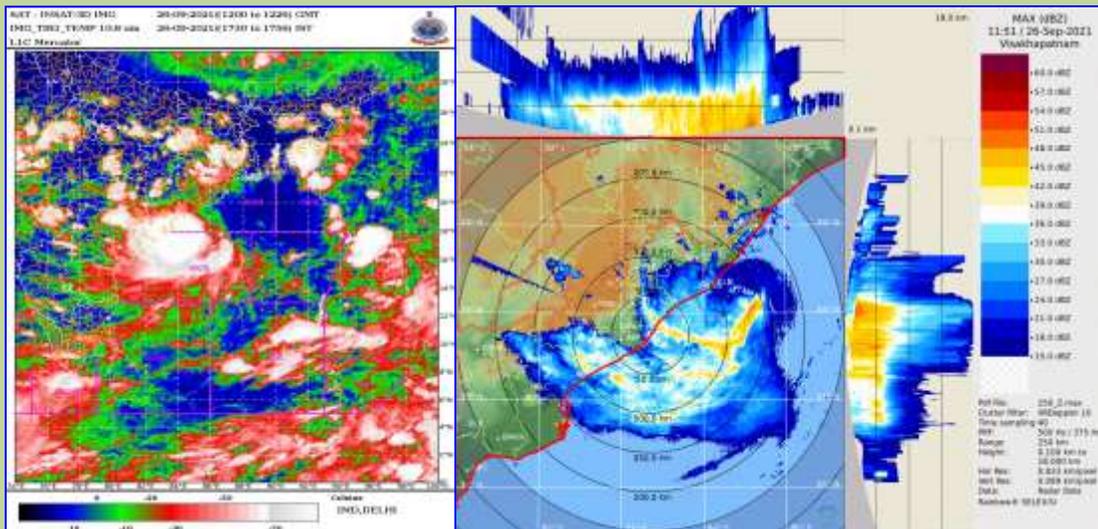




GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

Cyclonic Storm GULAB over the Bay of Bengal (24th – 28th September 2021)



Typical satellite and radar imagery (DWR Visakhapatnam) at 1730 hours IST (1200 UTC) of 26th September on the day of landfall

Cyclone Warning Division
India Meteorological Department

New Delhi

October 2021

Cyclonic Storm GULAB over the Bay of Bengal (24th – 28th September 2021)

1. Life History:

- A low pressure area formed over east-central Bay of Bengal (BoB) and neighbourhood in the morning (0830 hours IST / 0300 UTC) of 24th September. It lay as a well marked low pressure area in the same afternoon (1430 hours IST) over east-central and adjoining northeast BoB.
- Under favourable environmental and Sea conditions, it concentrated into a **depression** over eastcentral and adjoining northeast BoB in the same evening (1730 hours IST/ 1200 UTC) of 24th September.
- Moving west-northwestwards, it further intensified into a **deep depression** over north & adjoining central BoB in the early morning (0530 hours IST/ 0000 UTC) of 25th September.
- Continuing to move further west-northwestwards, it intensified into the Cyclonic Storm **“GULAB” (pronounced as GUL-AAB)** over northwest and adjoining west-central BoB in the same evening (1730 hours IST) of 25th September, 2021.
- Thereafter, it intensified gradually and reached it’s peak intensity of 75-85 kmph gusting to 95 kmph around noon (1130 hours IST/0600 UTC) of 26th September.
- Continuing to move further westwards, it crossed North Andhra Pradesh and adjoining south Odisha coasts near Lat. 18.4°N/ Long. 84.2°E (20 km north of Kalingapatnam) with maximum sustained wind speed of 75-85 gusting to 95 kmph during 1930-2030 IST of 26th September.
- Thereafter, it weakened into a deep depression in the early hours (0230 hours IST) of 27th September over north Andhra Pradesh and adjoining south Odisha and into a depression over south Chhattisgarh in the evening (1730 hours IST) of 27th .
- It further weakened into a well marked Low pressure area over western parts of Vidarbha and neighbourhood around noon of 28th September.

Observed track of the system during 24th-28th September is presented in Fig.1. The best track parameters of the system are presented in Table 1.



Fig. 1: Observed track of cyclonic storm “Gulab” during 24th – 28th September, 2021
KT: Knots (1 knot=1.86 kmph)

Table 1: Best track positions and other parameters of the Cyclonic Storm GULAB over Northwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining Odisha coast during 24 - 27 Sept, 2021

Date	Time (UTC)	Centre lat. ^o N/ long. ^o E	C.I. NO.	Estimated Central Pressure (hPa)	Estimated Maximum Sustained Surface Wind (kt)	Estimated Pressure drop at the Centre (hPa)	Grade	
24.09.2021	1200	18.3 91.2	1.5	1000	25	4	D	
	1800	18.4 90.4	1.5	1000	25	4	D	
25.09.2021	0000	18.4 89.7	2.0	999	30	5	DD	
	0300	18.4 89.3	2.0	998	30	6	DD	
	0600	18.4 88.7	2.0	998	30	6	DD	
	1200	18.3 88.3	2.5	997	35	7	CS	
	1500	18.3 88.1	2.5	997	35	7	CS	
	1800	18.3 87.9	2.5	996	35	7	CS	
	2100	18.3 87.6	2.5	996	35	7	CS	
26.09.2021	0000	18.3 87.3	2.5	994	40	8	CS	
	0300	18.4 86.4	2.5	994	40	8	CS	
	0600	18.4 85.9	3.0	992	45	10	CS	
	0900	18.4 85.3	3.0	992	45	10	CS	
	1200	18.4 84.6	3.0	992	45	10	CS	
		Crossed north Andhra Pradesh – south Odisha coasts near latitude 18.4 ^o N and longitude 84.2 ^o E, about 20 km north of Kalingapatnam with a maximum sustained wind speed of 75-85 kmph gusting to 95 kmph during 1930 & 2030 hrs IST (1400-1500 UTC)						
	1500	18.3 83.8	-	992	45	10	CS	
	1800	18.4 83.4	-	994	35	7	CS	
	2100	18.4 83.0	-	996	30	6	DD	
27.09.2021	0000	18.4 82.8	-	996	30	6	DD	
	0300	18.4 82.5	-	996	30	6	DD	
	0600	18.5 82.0	-	996	30	6	DD	
	1200	18.6 80.1	-	998	25	4	D	
	1800	18.7 79.4	-	998	25	4	D	
28.09.2021	0000	19.0 78.2	-	998	25	4	D	
	0300	19.4 77.3	-	999	20	3	D	
	0600	Weakened into a well marked low pressure area over western parts of Vidarbha and neighbourhood						

