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# Early forecasting of Indian Summer Monsoon: case study 2017



#impacts world2017, 11th Oct, 2017

### How far in advance can the monsoon be realistically predicted?



North Pakistan (32.5N,72.5E) is the tipping element of ISM where the ISM ceases to exist.

#### The Eastern Ghats (20N, 80E) is the tipping element of the ISM where we deliver our forecast of monsoon onset on May 6.

### Kerala state is the region where the IMD delivers the forecast of onset of monsoon on **May 15**.

Stolbova V., Surovyatkina E., Bookhagen B.,Kurths J., Tipping elements of the Indian monsoon: prediction of onset and withdrawal. *GRL*, *43*, *1–9*, *April 20*, 2016

## What does the term 'tipping' mean?

One of the definitions of tip overbalance or cause to overbalance to fall or turn over.

"The hay caught fire when the candle tipped over....."



- The candle is an origin of the problem a tipping element of the system.
- The time when the candle tipped over is a tipping point.
- An open window which gives the direction of flame propagation is the second tipping element of the system.



## **Tipping elements and prediction of monsoon**

DATA: ERA40: near -surface air temperature, 0.25 °/0.25° resolution, (1958-2001)



 Stolbova V., Surovyatkina E., Bookhagen B., Kurths J., Tipping elements of the Indian monsoon: prediction of onset and withdrawal. Geophysical Research Letters43, 1–9 2016, 2016

• Surovyatkina E.D., Kravtsov Yu. A. and Kurths Jü., Phys. Rev. E, 72, 046125 (2005)

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Growth of the variance of fluctuations,



The topography of the EG (20 N, 80E) creates a favorable condition for the formation of a low-pressure system, and when the ITCZ reaches the EG, two branches of monsoon merge: the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal.



We predict the occurrence of these conditions.

# https://www.pik-potsdam.de/services/infodesk/forecast ing-indian-monsoon



# Indian Summer Monsoon - 2017

The PIK- monsoon onset monitor news

May 08, 2017

For ecast of the Onset date of the Indian Summer Monsoon - 2017 <u>over the central part</u> of India

The Indian Summer Monsoon (the Southwest Monsoon) is likely (with a 73% probability) to set over the central part of India, the Eastern Ghats region (20°N,80° E) on or around 18th June (+/- 4 days).

The region of our forecast locates in the central part of India in the area of the Easter Ghats (EG).

#### Forecast has been issued 40 days in advance

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https://www.pik-potsdam.de/services/infodesk/forecasting-indian-monsoon





You are here: Home » National » Monsoon to hit central India between June 14-22

# Monsoon to hit central India between June 14-22

New Delhi, DH News Service, May 9 2017, 1:35 IST



Since last year, the German institute began forecasting the onset and withdrawal of monsoon using its own weather model.

#### Monsoon to hit TS on June 18

Scientists from Germany develop forecast method which predicts accurately.

By TelanganaToday | Published: 14th May 2017 10:50 pm



**Hyderabad:** The southwest monsoons will hit Telangana and other parts of Central India on or around June 18, according to an early forecast method developed by weather scientists from Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), Germany.

The forecast method is based on analysis of observational data that allows predicting monsoon onset date more than a month in advance in the central part of India where early forecasting has never been made, Elena Surovyatkina, the research scientist from PIK, who led this study said.

Meanwhile, an early forecast method at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research said that the mosoon would reach Central India between June 14 and 22.

Premier Association of the Sugar Industry In India





#### The Evidence for successful PIK-Monsoon onset forecast - 2017 Onset forecast: June 18+/-4 days



Department (http://www.imd.gov.in/pages/allindiawxfcbulletin.php)

# Indian Summer Monsoon - 2017

The PIK- monsoon onset monitor news



J uly 30, 2017

Earliest Forecast of the Withdrawal Date of Indian Summer Monsoon - 2017 from the Central part of India.

The Indian Summer Monsoon (Southwest Monsoon) is likely (with an 84% probability) to withdraw from the Central part of India (20N, 80E) around 12th October (+/- 5 days), namely between 7th and 17th October 2017.

Forecast has been issued 70 days in advance

https://www.pik-potsdam.de/services/infodesk/forecasting-indian-monsoon



# PIK-Monsoon Withdrawal Monitor, 2017



point (red) indicates the critical temperature and the forecasted onset date. The forecasted withdrawal dates are from 7th to 17th October.

### The current stage of Monsoon withdrawal - 2017

Withdrawal forecast: October 12+/-5 days



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# German modelling to crack monsoon code

IIT-Madras associates itself with Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research's project, IMD kept in the loop



శుక్రవారం గోల్నాండహో టల్లో 'ఫెడిక్షన్ ఆఫ్ మాన్సూన్ ఫర్ ఇండియా, తెలంగాణ' సదస్సులో మాట్లాడుతున్న జర్మన్ ప్రాఫెసర్ సిరీనా. చిత్రంలో మంత్రులు జోగు రామన, పోచారం శ్రీనివాస్రర్థి, ఈటలరాజేందర్, ఎమ్రెల్వే చెన్నమనే నిరమేశ్

10న రాష్ట్రానికి రుతుపవనాలు

(మొదటిపేజీ తరువాయి) పరిశోధనలు చేసునుదని, తెలం గాణ రాష స్థుయోజనాల దాష్ట్రా ఇక్కడికి వచ్చి ఆ పరిశోదనా వాసరెడ్డి మాటాడుతూ.. జర్మనీ బ్రాఫెసర్ అందించిన వివరాలు ఎంతో ఉపయుకంగా ఉన్నాయనారు. తాను విదేశాలో పరం

