



**Ministry of Earth Sciences
India Meteorological Department
Cyclone Warning Division, New Delhi**

**Tropical Cyclone Forecast Programme
Report Dated 18th October 2026**

Time of Issue: 1400 UTC

Synoptic features (based on 1200 UTC analysis):

- (a) An upper air cyclonic circulation lay over southwest Arabian Sea at 1200 UTC of yesterday, the 17th October, 2026. Under it's influence, a Low Pressure Area formed over the same region at 0300 UTC of today, the 18th October 2026. It lay as a well marked low pressure area over the same region at 1200 UTC of today. It is very likely to intensify into a depression during next 24 hours. It is likely to move initially east-northeastwards, recurve gradually northwestwards and move towards Somalia coast during next 2-3 days.
- (b) An upper air cyclonic circulation lay over Westrcentral Bay of Bengal & adjoining south Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu coasts and extended upto 7.6 km above mean sea level at 0300 UTC of today, the 18th October, 2026. It persisted over the same region at 1200 UTC.
- (c) Another upper air cyclonic circulation lay over Gulf of Thailand & neighbourhood extending upto 1.5 km above mean sea level at 0300 UTC of today, the 18th October, 2026. It persisted over the same region at 1200 UTC.
- (d) Yesterday's upper air cyclonic circulation over the northern parts of Lakshadweep & neighbourhood became less marked at 0300 UTC of today, the 18th October, 2026.

Environmental Features based on 1200 UTC:

Parameter	Bay of Bengal (BoB)	Arabian Sea (AS)
Sea Surface Temperature (SST) °C	Around 28 - 30°C over entire BoB.	Around 27 - 29°C over entire AS.
Tropical Cyclone Heat Potential (TCHP) kJ/cm²	80-100 over most parts of BoB with 100-120 over southwest & adjoining westcentral BoB, North Andaman Sea, parts of southeast BoB, eastcentral and adjoining northeast BoB.	80-100 over most parts of southeast, eastcentral and adjoining northeast AS with 120-130 over some pockets of southeast & eastcentral AS and Comorin area. 60-70 over western parts of AS.
Cyclonic Relative vorticity ($\times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$) at 850 hPa	50-60 over southwest BoB along & off south Andhra Pradesh-north Tamil Nadu Coasts. 40-50 over westcentral and adjoining northwest BoB	70-80 over southwest AS & adjoining Equatorial Indian Ocean (EIO) 50-60 over westcentral and adjoining southwest AS off Socotra Islands.
Cyclonic Relative vorticity ($\times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$) at 500 hPa	40-50 over southwest BoB along & off south Andhra Pradesh-north Tamil Nadu Coasts. 40-50 over Gulf of Thailand	50-60 over southwest AS & adjoining Equatorial Indian Ocean (EIO) 50-60 over westcentral and southwest AS off Socotra Islands. 50-60 over westcentral AS off

		Oman coast.
Low-Level convergence ($\times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$)	5 over over Gulf of Thailand 5 over southwest BoB 5-10 over southwest BoB	10 over southwest AS & adjoining Equatorial Indian Ocean (EIO) Another zone of positive convergence (+5) over Somalia coast
Upper-Level divergence ($\times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$)	20 over westcentral and adjoining southwest BoB along & off south Andhra Pradesh-north Tamil Nadu Coasts. 20 over over Gulf of Thailand 10 over Irrawaddy Delta	40 over southeast AS over the system area.
Vertical Wind Shear (VWS) Low: 05-10 knots Moderate: 10-20 knots High: >20 knots	Low to moderate over Gulf of Thailand, south Myanmar, Andaman Sea, central and adjoining south BoB	Moderate over system area and towards Somalia coast. Low to moderate over southeast and southwest AS
Wind Shear Tendency (knots)	Decreasing (-5) over north Andaman Sea. Decreasing (-5) over southwest BoB off southeast Sri Lanka	Increasing over system area (10-20) Decreasing (10-20) over Yemen-Oman coast.
Upper Tropospheric Ridge	Ridge is running along 14°N	Ridge is running along 10°N
GPP	NA	NA

M.J.O. Index:

The guidance from various numerical models indicate that the Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) is currently in Phase 3 with amplitude close to 1. It is likely to continue in same phase during next 7 days. Thus, MJO is favorable for enhancement of convective activity and cyclogenesis over the North Indian Ocean (NIO) including the Bay of Bengal (BoB) and the Arabian Sea (AS) during both the weeks.

Equatorial waves guidance:

The guidance from the NCICS model indicates the prevalence of westerly wind anomaly (7-9 mps) alongwith Equatorial Rossby Wave (ERW) over East Equatorial Indian Ocean (EEIO) and adjoining south BoB & easterly wind anomaly (5-7mps) alongwith Kelvin Wave (KW) over central BoB during next 2 days. Similarly westerly wind anomaly (5-7 mps) alongwith MJO & KW and an approaching ERW over central parts of south AS & adjoining EIO and easterly wind anomaly to its north during next 2 days are supporting in development of low pressure area and its further intensification into a depression. Thereafter during 20th – 22nd, all features are similar except that KW may not be present over the region. Thereafter during 23rd – 25th Oct., the model is indicating westerly wind anomaly (5-7 mps) along with simultaneous occurrence of ERW, KW & MJO wave over southwest BoB & southeast AS and easterly wind anomaly (3-5 mps) over northern parts of India and adjoining north BoB. These features indicate a favorable environment for cyclogenesis over the south BoB and southeast AS during 23rd-25th.

Currently, low level easterly wave is active over the North Indian Ocean region with troughs running along (a) from Gulf of Thailand to North Andaman Sea, (b) from upper air cyclonic circulation over North Tamil Nadu & neighbourhood to westcentral BoB and (c) southwest AS to westcentral AS. There is also ERW over southwest AS. Under the influence of ERW, the low pressure area over southwest AS is likely to become more marked during next 24 hours and persist over the region till 25th Oct.

Satellite features:

Over the Bay of Bengal & Andaman Sea:

As per INSAT 3DS at 1200 UTC, scattered to broken, low and medium clouds with embedded intense to very intense convection lay over the west-central and southwest Bay of Bengal off the coastal Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu coasts and over the Andaman Sea. Scattered low to medium clouds with embedded isolated moderate to intense convection lay over the rest of the Bay of Bengal.

