

Climate Monitoring and Prediction for the Maldives – November 2025

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PACIFIC SEAS STATE

November 19, 2025

As of mid-November 2025, the equatorial Pacific is in a La Niña state. The IRI ENSO plume forecast places the probability of La Niña at 67% for November-January, easing to 53% for December-February 2025/26. From January-March onward, conditions begin shifting towards ENSO-neutral, which becomes the dominant outlook. Neutral probabilities rise to 63% at the start of the year and remain the leading state through the forecast period ending in July-September 2026. El Niño probabilities stay very low-below 10% through March-May 2026, but gradually increase thereafter, reaching 16% in April-June. (Text Courtesy IRI)

INDIAN OCEAN STATE

18 – 24 Nov, 2025

0.5°C above average SST was observed around the northern and central islands; while near-neutral SST was observed around the southern islands of Maldives.

Highlights

During 19th – 21st December, northern and central islands are expected to receive very heavy rainfall (130 – 200 mm). Despite the influence of Cyclone Ditwah, Maldives did not experience heavy rainfall during 26th – 29th November. Highest daily rainfall during this period was in the central islands on 25th November (100 mm). Sea surface temperature (SST) around northern and central islands remain warmer than usual. Winds are mainly coming from the northwest across the country.

Monitored: In November, the central islands received up to 12 mm of rainfall and the remaining islands received less. North-Westerly winds prevailed for the Maldives during the month of November.

Predictions: La Niña is favored to continue for the next month or two, with a transition to ENSO-neutral most likely in January-march 2026 (68% chance).

Summary

CLIMATOLOGY: Monthly Climatology:

In December, northern islands receive up to 150 mm while central and southern islands receive up to 200 mm and 250 mm rain respectively. Northern islands get north-easterly wind while southern islands get northerly wind. Usually, in January northern islands receive up to 50 mm rain while central and southern islands receive up to 100 mm, and 250 mm rain respectively. The wind is northeasterly. In February, northern islands receive rainfall less than 50 mm while central islands receive up to 50 mm rain and southern islands receive up to 100 mm rain. The wind is northeasterly.

PREDICTIONS

Daily Rainfall Forecast:

Date	Rainfall		
	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands
16 th December	0 mm	40 mm	20 mm
17 th December	0 mm	10 mm	10 mm
18 th December	10 mm	10 mm	40 mm
19 th December	40 mm	70 mm	40 mm
20 th December	130 mm	130 mm	40 mm
21 st December	200 mm	20 mm	0 mm
22 nd December	0 mm	70 mm	0 mm

Biweekly Rainfall Forecast:

NOAA/NCEP GFS model predicts higher probability of below-normal tercile by 50% in the northern and southern islands; by 45% in the central islands between 20th December- 2nd January.

Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature Forecast:

Below-normal precipitation tercile 50% probable in northern and southern islands; 40% probable in central islands of Maldives from January-February-March 2026 and seasonal rainfall forecast is higher likelihood of below-normal range.

MJO Index:

The MJO is predicted by NOAA CPC to be in phases 7, 8 respectively in the next two weeks (16 – 30 December 2025). MJO in phase 7 & 8 will suppress the rainfall over the Maldives from 16th - 30th December.

MONITORING: Fortnightly Rainfall Monitoring:

Date	Rainfall		
	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands
16 th November	0 mm	0 mm	0 mm
17 th November	10 mm	0 mm	3 mm
18 th November	10 mm	5 mm	10 mm
19 th November	5 mm	5 mm	10 mm
20 th November	0 mm	5 mm	5 mm
21 st November	0 mm	0 mm	10 mm
22 nd November	5 mm	10 mm	20 mm
23 rd November	20 mm	20 mm	0 mm
24 th November	30 mm	60 mm	0 mm
25 th November	10 mm	100 mm	20 mm
26 th November	20 mm	40 mm	30 mm
27 th November	20 mm	40 mm	5 mm
28 th November	0 mm	60 mm	10 mm
29 th November	10 mm	40 mm	5 mm
30 th November	30 mm	30 mm	0 mm

Monthly and Seasonal Rainfall Monitoring

Monthly Average: In November, the central islands received up to 12 mm of rainfall; while northern and southern islands received up to 5 mm rainfall.

Monthly Temperature Monitoring:

	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands
T Max	29.1°C	32.0°C	32.0°C
T Min	24.3°C	24.0°C	25.6°C

Dekadal Rainfall Estimates

21-30 Nov, Dekadal rainfall estimated as; Northern Islands: 50 mm rainfall

Central Islands: 250 mm rainfall

Southern Islands: 70 mm rainfall

1-10 Dec, Dekadal rainfall estimated as; Northern Islands: 100 mm rainfall

Central Islands: 100 mm rainfall

Southern Islands: 80 mm rainfall

Figures in Annexure

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Key Terms:

ENSO – El Niño–Southern Oscillation
 IOD – Indian Ocean Dipole
 MJO – Madden–Julian Oscillation
 GFS – Global Forecast System
 NOAA – U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 MMS – Maldives Meteorological Service

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