



# Weekly SAHF Forecasters' Forum (FF) #211

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Discussion Notes

<p><b>Realized Weather-Country Reports (20<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bangladesh observed predominantly dry weather conditions throughout the week. Skies remained mostly clear to partly cloudy. Day and night temperatures continued to rise gradually, reflecting early seasonal warming signals. Light rainfall was recorded in the southwestern part of the country.</li> <li>▪ Nepal experienced light to moderate rainfall over central and eastern regions during the early part of the week, while higher elevations received light to moderate snowfall. The Terai region remained largely dry with occasional morning mist. Temperatures showed a rising trend, particularly over lower elevations.</li> <li>▪ Myanmar observed isolated light rainfall over southern coastal areas and parts of central regions. Most of the country remained dry. Temperatures were near to slightly above average.</li> <li>▪ Maldives experienced predominantly fine weather conditions. The highest temperature recorded during the week was 32.8°C at Hanimaadhoo in the northern Maldives. Across the country, temperatures ranged between 31°C and 32.8°C. Hazy conditions prevailed over central and northern atolls, associated with reduced wind speeds and increased moisture. A low pressure area over the equatorial Indian Ocean influenced a temporary shift in wind direction to northwesterly, despite the ongoing northeast monsoon season. No significant rainfall was recorded.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Significant Weather Features in the region for the coming week (27<sup>th</sup> Feb – 5<sup>th</sup> Mar 2026)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ An easterly wave circulation, currently evident at mid-levels over the Bay of Bengal, is forecast to move westward toward Sri Lanka and the northern atolls of Maldives during 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> March. This may bring light to moderate rainfall over Sri Lanka and isolated rainfall over northern Maldives. Thereafter, the system is expected to weaken under strengthening anti-cyclonic influence.</li> <li>▪ A strong and expanding anti-cyclonic circulation over much of the Indian subcontinent is expected to maintain predominantly dry conditions across Bangladesh, central India, and large parts of Nepal plains and Myanmar. This stable pattern will favor continued temperature rise and development of haze, mist, and reduced visibility in some regions.</li> <li>▪ Significant warming signals are emerging over Sindh (Pakistan), Rajasthan, central India, and peninsular India. Early season heat stress indicators are increasing, with both maximum and minimum temperatures rising steadily across much of South Asia.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Weather Outlook (27<sup>th</sup> Feb – 5<sup>th</sup> Mar 2026)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bhutan is expected to experience partly cloudy to mostly cloudy conditions. Light to moderate rainfall is likely over several districts, with light snowfall over higher elevations during the early to mid-part of the forecast period. Temperatures are expected to remain near normal initially, followed by gradual warming toward the end of the week.</li> <li>▪ Bangladesh is expected to remain largely dry throughout the forecast period. Skies will remain clear to partly cloudy. Day and night temperatures are expected to rise gradually, with warming becoming more pronounced toward early March. No significant rainfall is anticipated.</li> <li>▪ Nepal is expected to experience light rainfall over eastern and central regions during the early part of the forecast period, with light to moderate snowfall over</li> </ul>

	<p>higher elevations. Thereafter, dry conditions are expected to dominate, accompanied by gradual warming over lower elevations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pakistan is expected to experience continued light to moderate rainfall and snowfall over northern mountainous regions under weak westerly influence. Plains of Punjab and Sindh are expected to remain largely dry. Temperatures over Sindh and adjoining southwestern regions are expected to remain significantly above normal, with further warming likely.</li> <li>▪ Myanmar is expected to experience mostly dry conditions. Isolated light rainfall may occur over southern coastal regions. Temperatures are expected to remain near to slightly above seasonal averages.</li> <li>▪ Maldives is expected to experience predominantly fine weather conditions. Hazy conditions are likely to persist over central and northern atolls during the early part of the forecast period. Wind direction is expected to gradually transition back to the seasonal northeasterly regime following the influence of the earlier low-pressure system. Isolated light rainfall may occur over northern atolls during 2nd–3rd March as the easterly wave passes westward.</li> <li>▪ Sri Lanka is expected to receive light to moderate rainfall, particularly during 1st–3rd March, associated with the westward moving easterly wave. Thereafter, rainfall activity is expected to decrease. Other parts of the island will remain partly cloudy with isolated afternoon showers.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Extended Range Outlook</b> (27<sup>th</sup> Feb – 27<sup>th</sup> Mar, 2026)</p>	<p>Extended Temperature outlook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Above normal temperatures are highly likely to prevail across most parts of South Asia during the extended range period. Model ensemble guidance indicates strengthening warming signals over Sindh, Rajasthan, central India, and peninsular India. Both maximum and minimum temperatures are projected to remain above seasonal norms. Heat stress indicators, including UTCI and heat index values, are expected to increase steadily, particularly over coastal and island regions, including Maldives and Sri Lanka.</li> </ul>	<p>Extended Rainfall Outlook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermittent mid-latitude westerly trough activity is expected to continue affecting Afghanistan, northern Pakistan, and adjoining Himalayan regions during the first two weeks of the extended period, bringing light to moderate rainfall and snowfall over higher elevations. Bhutan and northeast India may receive occasional rainfall associated with these systems.</li> <li>▪ However, rainfall over the northwestern plains of India is expected to remain limited unless enhanced moisture transport develops from the Arabian Sea.</li> <li>▪ Sri Lanka and the southwestern peninsula of India may receive intermittent light to moderate rainfall during early March. Thereafter, rainfall activity is expected to decrease significantly.</li> <li>▪ Bangladesh, Nepal plains, Myanmar, and large parts of central and northern India are expected to experience predominantly dry conditions during much of the extended period. Strong and persistent warming anomalies are projected to continue through late March and early April.</li> </ul>
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## Ocean Watch

### **Observed Ocean Surface Conditions (20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026)**

- Ocean conditions remained generally normal to moderate across the northern Indian Ocean. Sea surface temperatures remained warm, particularly over equatorial waters. Wind speeds were relatively light over central and northern Maldives, contributing to hazy conditions. No organized cyclonic systems were observed.

### **Forecast for the coming week (27<sup>th</sup> Feb – 5<sup>th</sup> Mar 2026)**

- Ocean conditions are expected to remain generally moderate. Significant wave heights are likely to remain within normal seasonal ranges. A temporary shift in wind direction over Maldives has been observed due to the earlier equatorial low-pressure area; however, winds are expected to gradually return to the prevailing northeasterly regime. No significant cyclonic development is anticipated during the forecast period.