Over the Arabian Sea:

LLCC associated convection: As per INSAT 3DS at 1200 UTC, the cloud mass has organised in past 12 hours. Associated low level cyclonic circulation lay over southwest Arabian Sea and neighbourhood. Scattered to broken low and medium clouds with embedded intense to very intense convection lay over southwest Arabian Sea and adjoining Equatorial Indian Ocean. Minimum cloud top temperature is -93 C.

Other parts of Arabian Sea: Scattered to broken, low and medium clouds with embedded intense to very intense convection lay over the southern Arabian Sea south of latitude 10°. Scattered low to medium clouds with embedded moderate to intense convection lay over the Lakshadweep area, Maldives and Comorin area, with weak to moderate convection over the central Arabian Sea.

Outside India:

As per INSAT 3DS at 1200 UTC, scattered low to medium clouds with embedded moderate to intense convection lay over the Palk Strait, Gulf of Mannar, Maldives area, Tibet, China, Yellow Sea, East China Sea, Myanmar, Thailand, Gulf of Thailand, Cambodia, South Vietnam, Sumatra, Strait of Malacca, Malaysia, Borneo, South China Sea, Java Sea, Celebes Islands and sea, Philippines, Sulu Sea, and over the Indian Ocean between latitude 5.0°N and 20.0°S and longitude 40.0°E and 100.0°E.

NWP Guidance for FDP Cyclone:

MODEL GUIDANCE	Bay of Bengal (BoB)	Arabian Sea (AS)
IMD-GFS	Model is indicating a trough from westcentral BoB to south Kerala Coasts across embedded cycir over north TN on 18/00. An easterly wave with embedded circulations is seen over south BoB during 22/00 to 23/00. Upper air cyclonic circulation to emerge into south Andaman Sea on	Low pressure area over southwest AS on 18/00, to persist over same region till 25/00 with gradual west-southwestwards movement towards northwest EIO.

	19/00 with westwards movement during next 2 to 3 days.	
ECMWF	Upper air cyclonic circulation to emerge into south Andaman Sea on 20/00, LPA over Andaman Sea on 22/12, gradual intensification to Depression over Andaman Sea adjoining southeast BoB on 25/12, to move nearly westwards and intensify into Deep Depression over southeast adjoining Andaman Islands. It is indicated to move west-northwestwards and intensify further and move towards north AP-South Odisha Coasts.	LPA over southwest AS on 18/00, to persist over same region with continuous intensification upto 0600 UTC of 19 th Oct. It is indicated to move initially east-northeastwards till 19/12 UTC, recurve northwestwards and move towards Somalia coast.
NCEP-GFS	Upper air cyclonic circulation over Andaman sea on 26/12 and intensify into LPA over north Andaman Sea adjoining south Myanmar coasts on 27/00. To move north-northwestwards and intensify further into a WML on 28/00. It is indicated to move towards south Myanmar coasts and gradually weaken thereafter.	Upper air cyclonic circulation over southwest AS on 18/00, with intensification into an LPA over the same region on 18/12 and into a WML on 19/12. It further intensify into Depression (D) over the same region on 20/06. It moves westwards with marginal intensification towards Somalia coast till 22/12.
BFS	Similar to IMD GFS	Similar to IMD GFS
MITHUNA	Model is indicating a trough from westcentral BoB to upper air cyclonic circulation over south AP on 18/00. Cycir over Gulf of Thailand to emerge into south Andaman Sea on 19/00 to move initially westwards then north-northwestwards, Under its influence a low-pressure area is indicated over westcentral Bay of Bengal on 24/00 and indicating movement towards north Odisha on 25/00 and less marked thereafter	Upper air cyclonic circulation over southwest AS on 18/00, to persist over same region with marginal intensification till 20/00, to move west northwestwards towards Gulf of Aden.
NEPS	Upper air cyclonic circulation to emerge into south Andaman Sea on 20/00, LPA over southeast BoB on 22/00. To move initially west northwestwards towards north CAP and south Odisha coast as a LPA till 24/00. Then movement nearly south-southeastwards towards southwest BoB.	LPA over southwest AS on 18/00 to move nearly westwards towards Somalia coast till 23/00. Cycir to emerge into southeast AS on 22/00, LPA over eastcentral and adj southeast AS on 24/00. To move north northwestwards till 26/00.
IMD-GEFS	Model is indicating east-west trough from the south Andaman Sea to southwest BoB during 19/12 to 20/12UTC.	Upper air cyclonic circulation over southwest AS on 17/12 becoming LPA during 18/12 to 19/12 over the same region and less marked thereafter. It is

		indicated to move slowly westwards towards Somalia coast till 25/00.
AI Models		
EC-AIFS	LPA over southwest Arabian sea on 18/00. Slow west-northwestwards movement towards Somalia coast till 21/00.	Upper air cyclonic circulation over central BoB on 22/12. To intensify into an LPA over same region on 23/12 and further into a WML over the same region on 25/12 and into D on 25/18. DD on 26/00 as DD over the same region. It moves slowly west-northwestwards and intensifies further over westcentral BoB and moves towards north AP & south Odisha coasts.
IMD AURORA	LPA over eastcentral BoB on 21/00. To move north-northwestwards and intensify into WML over westcentral BoB. To move northwards with slight intensification towards Bangladesh coasts till 25/00 and less marked thereafter.	Upper air cyclonic circulation over southwest AS on 18/00. To move west-northwestwards towards Somalia coast till 22/00 without any significant intensification.
IMD FGN	LPA over central BoB on 23/00. To move north-northeastwards and intensify into D over central and adjoining north BoB on 24/00 and move towards Bangladesh coast as D till 25/00. Another LPA over central BoB on 26/00 with west-northwestwards movement and intensify into D on 28/00. To move towards north AP coasts.	Upper air cyclonic circulation over southwest AS on 17/00 to move westwards and intensify into an LPA on 19/00 and depression on 20/00 over same region. To move westwards towards Somalia coast on 22/00 as a depression.
IMD FCN	LPA over eastcentral BoB on 21/00. To move west-northwestwards, intensify into depression over westcentral BoB on 23/00. To move north-northeastwards and intensify into CS on 24/00 and move towards Bangladesh coasts on 25/00 as DD.	No significant system is indicated over AS during next 7 days.
NCMRWF FOURCAST NET	No significant system is indicated over BoB during next 7 days.	No significant system is indicated over AS during next 7 days.
NCMRWF GRAPHCAST	Upper air cyclonic circulation over westcentral BoB on 24/00. To intensify into a WML over the same region on 25/00, into a depression over the same region on 26/00. It is indicated to move west-northwestwards and intensify further to and move towards Odisha coast till 27/00 and weaken thereafter.	Upper air cyclonic circulation over southwest AS on 18/00 to persist over same region and move slowly west northwestwards towards Gulf of Aden till 25/00
NCMRWF PANGU	Upper air cyclonic circulation to emerge over south Andaman Sea on 19/00 and intensify into an LPA over	Upper air cyclonic circulation over southwest AS on 18/00 to persist over same region and move slowly west-

	eastcentral BoB on 22/00, depression over westcentral BoB on 23/00. It is indicated to move north-northeastwards and intensify further and move towards Bangladesh coast as D on 25/00	northwestwards towards Gulf of Aden till 25/00.
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Legends:

