

The Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) index currently lies over Phase 5 with amplitude greater than 1. Thereafter, it will move to Phase 6 from 21st July onwards. The amplitude will gradually decrease becoming less than 1 from 25th onwards. Hence, the MJO phase is favourable for enhancement of convective activity over Bay of Bengal (BoB) till 20th July. Thereafter, it will not support enhancement of convective activity over the BoB region during remaining part of week 1 & week 2. However, the convective activity may increase over the northern plains of the country during remaining days of week 1 followed by activity along the foothills.

MME-CFS model of MoES predicts cyclogenesis over north BoB during week1 with probability of 30-40%. Most of the NWP models (including IMD GFS, GEFS, NCUM, NCMRWF NEPS and ECMWF) suggest formation of depression around 21st with gradual northwestwards movement along the axis of monsoon trough.

Considering the above, the probability of cyclogenesis is high during first half of week-1 over northwest BoB and neighbourhood.

Verification of forecast issued during last two weeks:

As for the forecast issued on 06 July for week 2 (13 July – 19 July 2018) and the forecast issued on 12th July for week 1 (13 July – 19 July 2018), no cyclogenesis was predicted over the north Indian Ocean. Also, there has been no cyclogenesis during the week (13 July – 19 July 2018) over the north Indian Ocean. Hence non-occurrence of cyclogenesis during 13 July – 19 July 2018 was well predicted two weeks in advance.