2. Salient features:

- Climatologically, there had been 41 cyclonic storms (MSW≥34 knots) during 1891-2020 developing over the BoB region. Out of these 15 were severe category storms (MSW≥48

knots). During this period there were 9 cyclones crossing Andhra Pradesh coast. Out of these there was 1 depression in the year 1948 that developed over eastcentral BoB, crossed central India, emerged into Arabian Sea and intensified into a severe cyclonic storm. It crossed south Gujarat coast as a severe cyclonic storm and further emerged into Arabian Sea and crossed Oman coast as a depression. The climatological tracks are presented in Fig.2.

- The system developed during active phase of monsoon over Indian sub-continent. Warm Sea, good warm moist air incursion into the core of the system, favourable Madden Julian Oscillation phase and low to moderate vertical wind shear over the region helped in development of cyclonic storm ‘Gulab’.
- It caused extremely heavy rainfall over Andhra Pradesh and heavy to very rainfall over Odisha.
- The system had a brief life period of about 50 hours over the Sea.
- There had been a total of about 18 deaths in association with this system and its remnant over Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra.
- The system had a track length of 1440 km.

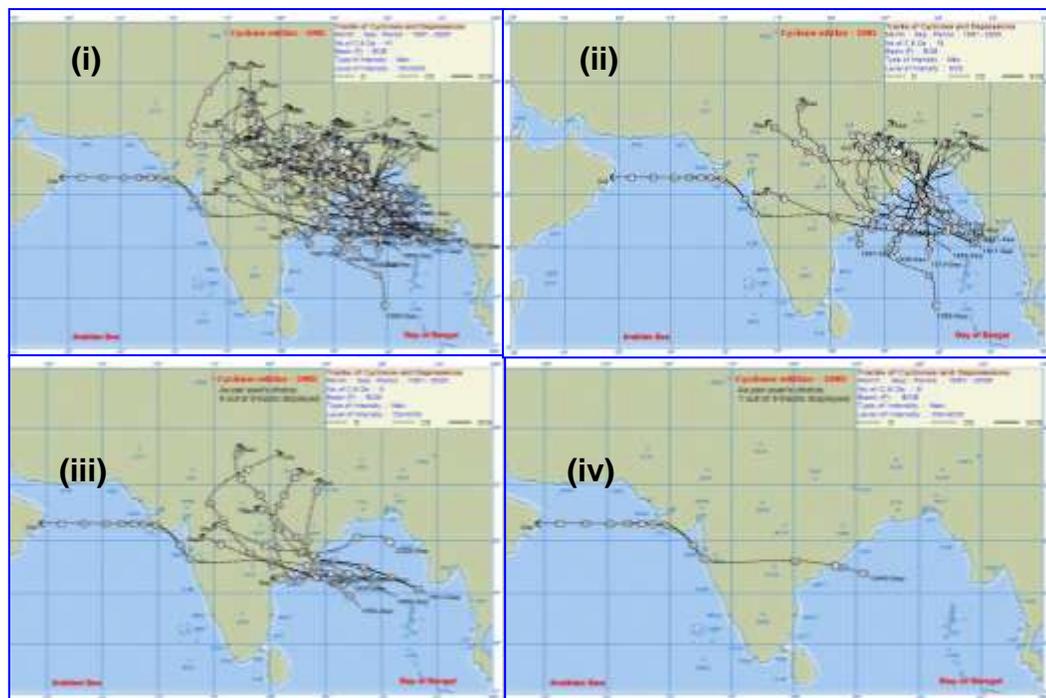


Fig.2: Tracks of (i) cyclones crossing east coast of India, (ii) severe cyclones crossing east coast of India, (iii) cyclones crossing Andhra Pradesh coast and (iv) cyclones crossing Andhra Pradesh coast and emerging into Arabian Sea (all during the month of September)

3. Monitoring:

India Meteorological Department (IMD) maintained round the clock watch over the north Indian Ocean and the system was monitored since 16th September, about 8 days prior

to the formation of LPA over eastcentral BoB on 24th. The cyclone was monitored with the help of available satellite observations from INSAT 3D and 3DR, polar orbiting satellites and available ships & buoy observations in the region. The system was also monitored by Doppler Weather RADAR (DWR) Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh). Various numerical weather prediction models run by Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) institutions, global models and dynamical-statistical models were utilized to predict the genesis, track, landfall and intensity of the system. A digitized forecasting system of IMD was utilized for analysis and comparison of various models' guidance, decision making process and warning products generation. Detailed satellite imageries from INSAT-3D, ASCAT, Microwave and imageries from Doppler Weather Radar at Visakhapatnam utilized for monitoring CS Gulab are presented in Fig. 3 (a-f) and 3g respectively. IMD GFS analysis based on 0000 UTC during 24th-28th September are presented in Fig. 3 (h-l).