IMD GFS: India Meteorological Department Global Forecast System, IMD GEFS: India Meteorological Department - Global Ensemble Forecast System, BFS: Bharat Forecast System, Mithuna: National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting Centre (NCMRWF), NEPS: NCUM ensemble prediction system, ECMWF: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting, NCEP GFS/GEFS/CFS: National Centre for Environment Prediction GFS/GEFSv12/CFSv2, EC-AIFS: ECMWF Artificial Intelligence Forecasting System, IMD AURORA: Artificial Intelligence Unified Regional Operational Rainfall Assessment, IMD FGN : India Meteorological Department - Forecast Guidance Network, IMD FCN : India Meteorological Department - Forecast Consensus Network

Summary:

(a) Bay of Bengal:

Various numerical models (ECMWF, IMD GFS, Mithuna, NEPS and AI models like Aurora, FGN, FCN, EC-AIFS, GraphCast and Pangu) are indicating the likely emergence of an upper air cyclonic circulation over the south Andaman Sea around 19–20 October in association with an easterly wave. Under its influence, a low-pressure area is likely to form over the southeast/eastcentral Bay of Bengal around 22 October, with some models indicating formation over the westcentral Bay of Bengal around 23–24 October.

There is considerable divergence among the models regarding the subsequent movement and intensification of the system. Some models (ECMWF, EC-AIFS, GraphCast and Pangu) indicate intensification into a depression around 23–26 October, with further movement towards the north Andhra Pradesh–South Odisha coasts. However, some AI models (Aurora, FGN and FCN) indicate movement towards the north Bay of Bengal/Bangladesh coasts, while other models show different tracks and timings. IMD GFS and BFS indicate an easterly wave with embedded circulations over the south Bay of Bengal during 22–23 October, while NCEP-GFS indicates a separate system over the north Andaman Sea around 26–27 October, moving towards the south Myanmar coast. Thus, there is considerable uncertainty regarding the location of formation, intensification and subsequent track of the potential system over the Bay of Bengal.

(b) Arabian Sea:

(i) Most of the numerical models (IMD GFS, ECMWF, NCEP-GFS, Mithuna, NEPS, IMD GEFS, FGN and GraphCast) indicate the persistence of a low-pressure area over the southwest Arabian Sea on 18th October, with varying indications regarding its intensification and movement. While some models (ECMWF, NCEP-GFS and FGN) indicate intensification into a depression around 20 October, other models indicate marginal intensification followed by gradual weakening. Most models indicate its initial east-northeastward movement followed by gradual northwestward movement towards the Somalia coast/Gulf of Aden during the subsequent 3–5 days.

(ii) NEPS also indicates the emergence of an upper air cyclonic circulation over the southeast Arabian Sea around 22 October, intensifying into a low-pressure area over the eastcentral and adjoining southeast Arabian Sea around 24 October, with subsequent

north-northwestward movement. However, there is considerable divergence among models regarding the development and movement of this system. Some AI models do not indicate any significant system over the Arabian Sea during the next seven days.

Inference:

Considering the environmental features and guidance from various numerical models, it is inferred that:

- ❖ The well marked low pressure area over southwest Arabian Sea is very likely to intensify into a depression during next 24 hours. It is very likely to move initially east-northeastwards, recurve gradually northwestwards and move towards Somalia coast during next 2-3 days. Hence Moderate probability is assigned to cyclogenesis (formation of depression) over Arabian Sea during next 2 days.
- ❖ The upper air cyclonic circulation lay over Westercentral Bay of Bengal & adjoining south Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu coasts is likely to move gradually south-southwestwards, reach Gulf of Mannar around 21st Oct. Thereafter, it is likely to move west-northwestwards and lay over southeast Arabian Sea around 22nd Oct.
- ❖ The upper air cyclonic circulation over Gulf of Thailand & neighbourhood is likely to emerge into Andaman Sea around 21st October. Under its influence, a low- pressure area is likely to form over southeast Bay of Bengal around 24th October.

A continuous watch is being maintained wrt further development and movement of above mentioned systems.

Confidence Level in estimation of following:

- (a) Current location and intensity: High
- (b) Forecast Track: Moderate
- (c) Forecast intensity: High

Probability of cyclogenesis (formation of depression and above intensity systems) over the Bay of Bengal during next 168 hours:

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

Probability of cyclogenesis (formation of depression and above intensity systems) over the Arabian Sea during next 168 hours:

