low over northern plains and high-elevation areas, favoring persistent fog formation over the Indo-Gangetic Plains during stable weather periods. Warmer-than-normal conditions may develop over southern peninsular India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and adjoining oceanic regions, especially during periods of suppressed rainfall activity.

**Extended Rainfall Outlook**

- During Week 1 (26 December – 1 January), rainfall activity is expected to remain concentrated along equatorial and near-equatorial regions. Above-normal rainfall is likely over the central and southern atolls of Maldives and adjoining oceanic areas. Most of the South Asian landmass, including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, and interior parts of India, is expected to remain predominantly dry. Light rain or snowfall may occur over higher elevations of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the western Himalayan region due to weak westerly disturbances.
- In Week 2 (2 – 8 January), rainfall activity is expected to decrease further as the ITCZ shifts southward. Dry conditions are likely to dominate most of South Asia, with only isolated precipitation over the western Himalayan region associated with passing mid-latitude systems. Intermittent snowfall may continue over higher elevations, while lowland areas remain largely dry.
- During Weeks 3 and 4 (9 – 31 January), below-normal rainfall is expected across most parts of South Asia. Any precipitation during this period is likely to be confined to higher elevations of the Hindu Kush–Himalayan region. Northeast monsoon activity over Sri Lanka and southern peninsular India is expected to remain subdued, while equatorial rainfall persists south of the region over the Indian Ocean.