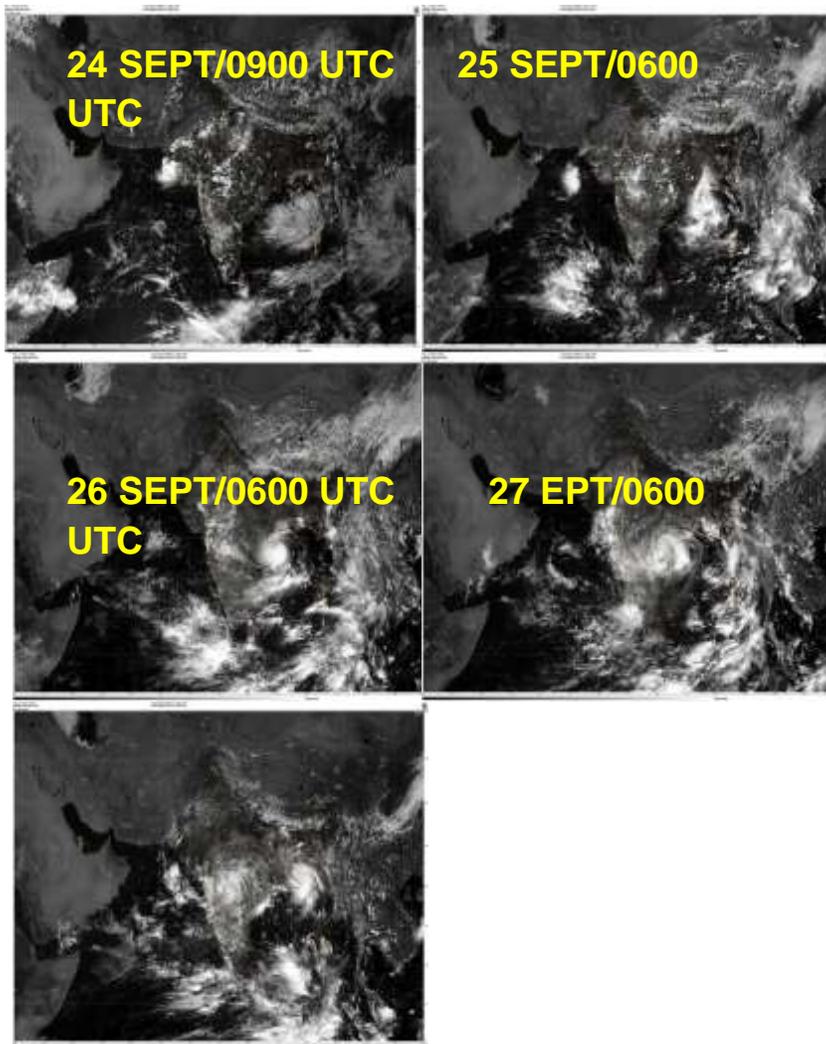


Fig. 3(a): INSAT-3D visible imageries during life cycle of CS GULAB during 24-28 September, 2021