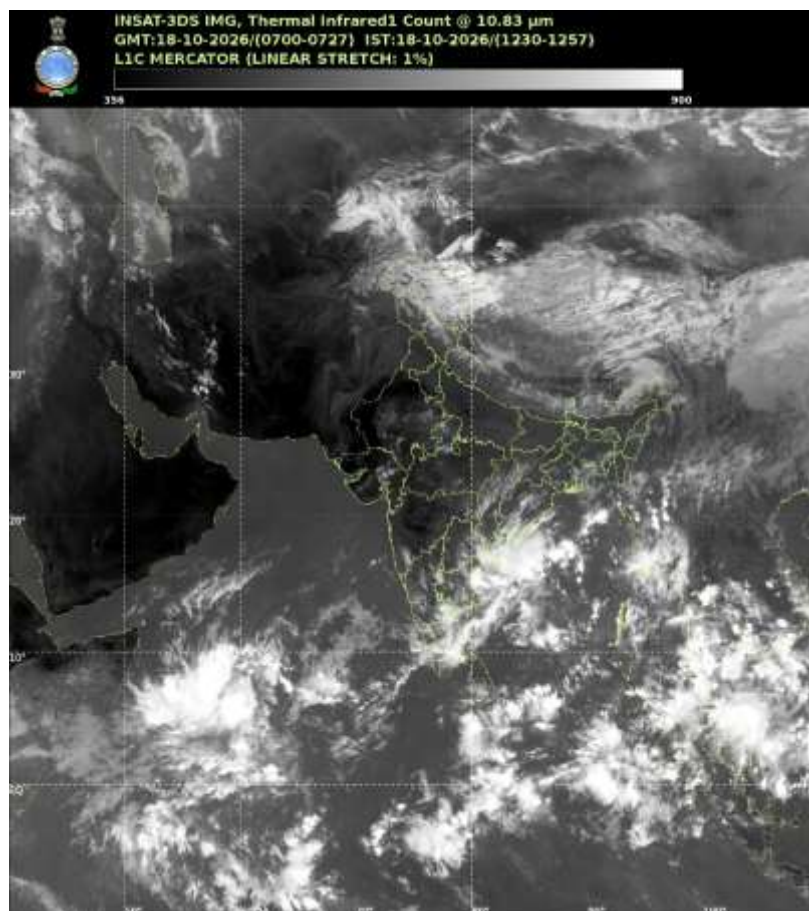
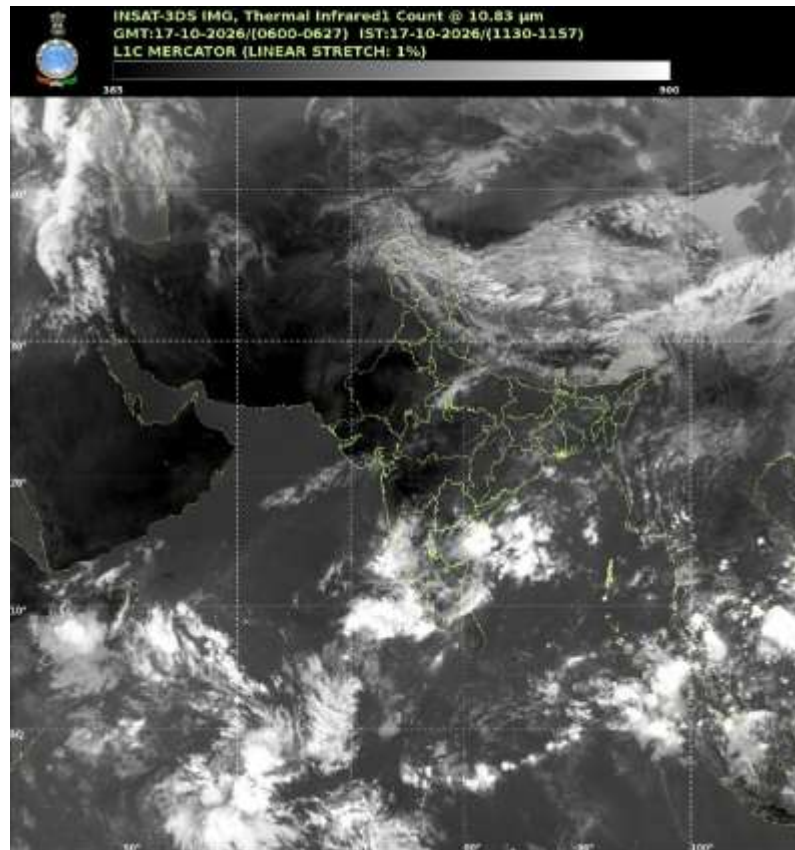
24 HOURS	24-48 HOURS	48-72 HOURS	72-96 HOURS	96-120 HOURS	120-144 HOURS	144-168 HOURS
MOD	MOD	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

“- “indicates genesis has already occurred.

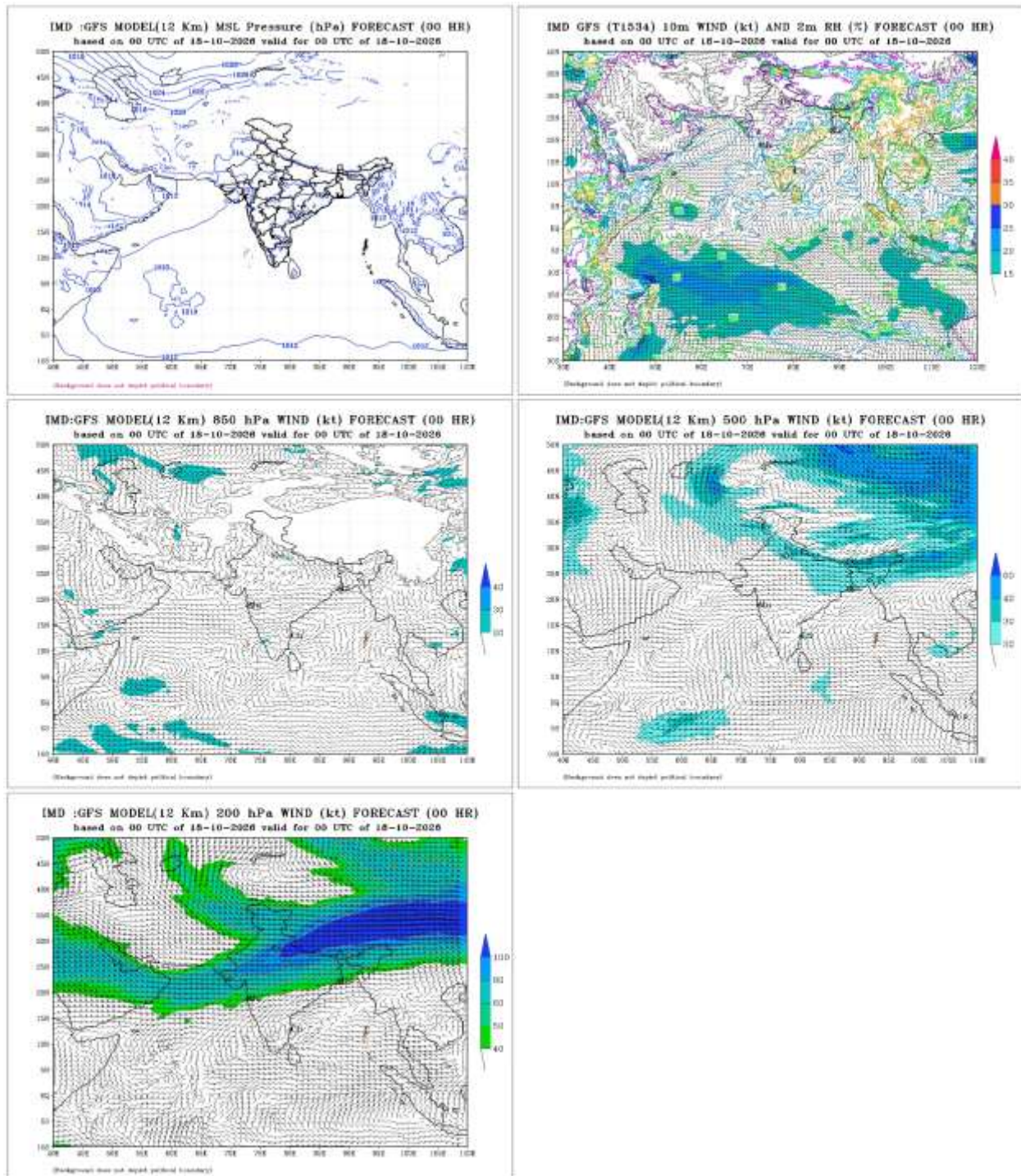
Probability is indicated as NIL for 0%, LOW for 1-33%, MOD for 34-67% and High for 68-100%. Every 24 hrs forecast ends at the 0300 UTC of date.

