

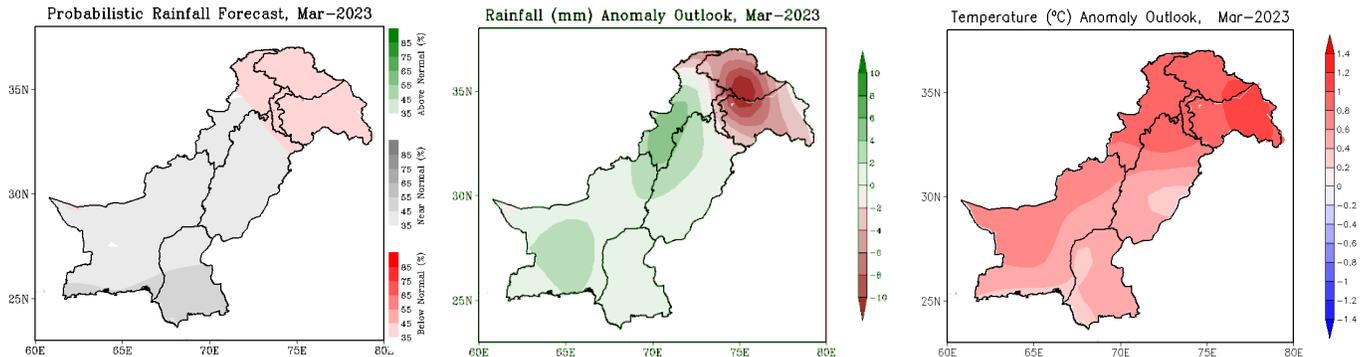


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Date: 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023

## Outlook for March 2023



### Synoptic situation:

The global climate indicators such as El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) are expected to remain in neutral phase during the forecast month. Based on the global and regional circulation patterns, the outlook for March 2023 in Pakistan is as under:

### Monthly Outlook:

Overall, a tendency for **normal precipitation** is likely over the country during March with exception of Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan and Northern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa where **slightly below normal precipitation** is expected. However, in spite of below normal rains there are chances of rain/thunderstorm, coupled with hail-storms in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan and central and upper Punjab during the month. Furthermore, there are chances of rain/thunderstorm with gusty winds at isolated places of Sindh and Balochistan during the second half of March 2023.

Due to seasonal change, day time **temperatures** will soar up throughout the country during March 2023; and they are expected to remain **above normal** over most parts of the country. Prevalence of high-temperatures in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan and Kashmir are expected from 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March, 2023, and it may trigger the early melting of Glaciers in mountainous areas of Pakistan.

### Impacts:

- Due to the above normal temperature, the Rabi crops including “wheat” would get ready for an earlier harvest especially in the lower half of the country.
- An increase in temperature would be supportive for an early onset of pollen season in major cities (e.g. Islamabad, Lahore).
- Temperature gradient may cause strong winds, dust storm, and hailstorm.

**Note:** Keeping in view the rapid changes in climate system dynamics, the outlook is updated on monthly basis during the last week of each month.