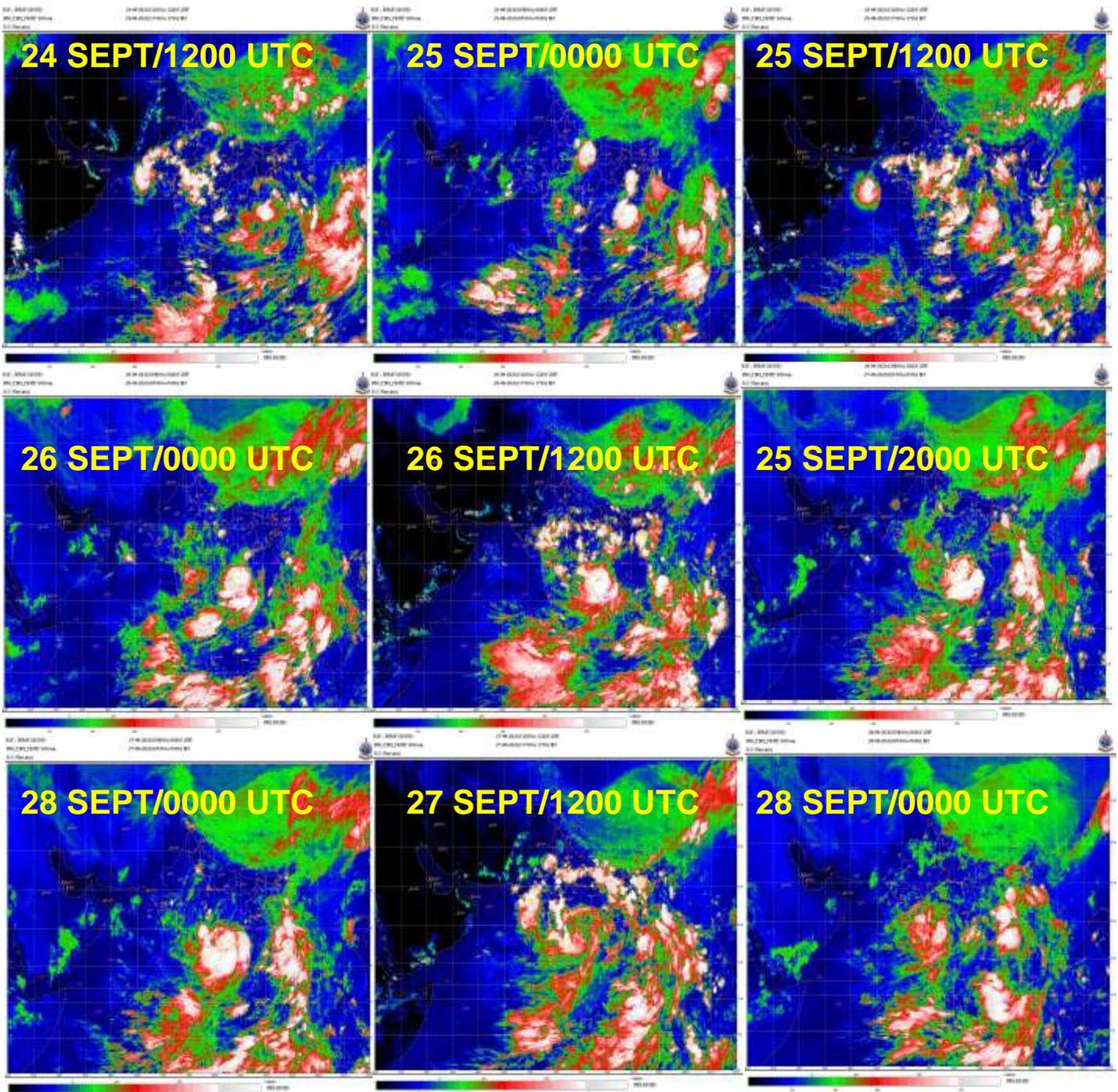


Fig. 3(b): INSAT-3D NHC imageries during life cycle of CS GULAB during 24-28 September, 2021

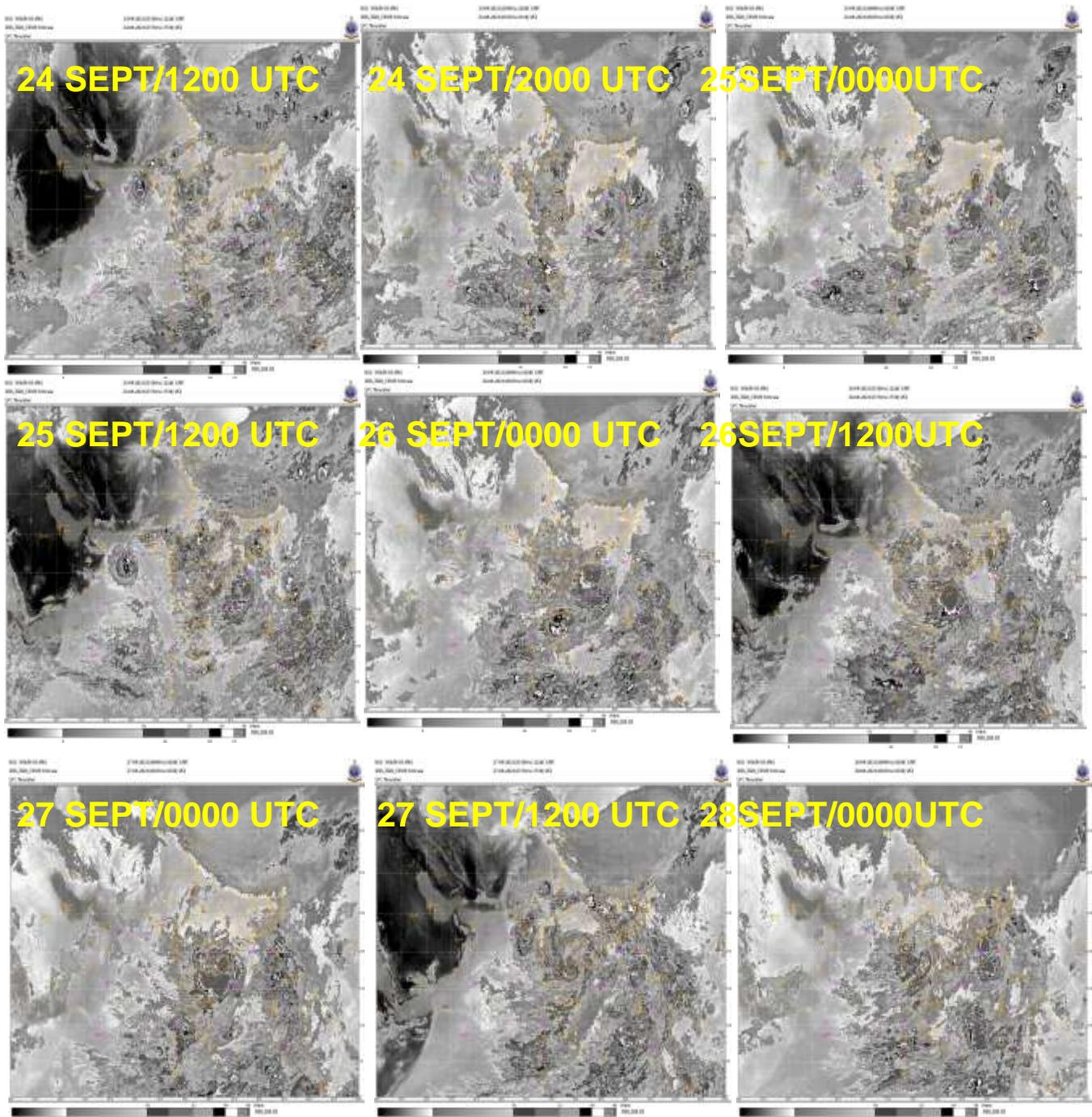


Fig. 3(c): INSAT-3D BD imageries during life cycle of CS GULAB during 24-28 September, 2021