Intense Observation Period (IOP): IOP is declared for Somalia coast, Socotra Islands during 18th-23rd October.

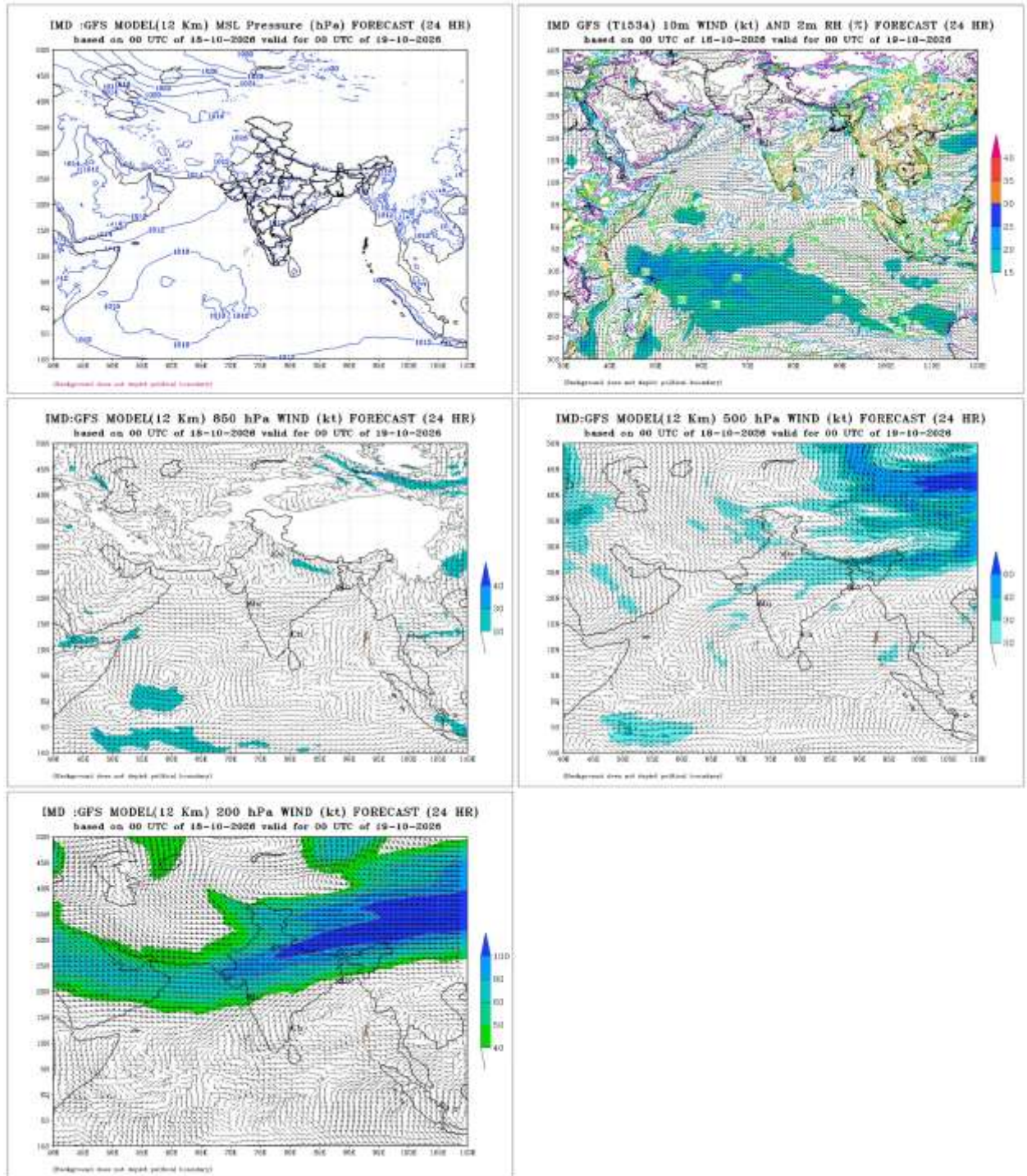
INSAT 3DR imagery at 0600 UTC of 17th & 18th October



