



**REGIONAL SPECIALISED METEOROLOGICAL CENTRE -TROPICAL CYCLONES, NEW DELHI
TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK**

DEMS-RSMC TROPICAL CYCLONES NEW DELHI DATED 21.02.2026

TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR THE NORTH INDIAN OCEAN (THE BAY OF BENGAL AND THE ARABIAN SEA) VALID FOR THE NEXT 168 HOURS ISSUED AT 0700 UTC OF 21.02.2026 BASED ON 0300 UTC OF 21.02.2026.

BAY OF BENGAL:

Under the influence of the yesterday's upper air cyclonic circulation over the Equatorial Indian Ocean (EIO) & adjoining southeast Bay of Bengal (BoB), a low-pressure area formed over the same region at 0000 UTC and it lay over southwest BoB and adjoining EIO at 0300 UTC of today, the 21st February, 2026. The associated cyclonic circulation extended upto 5.8 km above mean sea level. Yesterday's upper air cyclonic circulation over the EIO and adjoining southwest BoB has merged with the existing low-pressure area over southwest BoB and adjoining EIO.

It is likely to move westnorthwestwards & become more marked over southwest BoB & adjoining EIO during next 24 hrs.

As per INSAT 3D(S), the low-level cyclonic circulation lay over central parts of south BoB and neighbourhood. Associated scattered to broken low and medium clouds with embedded intense to very intense convection lay over the south BoB adjoining EIO. Minimum Cloud Top Temperature is minus 70 to 90 Deg C. Scattered low to medium clouds with embedded isolated weak to moderate convection lay over northeast and central BoB and Andaman Sea.

Squally weather with wind speed reaching 40 to 50 gusting to 60 kmph is likely to prevail over southwest & adjoining southeast BoB and adjoining Equatorial Indian Ocean (EIO), over Comorin area, Gulf of Mannar & Lakshadweep areas and along and off Sri Lanka, South Tamil Nadu & Kerala coasts on 21st & 22nd February. Squally weather with wind speed reaching 40 to 50 gusting to 60 kmph is likely to prevail over central parts of south BoB during 23rd to 24th February. The sea condition is likely to rough over these areas. Fishermen are advised not to venture into these areas.

PROBABILITY OF CYCLOGENESIS (FORMATION OF DEPRESSION) DURING NEXT 168 HRS)

24 HOURS	24-48 HOURS	48-72 HOURS	72-96 HOURS	96-120 HOURS	120-144 HOURS	144-168 HOURS
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

***NOTE: EVERY 24HR FORECAST IS VALID UPTO 0300 UTC (0830 IST) OF NEXT DAY**

ARABIAN SEA:

Scattered low to medium clouds with embedded moderate to intense convection lay over the south Arabian Sea, Lakshadweep Island Area, Maldives and Comorin area. Scattered low to medium clouds lay over central Arabian Sea.

Cloud distribution: (a) Isolated: <25%, Scattered:25-50%, Broken: 51-75%, Solid:>75%, Convection Intensity: (a) Weak: Cloud Top Temperature(CTT)>-25°C, (b) Moderate: CTT:-25°Cto-40°C, (c) Intense: CTT: -41°Cto -70°C and (d) Very Intense::Less than -70°C Probability of cyclogenesis (formation of depression) :NIL:0%, LOW:1-33%, MODERATE:34-66% and HIGH:67-100%