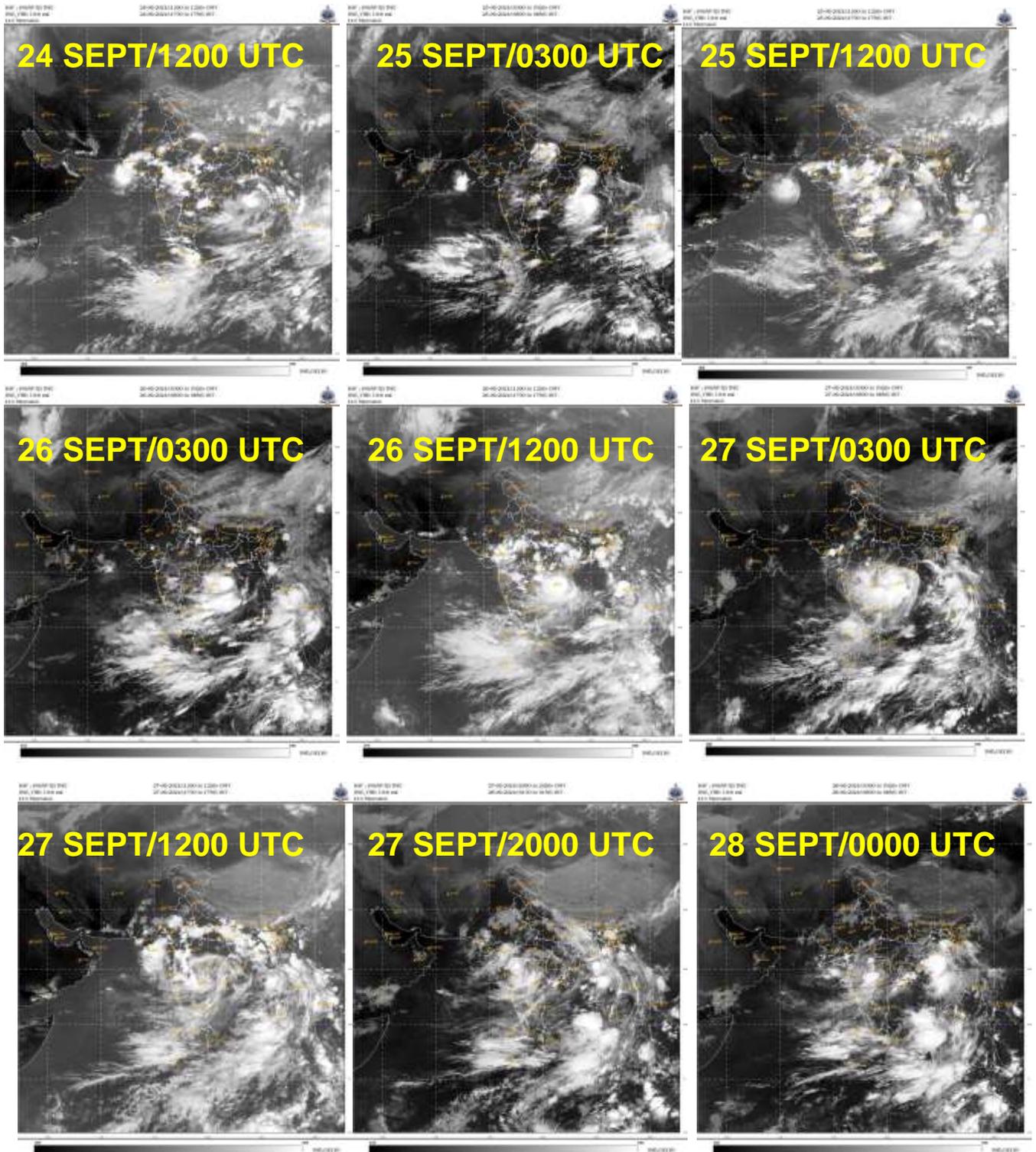


Fig. 3(d): INSAT-3D IR1 imageries during life cycle of CS GULAB during 24-28 September, 2021