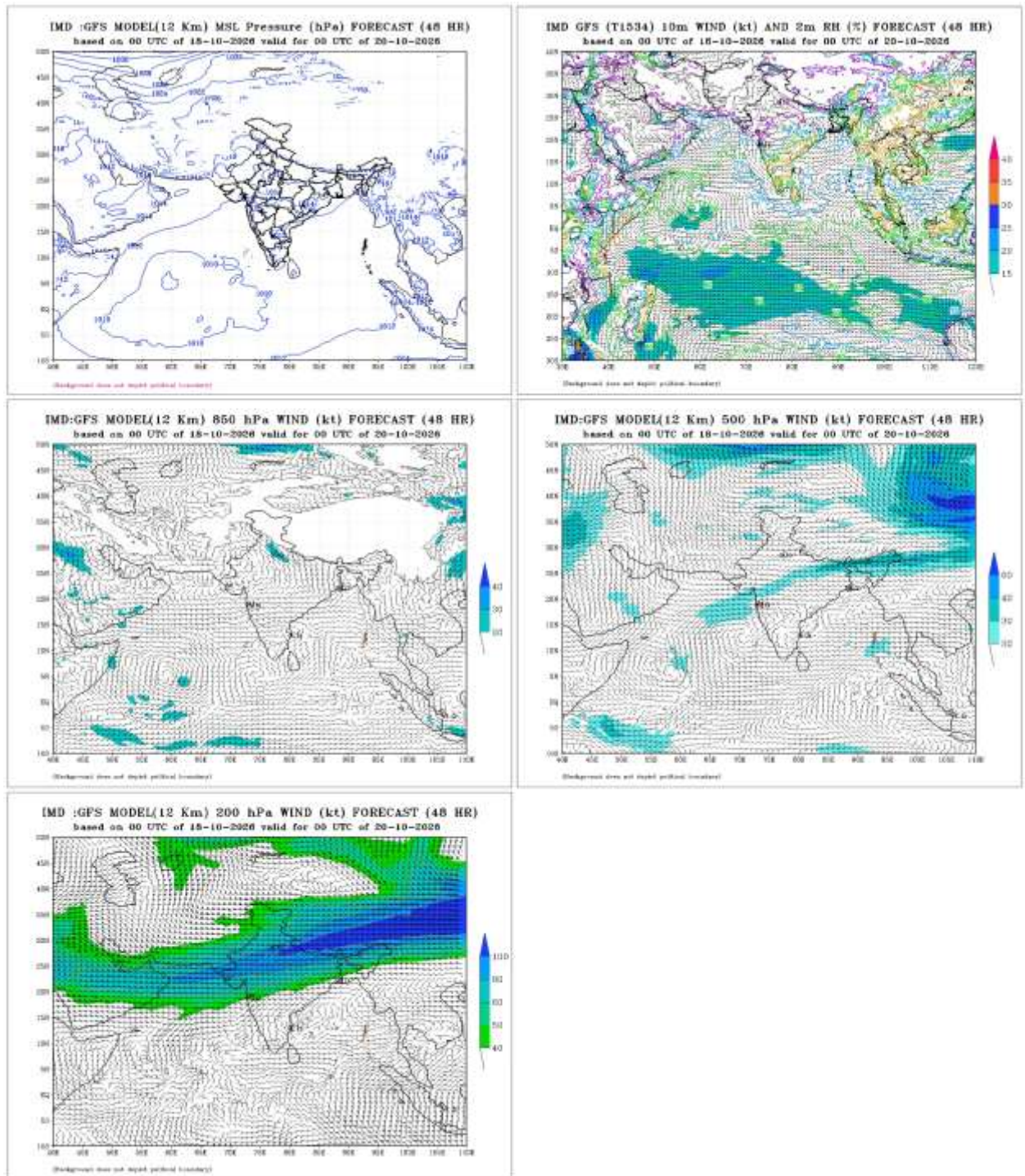
Forecast +00h



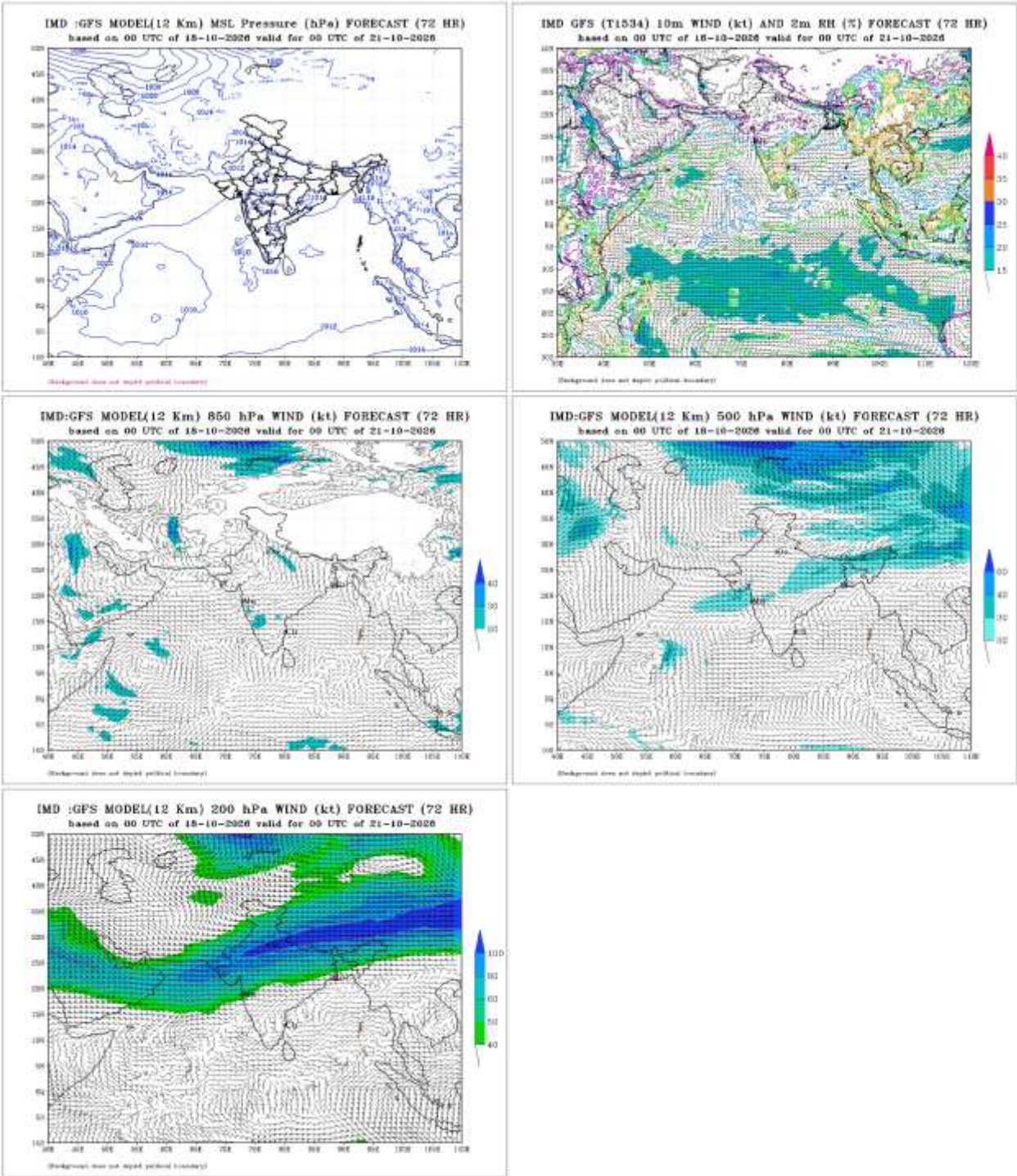
Forecast +24h



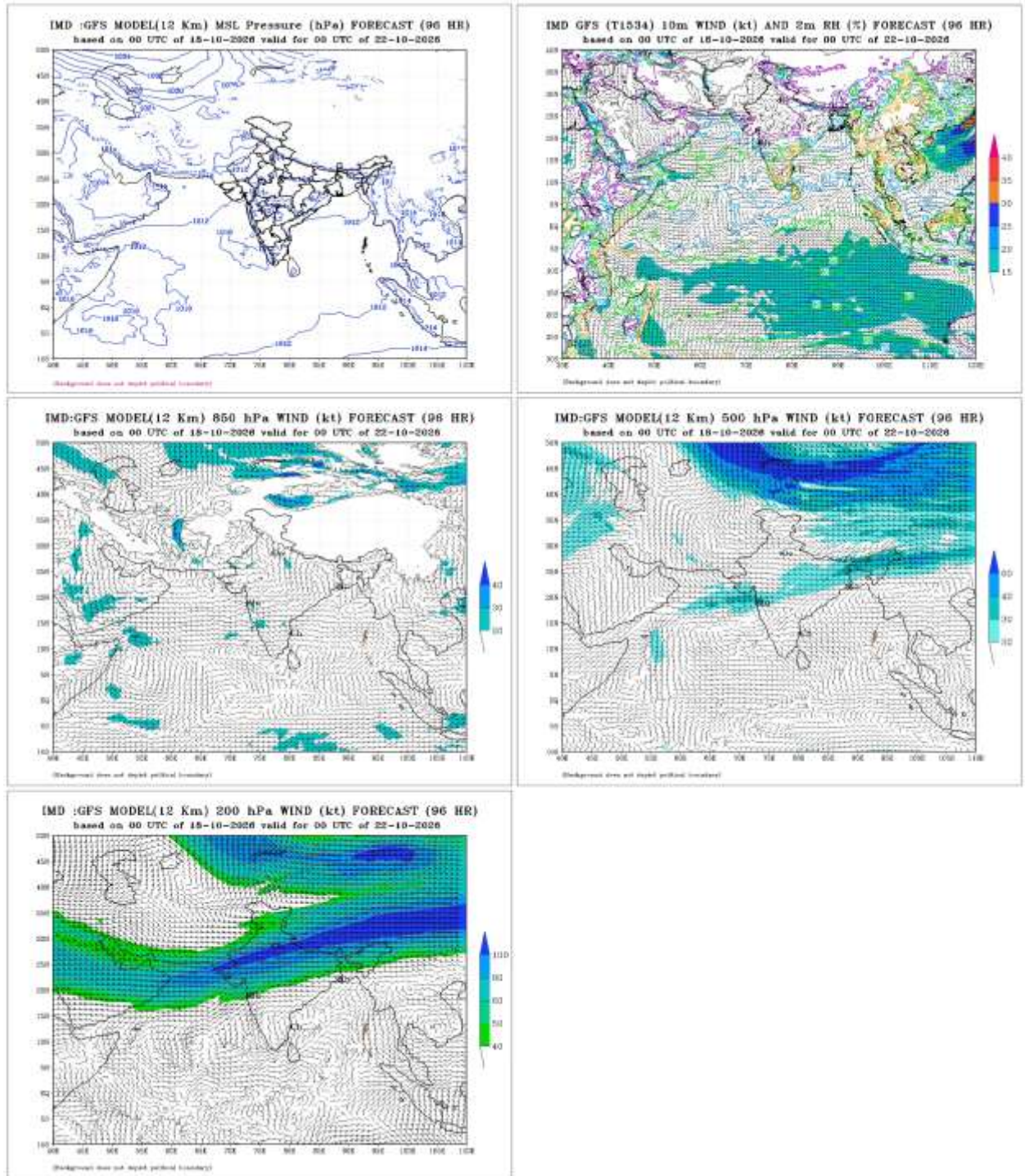
Forecast +48h



