



**Government of India
Earth System Science Organization
Ministry of Earth Sciences
India Meteorological Department**

Press Release

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Advance of southwest monsoon into south Andaman Sea

In view of the strengthening & deepening of cross equatorial flow and enhanced cloudiness and rainfall in association with a cyclonic circulation at mid-tropospheric levels over Andaman Sea, southwest Monsoon has advanced into South Andaman Sea, some parts of South Bay of Bengal and Nicobar Islands, today, the 18th May 2019. The Northern Limit of Monsoon (NLM) passes through lat. 5° N/ Long 81° E, lat. 7° N/ Long 88° E, Car Nicobar and lat. 13° N/ Long 99° E (Fig.1).

Further advance during next 3-4 days

Conditions are favorable for further advance of Southwest Monsoon into some more parts of South Bay of Bengal, north Andaman Sea & Andaman Islands during next 3-4 days.

Major features associated with onset of monsoon and advance

- Widespread rainfall occurred over Nicobar Islands during last 48 hours.
- Westerly wind has strengthened in the lower levels (upto 15 knots) and deepened (upto 6 km) over the southern Latitudes covering south Andaman Sea, Nicobar Islands and southern parts of south Bay of Bengal.
- There is persistent cloudiness from 15th May onwards over south Andaman Sea, adjoining south Bay of Bengal and Nicobar Islands. The Satellite (INSAT-3D) derived Outgoing Long wave Radiation over the region is less than 200 W/m².

In addition to the above features, the following developments are also noticed.

- A cyclonic circulation lies over Andaman Sea at mid-tropospheric levels.
- An east-west shear zone runs along Latitude 7°N across south Bay of Bengal, Nicobar Islands and south Andaman Sea.

Forecast & warnings for Andaman & Nicobar Islands during next 5 days

Heavy rainfall warning:

- Light to moderate rainfall at most places with heavy rainfall at isolated places very likely on 18th & 19th May; and light to moderate rainfall at many places during 20th to 22nd May over Nicobar Islands.
- Light to moderate rainfall at a few places very likely on 18th May, many places on 19th May; and at most places with heavy rainfall at isolated places during 20th to 22nd May, 2019 over Andaman Islands.

Wind Warning:

- Strong wind speed reaching 30-40 kmph gusting to 50 kmph very likely over south Andaman Sea, Nicobar Islands & adjoining south Bay of Bengal on 18th & 19th May; and over north Andaman Sea, Andaman Islands and adjoining south Bay of Bengal and south Andaman Sea during 20th to 22nd May, 2019.

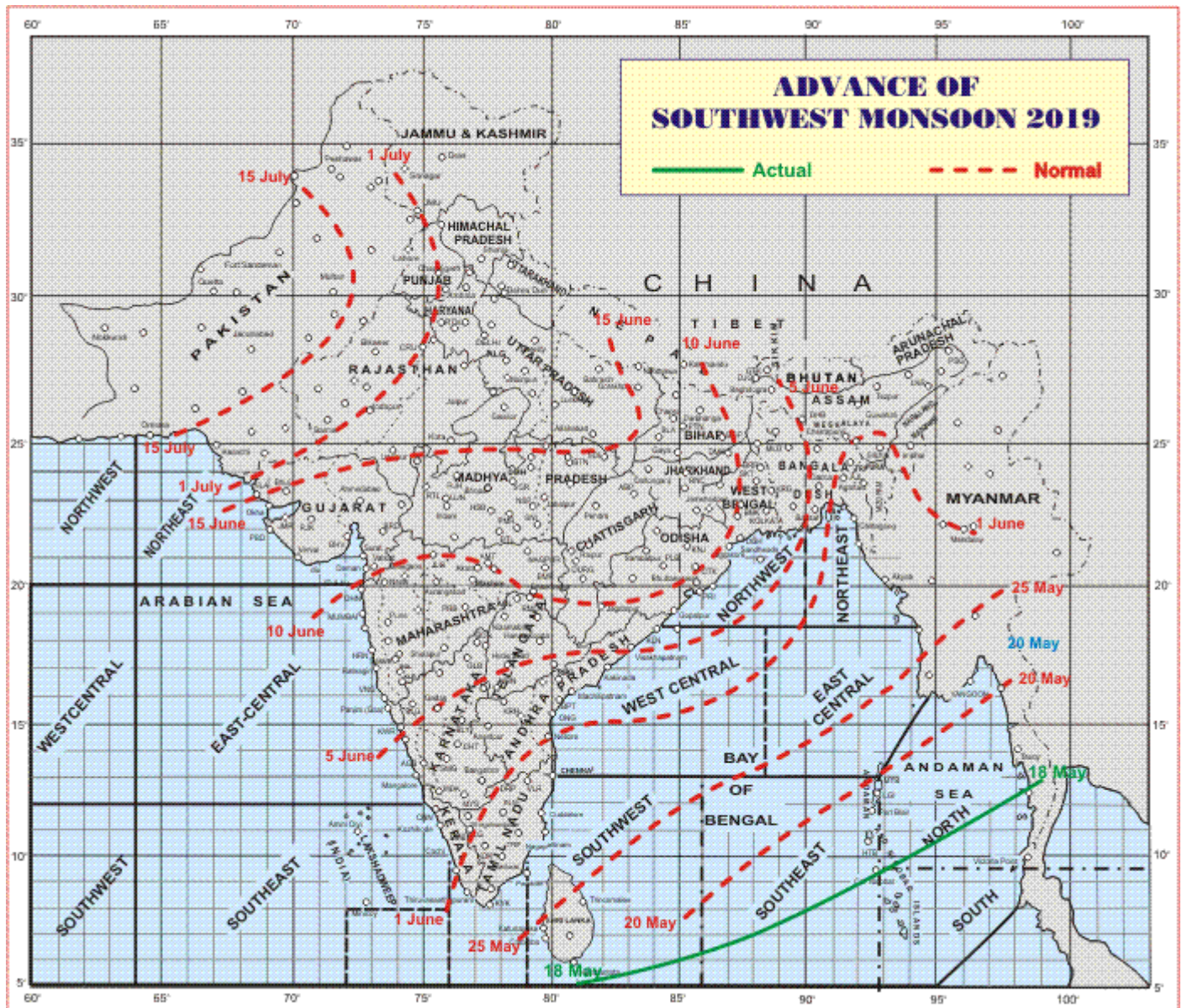


Fig.1: Advance of Southwest Monsoon 2019