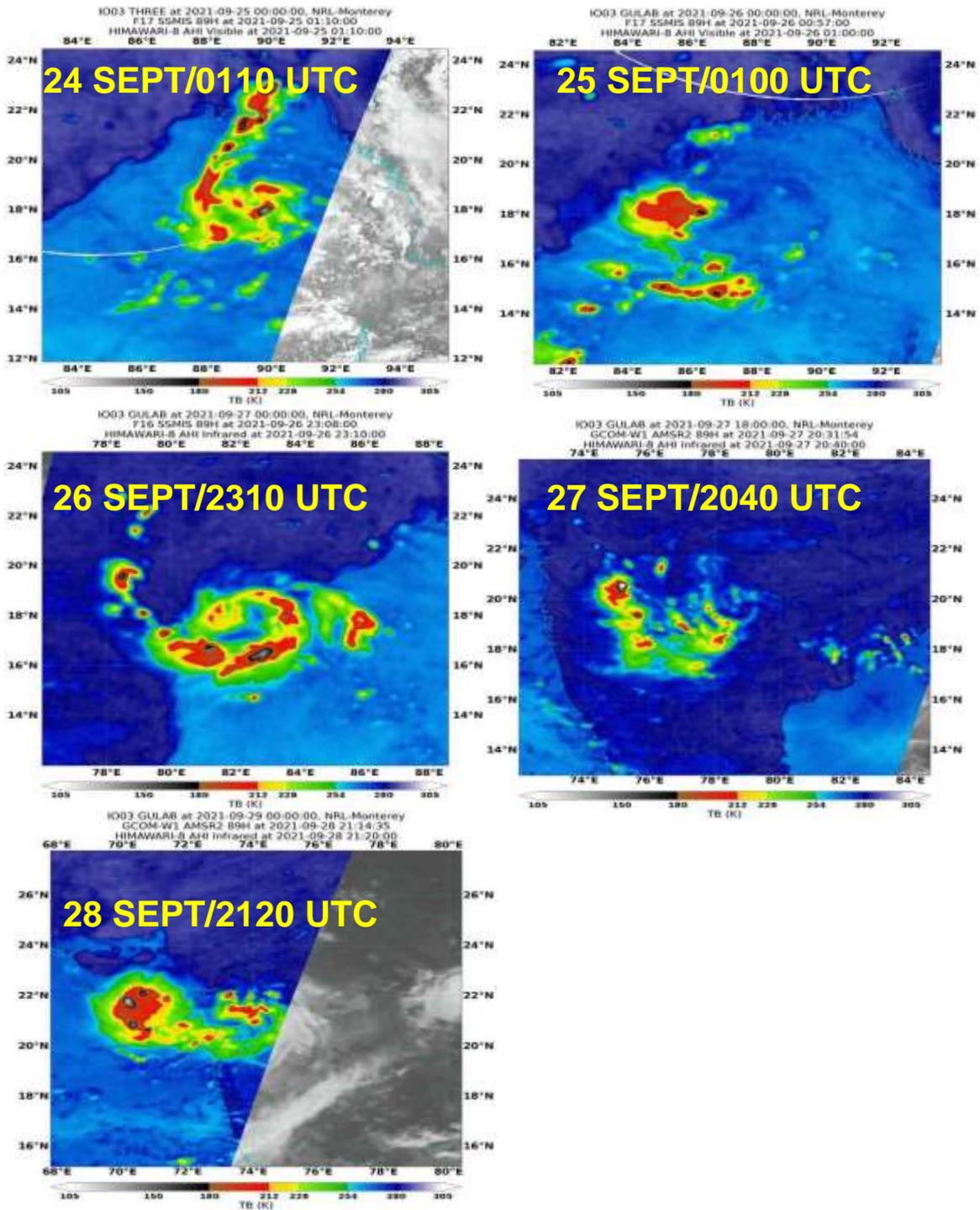


Fig. 3(e): Microwave imageries during life cycle of CS GULAB during 24-28 September, 2021

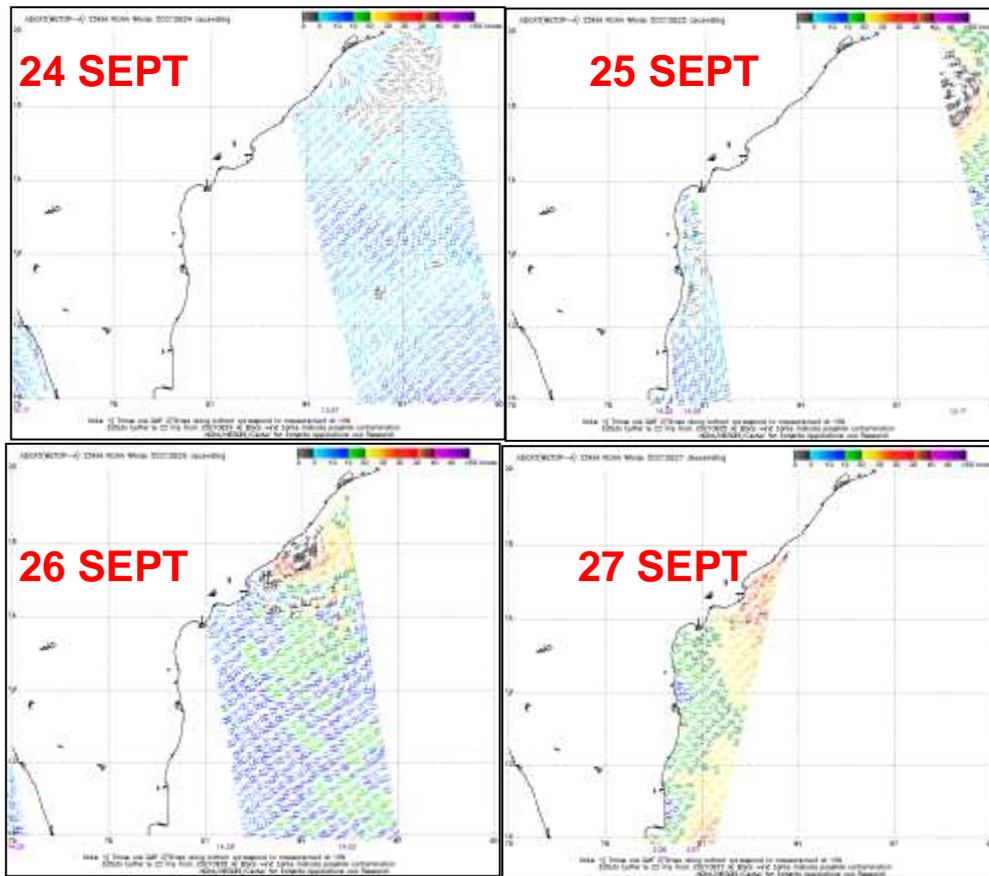


Fig. 3(f): ASCAT imageries during life cycle of CS GULAB during 24-28 September, 2021