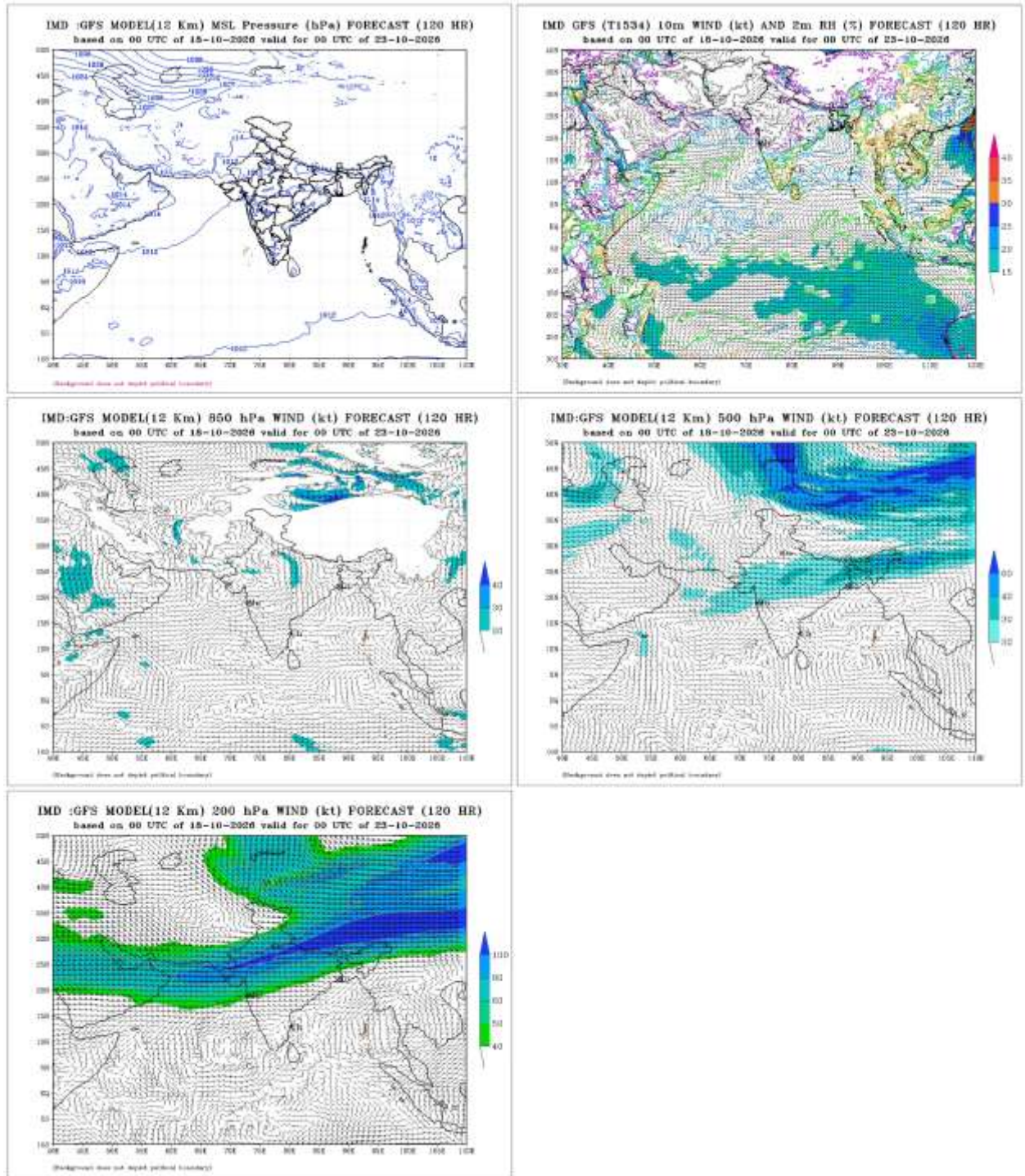
Forecast +72h



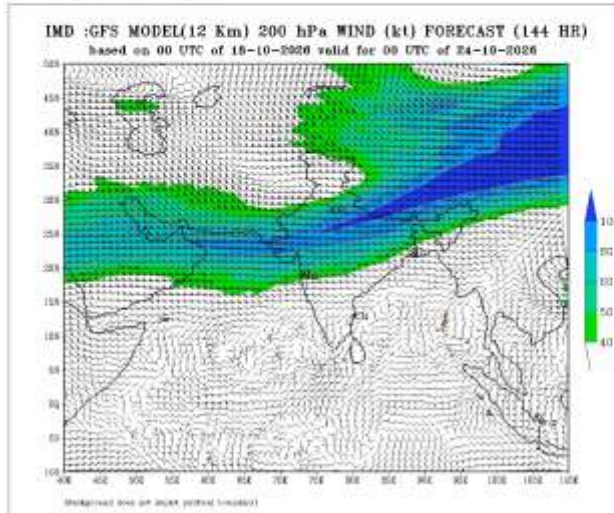
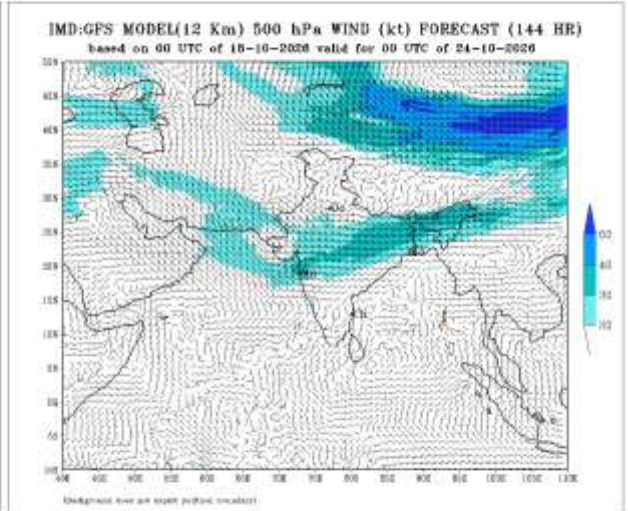
