



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

DEMS-RSMC TROPICAL CYCLONES NEW DELHI DATED 16.02.2026

TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR THE NORTH INDIAN OCEAN (THE BAY OF BENGAL AND THE ARABIAN SEA) VALID FOR THE NEXT 168 HOURS ISSUED AT 0600 UTC OF 16.02.2026 BASED ON 0300 UTC OF 16.02.2026.

BAY OF BENGAL:

Under the influence of the upper air cyclonic circulation over east Equatorial Indian Ocean & adjoining central parts of south Bay of Bengal, a **Low Pressure Area** formed over the same region at 0300 UTC of today, the 16th February, 2026. The associated upper air cyclonic circulation extended upto 5.8 km above mean sea level. It is likely to move west-northwestwards and become more marked over southwest Bay of Bengal & adjoining east Equatorial Indian Ocean around 18th February, 2026.

The system is centered near 4.5N/89.0E. The associated estimated central pressure is 1009 hPa and maximum sustained wind speed is 10-15 kt gusting to 25 kt.

Scattered to broken low and medium clouds with embedded intense to very intense convection lay over the Equatorial Indian Ocean and adjoining south Bay of Bengal. Minimum cloud top temperature is -90°C . Scattered low to medium clouds with embedded moderate to intense convection lay over south Andaman Sea. Scattered low to medium clouds lay over the central Bay of Bengal and north Andaman Sea.

Squally weather with wind speed reaching 35 to 45 kmph gusting to 55 kmph likely to prevail over some parts of central parts of south Bay of Bengal and adjoining east Equatorial Indian Ocean on 16th February, over southwest Bay of Bengal & adjoining east Equatorial Indian Ocean and along & off Sri Lanka coast during during 17th to 21st February and over Gulf of Mannar & adjoining Comorin Area during 19th to 21st February. Sea condition is likely to be moderate to rough over these areas during 16th to 21st February. Fishermen are advised not to venture into these areas during 16th to 21st February.

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:

An upper air cyclonic circulation lay over Lakshadweep & adjoining southeast Arabian Sea off north Kerala coast at 1.5 km above mean sea level at 0000 UTC of today, the 16th February 2026.

Scattered low to medium clouds with embedded moderate to intense convection lay over the south Arabian Sea, Maldives & the Comorin area and isolated weak to moderate convection lay over the Lakshadweep Islands area.

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REMARKS:

Environmental features indicate a favourable environment with Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) in phase 3 with amplitude close to 2. The equatorial waves show enhanced westerly wind anomaly (>9 mps) over the south Bay of Bengal (BoB) and adjoining East Equatorial Indian Ocean (EEIO), easterly wind anomaly (7-9 mps) over south Andaman Sea & central BoB, alongwith prevalence of MJO, Equatorial Rossby wave (ERW), Kelvin wave (KW), low frequency back ground wave (LW) during 16th – 19th Feb. The dynamial features have also consolidated in past 24 hours. There is increase in positive low-level convergence (with maxima as $20 \times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$) over EEIO and adjoining southwest BoB to the south of Sri Lanka. The positive convergence zone (with maxima as $20 \times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$) in association with the system over the South Indian Ocean (SIO) has moved westwards as compared to yesterday. The positive upper-level divergence is the same during past 24 hours. However, it has now decoupled from the positive divergence zone over SIO. The postive low level vorticity has increased (with maxima as $60-70 \times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$) at 850 hPa and is east-west oriented over south BoB and adjoining EEIO. The positive vorticity zone is extending upto 200 hPa. The wind shear is moderate (15-20 kt) over the system area. All these features indicate a favourable environment for further development of the system.