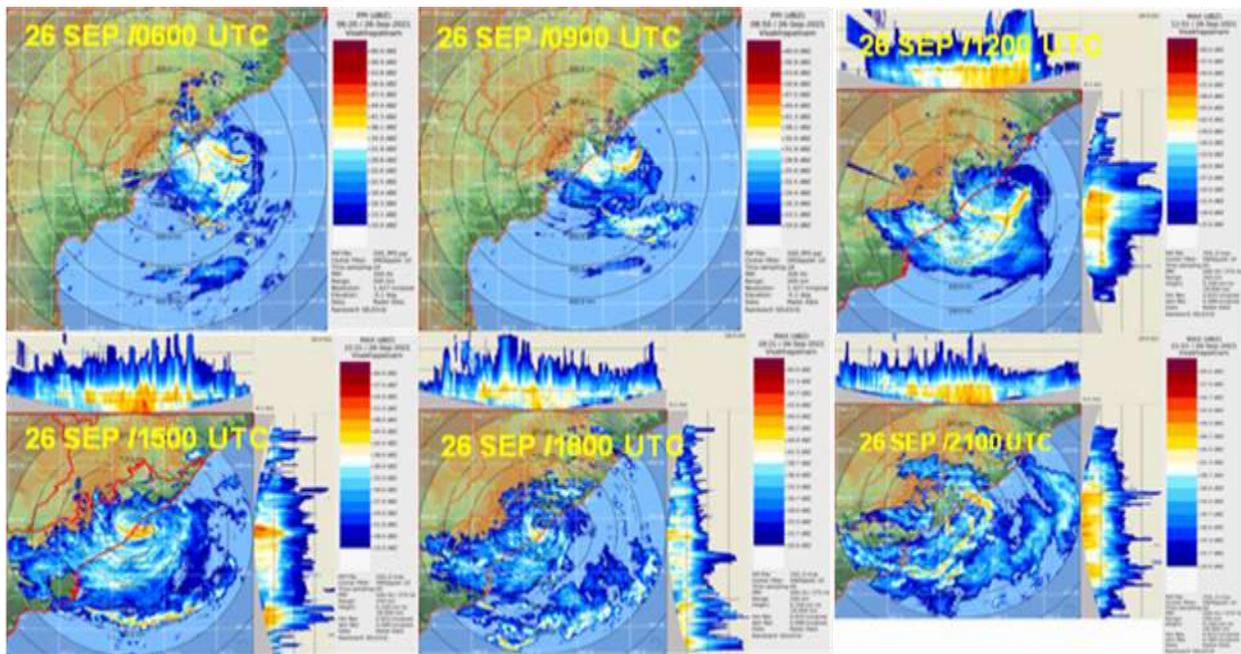


Fig. 3(g): RADAR imageries during life cycle of CS GULAAB (24th – 28th September), from DWR Vishakhapattanam