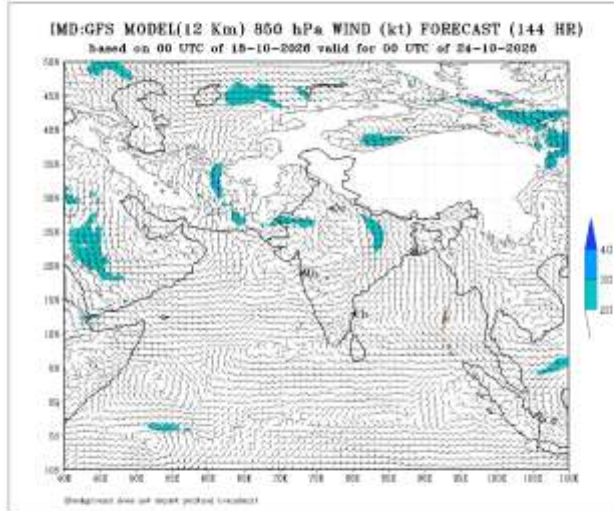
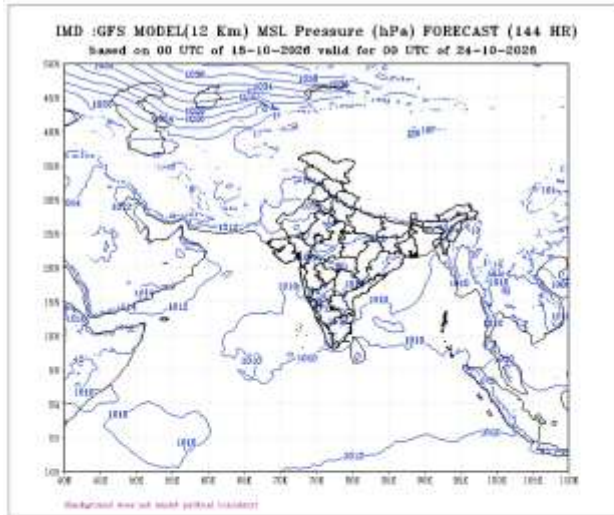
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Forecast +120h



Forecast +144h



Forecast +168h

