Seasonal Outlook for April - June 2020

Synoptic situation

The prevailing ENSO phase is expected to remain neutral. Weak positive SST anomalies in the western and central equatorial Pacific are predicted during Apr-Jun 2020. Tropical Indian Ocean SSTs are predicted slightly above than normal during the forecast season. The temperature and precipitation outlooks for Apr-Jun 2020 are based on statistical downscaling and model output. On the basis of above mentioned global atmospheric and oceanic conditions, following are the main features of weather outlook in Apr-Jun 2020:

1. Precipitation

Normal precipitation is expected in all over the country with slightly above normal over central and southern parts and slightly below normal over northern and north-western regions of the country.

- Frequent westerly waves are likely to penetrate in central and upper parts of the country during the season. These systems will cause baroclinic instability in western, central and upper parts of the country.
- Normal to slightly above normal precipitation is predicted in the central and southern parts of the country. However, below normal precipitation is likely in upper parts of the country.
- Extreme winds/hail events are predicted at isolated places in the central and upper parts of the country during April and May especially.

2. Day Temperature

Below normal day temperatures are expected in the western and upper parts of the country, while above normal temperatures are expected in the lower half of the country especially in the eastern and coastal regions.

- The north to south temperature gradient may cause dust raising winds in central and southern parts of the country.
- The average max. temperature is likely to remain above normal in the country during the period. The expected rise in temperature during the months of April
and May is 2-3°C in lower parts of the country.

3. Impacts of Weather over different sectors:

- Below normal temperatures in high altitudes are likely to reduce snowmelt in the Northern Areas subsequently decreasing the chances of increased runoff in the Upper Indus basin.
- Due to the north-south temperature gradient there are chances of dust raising winds in the central and southern parts.
- Farmers need to be cautious about the watering of cotton crops. This may be done in accordance with weather forecasts.