### Eastern Ghats, North Pakistan serve as tipping elements in monsoon prediction

The key to their

professor

#### DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAL JUNE 9

the regions where A team of researchers led conditions for an by the Potsdam Institute for occurrence of Indian Climate Impact Research monsoon originate (PIK) in Germany has identified two regions - the monsoon. Once it is onset, Eastern Ghats and North Pakistan — that serve as it's difficult to change,' tipping elements in accusaid rately predicting the Surovyatkina Russian Academy arrival and departure of southwest monsoon. Sciences' Space Research As per their research.

Institute analysing air temperatures "This year, we predicted and relative humidity in as early as May 6 that monthese areas predict the soon will hit India on June arrival and departure of 13 with plus or minus four the monsoon earlier. "The days. India Meteorological tipping point is critical to Department predicting the onset of announced only on May 15

research is in finding said

"We predicted well before 30 days when monsoon would hit central India. It will surely help the farmers in these regions. Based on our method we can predict the withdrawal of mon-Elena soon by July 15 based on the from observations from the same of regions," she added. The key to their research is in finding the regions

where conditions for an occurrence of Indian monsoon originate. "We can see a pattern before the onset of monhad soon. We use the precursors

that monsoon will onset to predict places where the over Kerala on June 7," she critical transition originates. We take air surface temperature and calculate fluctuation '

"We applied our method for data from 1957 to 2015. Our prediction about the onset of monsoon was 74 per cent successful and withdrawal of monsoon 84 per cent correct. Even for El Nino years our predictions were nearly 60 per cent correct," she said.

When asked whether they had discussions with the IMD about using their new method to predict the southwest monsoon she said formal discussion is vet to take place.

not to predict the time but

Guit Times



### Germans develop new method to predict India's monsoon

#### AFP Berlin

limate researchers in Germany said yesterday they had found a way to more accurately predict the Indian monsoon, which could help maximise the subcontinent's food and hydro-power supplies.

Improved forecasts of when the heavy summer rains start and end could help millions of farmers plant crops at the right time, and allow energy providers

to estimate when dams and reservoirs fillup, they said.

Global warming already affects monsoon stability and will make accurate forecasting ever more important, as deviations can spark droughts and floods, said the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK).

"The timing of Indian summer monsoons, on which the livelihoods of many millions of people depend, is likely becoming more erratic," said project leader Juergen Kurths. "This makes early and accurate forecasting ever more crucial."

The scientists said they had developed a novel prediction method based on a network

analysis of regional weather data, and would propose their model to the Indian Meteorological Department. "We can predict the beginning of the Indian monsoon

two weeks earlier, and the end of it even six weeks earlier than before - which is quite a breakthrough, given that for the farmers, every day counts," said Veronika Stolbova of PIK and Zurich University.

kistan and the Eastern Ghats, a mountain range close to the Indian Ocean, changes of temperatures and humidity mark a critical transition to monsoon," said Stolbovain astatement.

Usually the focus has been on Kerala region, said Stolbova, lead author of the study published in the scientific journal the Geophysical Research Letters. The team said it used an ad-

vanced mathematical approach called network analysis of complex non-linear systems, combined with subtle statistical analyses of the early warning signals for the monsoon onset and withdrawal.

"These precursor phenomena are often buried by huge piles of weather data and hence get overlooked," said PIK guest scientist Elena Surovyatkina of the Russian Academy of Sciences' Space Research Institute.

Kurths said they had looked at the climate system "as a network, just like the social networks so many people are using in their everyday life". "On Facebook or Twitter,

you can follow how news is

mation is the last 14 years. In 73%

spreading, one posting leading ton during the June-September to many others. In the climate monsoon season. system, not people but geo-

The scientists said they had tested their method with historical monsoon data and achieved correct predictions in more than 70% of cases for the start of the monsoon, and in more than 80% for its withdrawal.

The authors said their method could improve the time horizon of monsoon prediction compared to that now used in India - both during relatively normal times, and in years when the El Nino phenomenon affects the rainy season.

tists led by Potsdam Institute for associated with the project and

"We found that in North Pa-

riculture, power etc.

Information about monsoon timing is key for Indian farmers, who usually grow all-important crops like rice, soybean and cot-

such as winds.

complex way."

graphical regions are commu-

nicating - admittedly in a quite

Like Facebook postings or

tweets that get shared again and

again, the scientists explained,

temperature and humidity get

transported from one place to

another by atmospheric flows

## Conclusion

Our approach is based on a teleconnection between two geographical areas - the Eastern Ghats (EG) and North Pakistan (NP), which we defined as Tipping Elements of Indian Summer Monsoon.

We have found the Tipping Elements approach allows us predicting the timing of the upcoming monsoon onset and withdrawal for 40 and 70 days in advance respectively.

Our results show that our method allows predicting the monsoon not only retrospectively (over the period 1951-2015) but also in the future. In 2016 and 2017, we proved that such early prediction of the monsoon timing is possible.

The proposed approach is applicable to different kind of season, which exhibits properties of critical transition. Our prediction is based on observational data only when the model cannot accurately anticipate the transition or does not exist yet.



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