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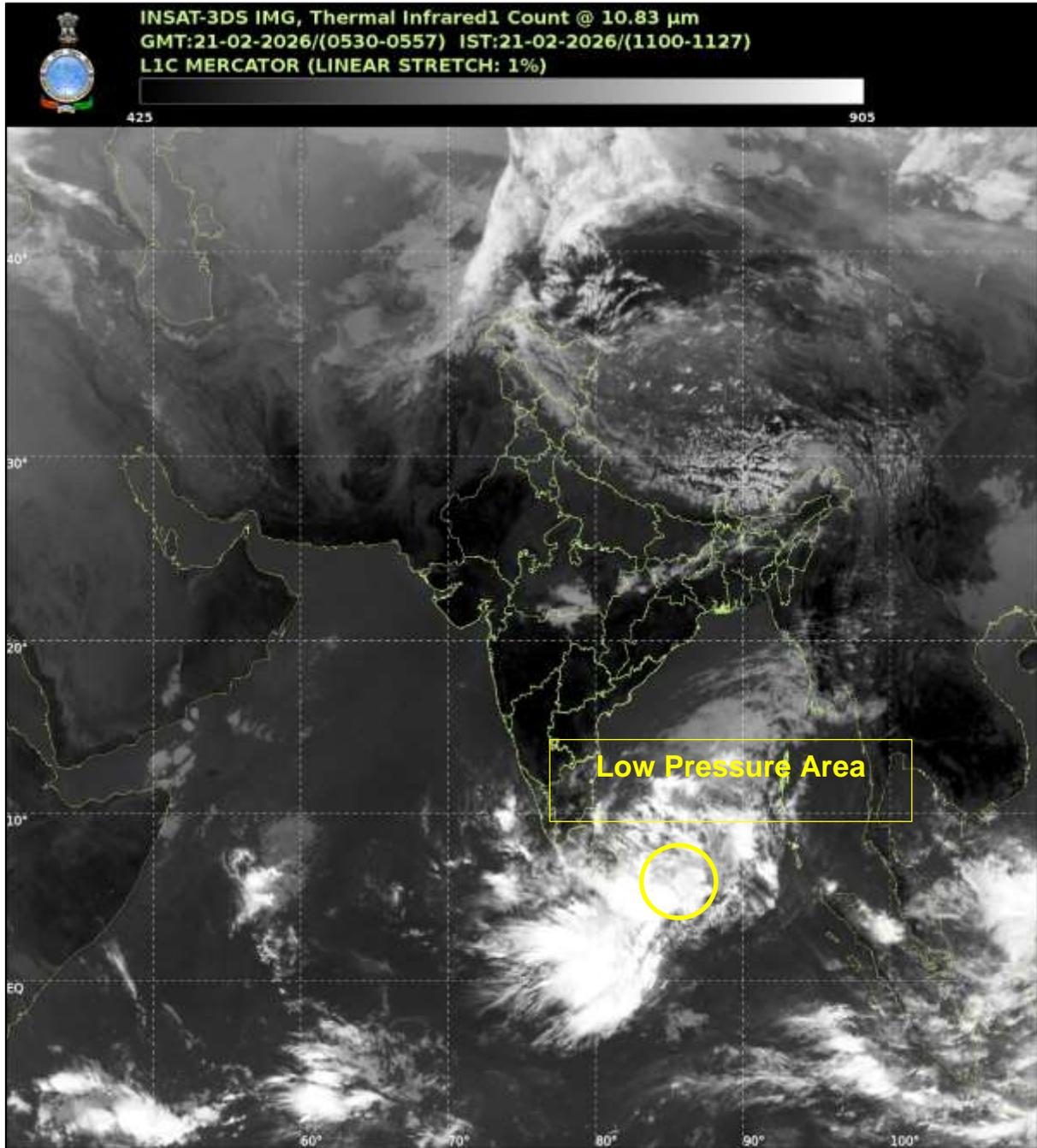
REMARKS:

Environmental features indicate a favourable environment with Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) in phase 4 with close to 1. It is likely to continue in same phase with amplitude remaining close to 1 during next 3-4 days. The equatorial waves show enhanced westerly wind anomaly (>9 mps) alongwith prevalence of MJO, Equatorial Rossby wave (ERW), Kelvin wave (KW), low frequency back ground wave (LW) over the southwest BoB and adjoining EIO and easterly wind anomaly (7-9 mps) over westcentral BoB and central India on 21st and 22nd Feb. These features indicate a favourable environment for enhancement of convective activity over the southwest BoB during next 2 days. Thereafter various equatorial waves are drifting away along their normal path.

The dynamical features indicate a favourable for development of a cyclonic circulation/low pressure area over South BoB and Comorin area. Broad zone of positive convergence is seen over southwest BoB and adjoining EIO with maxima $10 \times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$ over southwest BoB and another zone over EIO & adjoining Southwest BoB to the south of Sri Lanka with maxima $15 \times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$. Broad scale positive upper-level divergence is seen over southwest BoB and adjoining EIO with maxima ($40 \times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$) over EIO & adjoining southwest BoB to the south of Sri Lanka. Two positive vorticity zones are seen over southwest BoB ($50-60 \times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$) and another zone of positive vorticity $30-40 \times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$ is seen over EIO & adjoining Comorin area. The wind shear is moderate (15-20 kts) over the south BoB. The upper tropospheric ridge lay near 10°N . All these features indicate a favourable environment for maintenance of intensity of the system.

Various deterministic and ensemble models are indicating active easterly wave over south BoB during 21st-25th Feb with embedded cyclonic circulations. Most of the models are indicating low pressure area over southwest BoB to move gradually east-southeastwards during next 3-4 days.

Considering all the above, probability of cyclogenesis is given as NIL during next 7 days. However, a continuous watch is being maintained with respect to movement low pressure area and associated sea area warnings over south BoB during 21st to 25th February.



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