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Weekly SAHF Forecasters' Forum (FF) #218

Date: 16th April 2026

Discussion Notes

<p>Realized Weather-Country Reports (10th – 16th Apr 2026)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bhutan experienced mostly cloudy to cloudy conditions with light to moderate rainfall across the country. A few locations received heavy rainfall accompanied by thunderstorms and gusty winds. The highest rainfall recorded was 33.6 mm over southern regions. Temperature variation remained significant, with warmer conditions in the south and cold conditions over northern high-altitude areas. ▪ Bangladesh experienced mostly dry conditions with isolated rainfall and thundershowers at one or two places. Day and night temperatures showed a slight increasing trend. Mild to moderate heatwave conditions prevailed over western parts, with the highest temperature recorded at 39.2°C and maximum rainfall of 71 mm over northeastern regions. ▪ Nepal experienced scattered to moderate rainfall and thunderstorms over hilly regions, influenced by moisture incursion and local instability. Higher elevations reported light snowfall, while temperatures remained near to above normal. ▪ Myanmar experienced isolated to scattered rainfall over northern regions, while southern regions remained mostly cloudy with localized thunderstorms. Overall, warmer conditions persisted across central regions. ▪ Maldives experienced unsettled weather conditions over central and southern atolls with frequent showers and thunderstorms, including occasional heavy rainfall (up to 70 mm). Northern atolls remained mostly under fair weather conditions with light winds. ▪ Pakistan experienced light to moderate rainfall and snowfall over northern and northwestern regions under the influence of westerly systems, while most other parts remained dry with rising temperatures.
<p>Significant Weather Features in the region for the coming week (17th – 23rd Apr 2026)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mid-latitude westerly troughs are expected to persist over Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the Himalayan region, resulting in episodic rainfall and snowfall over higher elevations. ▪ Enhanced moisture transport from the Bay of Bengal, combined with favorable low-level circulation, is expected to sustain thunderstorm activity across Bangladesh, northeastern India, eastern Nepal, Bhutan, and northern Myanmar. ▪ Active ITCZ conditions over the Maldives and adjoining regions are expected to maintain convective activity over central and southern atolls and parts of Sri Lanka. ▪ Heat stress conditions are expected to persist across central, western, and peninsular parts of South Asia, although localized thunderstorm activity may provide temporary relief in some areas. ▪ Gradual increase in convective activity over peninsular India is expected during the latter part of the week. ▪ Early signals indicate a potential increase in organized precipitation after 26th April, suggesting possible early onset characteristics over Maldives and southern parts of the region.
<p>Weather Outlook (10th – 16th Apr 2026)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bhutan is expected to experience mostly cloudy to cloudy conditions with light to moderate rainfall. Thunderstorms with gusty winds are likely over isolated areas, with possible snowfall over higher elevations.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bangladesh is likely to experience isolated rainfall and thunderstorms at one or two places. Day and night temperatures may decrease slightly during the first half of the week and rise gradually thereafter. Mild to moderate heatwave conditions may persist over central, western and southwestern regions. ▪ Nepal is expected to experience partly cloudy to cloudy conditions with scattered rainfall and thunderstorms, particularly over hilly and mountainous regions. ▪ Sri Lanka is expected to experience scattered thundershowers, particularly during afternoon and evening hours under warm and humid conditions. ▪ Myanmar is expected to experience isolated to scattered rainfall and thunderstorms over northern and southern regions, with generally warm conditions over central areas. ▪ Maldives is expected to experience continued convective activity over central and southern atolls, with isolated to scattered showers, while northern atolls remain relatively stable. ▪ Pakistan is expected to experience generally dry and warm conditions over most parts of the country. However, northern and northwestern regions may receive isolated rainfall and thunderstorms under the influence of westerly systems. Temperatures are likely to rise gradually, with increasing heat stress over southern and central regions.
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<p>Extended Range Outlook (17th Apr – 19th May, 2026)</p>	<p>Extended Temperature outlook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Temperatures are expected to remain above normal across most parts of South Asia, with significant warming over northwest India, Pakistan, and peninsular regions. ▪ Heat stress conditions are likely to persist and intensify, particularly over inland areas due to rising maximum and minimum temperatures. ▪ Some temporary moderation in temperatures may occur due to increased convective activity during the latter part of April. 	<p>Extended Rainfall Outlook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Above normal rainfall is expected over eastern parts of South Asia, including Bangladesh, northeastern India, Bhutan, eastern Nepal, and Myanmar due to sustained moisture availability. ▪ Continued precipitation is expected over the Hindu Kush Himalayan region under the influence of successive westerly systems. ▪ Increased rainfall activity is expected over Maldives and Sri Lanka towards the end of April, indicating possible early monsoon onset signals.
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<p>Ocean Watch</p>	<p>Observed Ocean Surface Conditions (10th Apr – 16th Apr 2026)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ocean conditions across the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea, and adjoining Indian Ocean regions remained generally normal to moderate during the observed period. Convective activity contributed to localized rough sea conditions over central and southern parts of the Maldives. Swell surge alerts were issued for parts of the Nicobar Islands, while high current conditions were observed along the east coast of India. Surface winds ranged between 2–11 m/s across the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea, and southern tropical Indian Ocean. Significant wave heights ranged from 0.5 to 2.3 m in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea. Swell heights varied between 0.3 and 1.1 m, with swell periods ranging from 8 to 19 seconds across the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea, and equatorial Indian Ocean. Coastal currents were generally weak to moderate (0.1–0.2 m/s), with localized intensification up to 1.2 m/s in some areas. Sea surface temperatures (SST) ranged from approximately 21°C to 31.5°C across the region.
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Forecast for the coming week (17th – 23rd Apr 2026)

- Ocean conditions are expected to remain normal to moderate across the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea, and adjoining Indian Ocean regions. Normal to above-normal wind speeds and sea conditions are expected along coastal areas, with significant wave heights reaching up to around 2.0 m in some locations. Localized rough conditions may persist over central and southern Maldives due to continued convective activity. Moderate to locally strong currents may persist along parts of the east coast of India. No widespread hazardous ocean conditions are anticipated during the forecast period.