Monthly and Seasonal Outlook of Rainfall for Chattogram and Cox's Bazar Region, Bangladesh

Issued on January 07, 2026

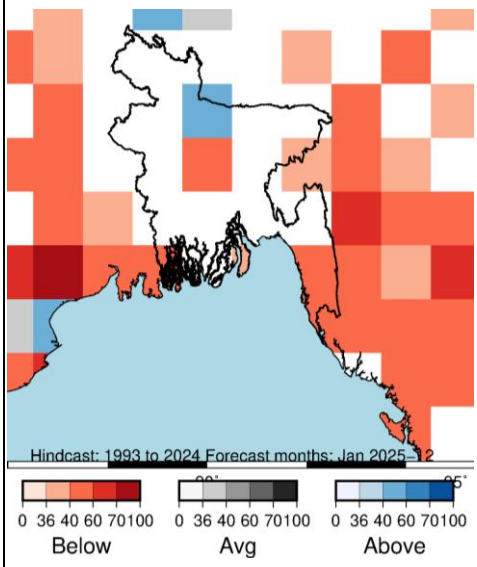
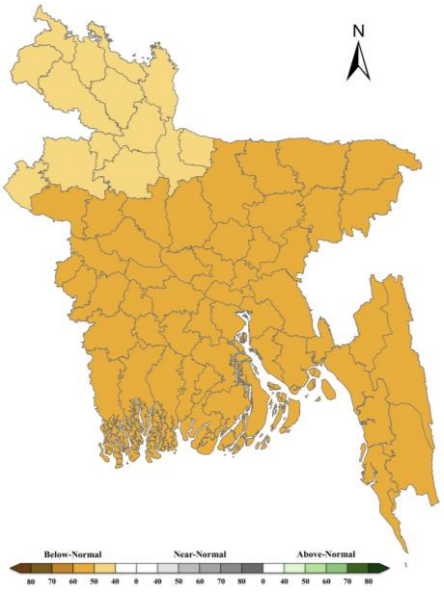
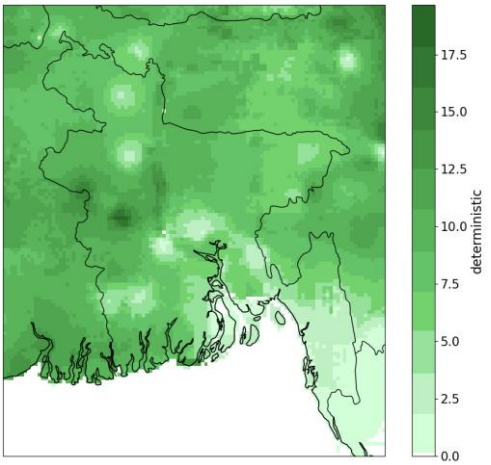
For the Month of January and Jan-Feb-Mar

Observed Climate in December 2025

The cumulative rainfall for the month of December in Cox's Bazar and Teknaf were 0 (zero) mm which indicates in Cox's Bazar and Teknaf had (-100%) below normal rainfall during December. For reference, based on the climatology (1991-2020) the normal cumulative rainfall for the month of December is 12 mm in Cox's Bazar and 15 mm in Teknaf. The overall rainfall scenario was below normal (-99%) for Chattogram in the month of December.

Outlook for January 2026

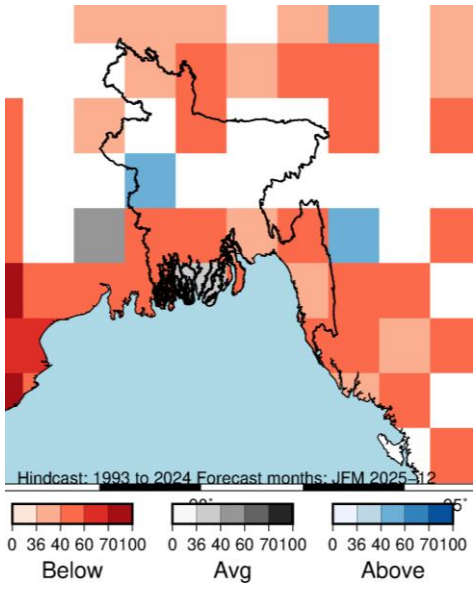
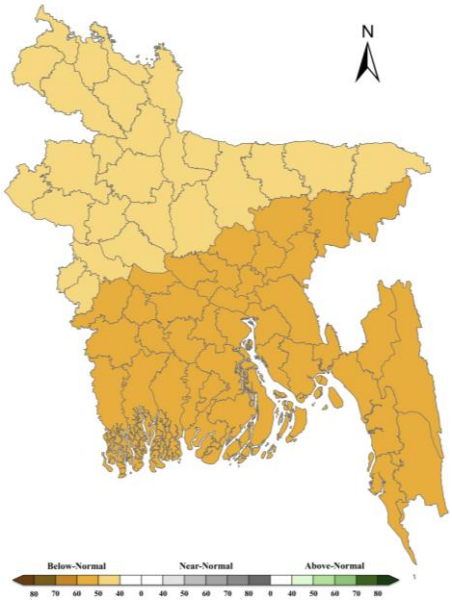
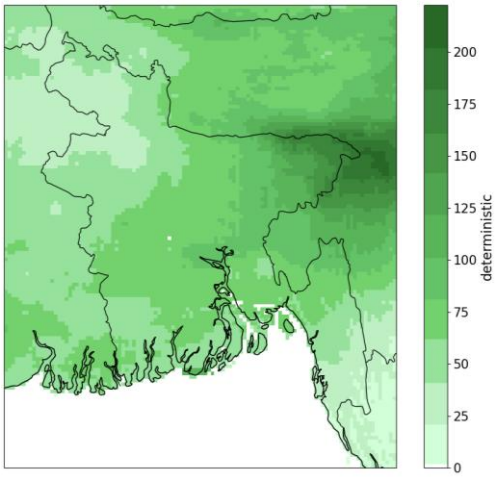
Considering World Meteorological Organization (WMO) designated global center model outputs, RIMES FOCUS probabilistic outlook, and BMD's deterministic forecast, there is a 50-60% chance of below normal rainfall in Cox's Bazar region during the month of January. For reference, based on the climatology (1991-2020), the normal cumulative rainfall for the month of January in Cox's Bazar is (6) mm and Teknaf is (4) mm. Overall, analyzing the available model output, it is likely to be below normal rainfall for the whole country during the month of January.

RIMES FOCUS Probabilistic for January	Probabilistic Multi-Model Ensemble Rainfall Forecast for January	BMD Deterministic Rainfall Forecast for January
		

There is no possibility of the formation of any cyclone or depression over the Bay of Bengal during January.

Outlook for January-February-March 2026

Considering World Meteorological Organization (WMO) designated global center model outputs, RIMES FOCUS probabilistic outlook, and BMD's deterministic forecast, it is highly likely that the month of January-February-March would bring below normal rainfall for the Chattogram and Cox's Bazar region. Based on the climatology (1991-2020) the normal cumulative rainfall for January-February-March in Cox's Bazar is 61 mm and in Teknaf is 39 mm. Considering the available model output there is a 50-60% chance of below normal rainfall in the Cox's Bazar region. Overall, the whole country may receive below normal rainfall during this three-month period.

RIMES FOCUS Probabilistic Forecast for JFM	Probabilistic Multi-Model Ensemble Rainfall Forecast for JFM	BMD Deterministic Rainfall Forecast for JFM
		

Overview

The climate outlook provides a broader perspective of the possible climate for the coming month and season. This monthly and seasonal outlook (January and January-February-March) is generated by analyzing various global models and the monthly forecast of the Bangladesh Meteorological Department. In this outlook, forecast generated by the RIMES FOCUS tool is also included (which shall be tested experimentally for Bangladesh).

Interpretation of climate outlooks

In general, the climate outlooks are presented in two different ways. But first we need to explain **Normal**. Normal in climate terms is the Long Period Average (LPA) of the rainfall over a location using 30 years or more of rainfall data (measured at a station). The average is considered as the "Normal" rainfall for the region. And seasonal climate outlook is to estimate if the season will have more than Normal, less than Normal rainfall or equivalent to normal rainfall.

Forecast methods:

1. **Deterministic**: Deterministic forecast explains the percentage (%) departure from Normal. If we expect 20% or less than Normal rainfall, we call it to be **Below Normal**, if we expect 20% or more, we can it **Above Normal** and anything within the ±20% is called **Near Normal** rainfall for the season.

2. **Probabilistic**: The probabilistic approach explains the possibility (chance) of a certain amount of rainfall happening. For example, what is the chance of the season to be Below Normal, Normal or above Normal. If we say 45% Below normal, 30 % Normal, and 25 % Above Normal. There is a highly likely chance for the season to be Normal to Below Normal with a combined (75%) chance.

Important Note

Near Normal rainfall does not indicate there will be no or less extreme rainfall events. There can be high-intensity rainfall within a short period of time followed by dry spells which may sum up as Near Normal for the month. Users are advised to follow short and medium-range forecasts of BMD to keep track of extreme weather events. This outlook will be updated in the first week of February 2026.