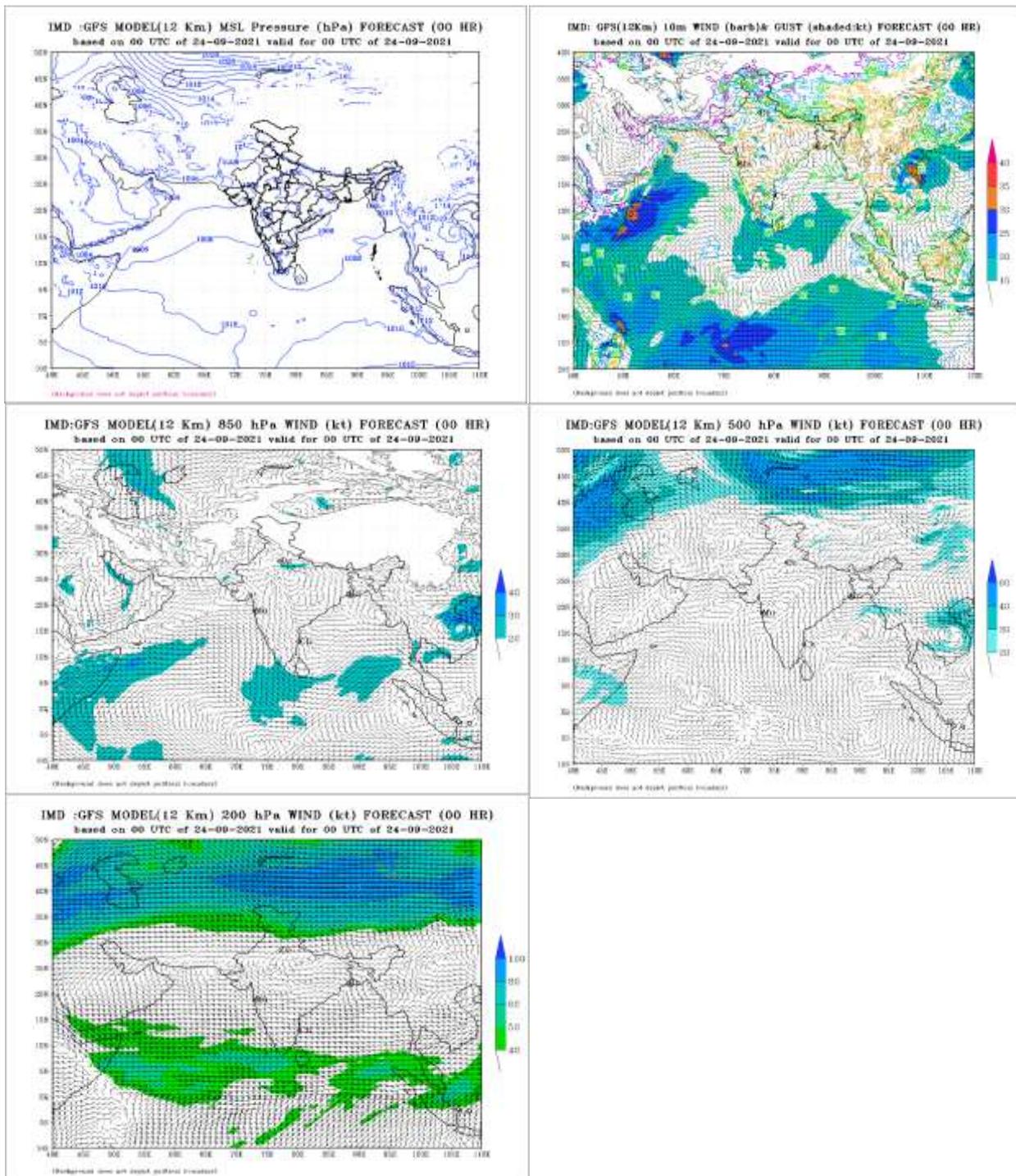


Fig. 3 (h): IMD GFS (T574) mean sea level pressure (MSLP), winds at 10m, 850, 500 and 200 hPa levels based on 0000 UTC of 24th September, 2021

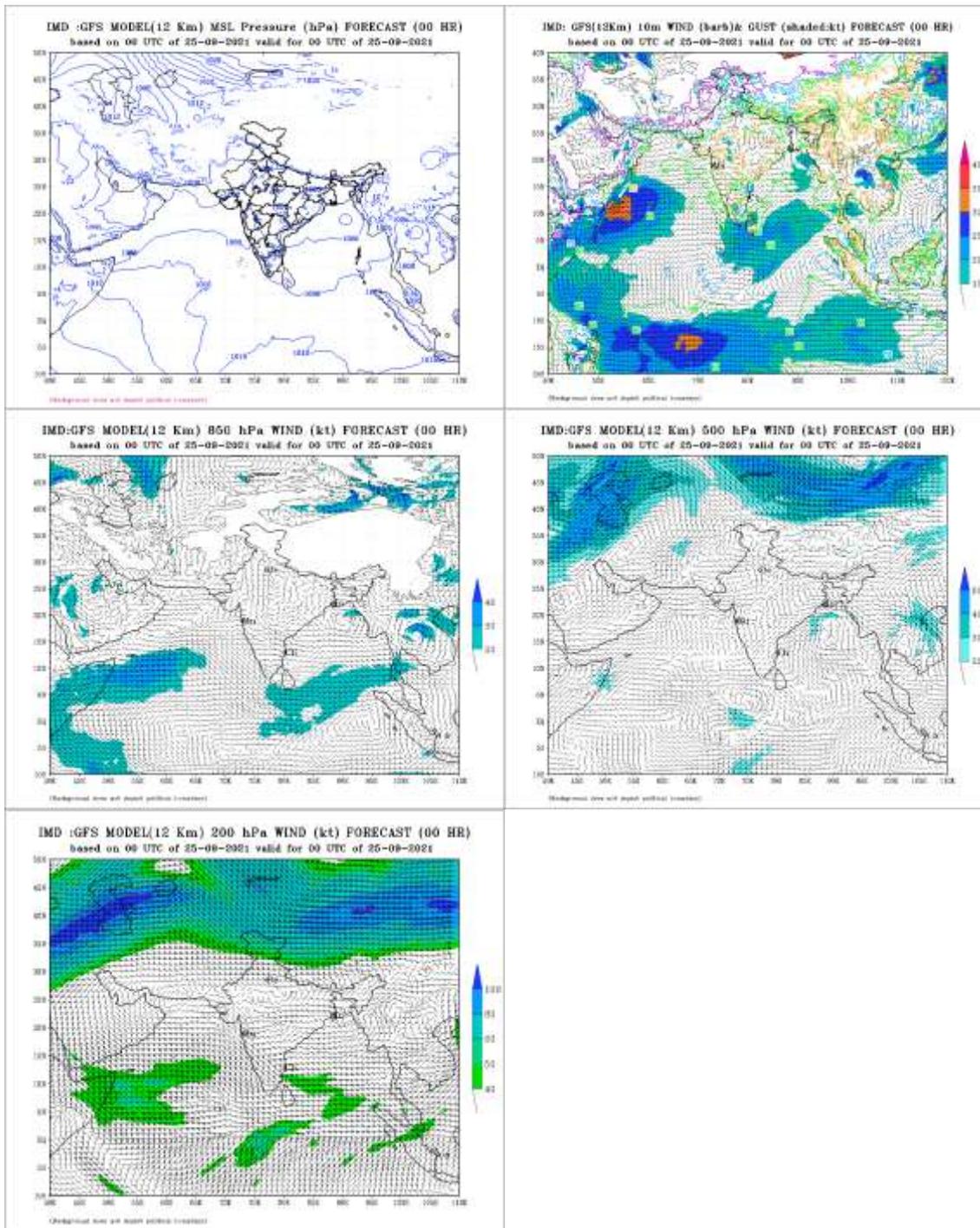


Fig. 3 (i): IMD GFS (T574) mean sea level pressure (MSLP), winds at 10m, 850, 500 and 200 hPa levels based on 0000 UTC of 25th September, 2021

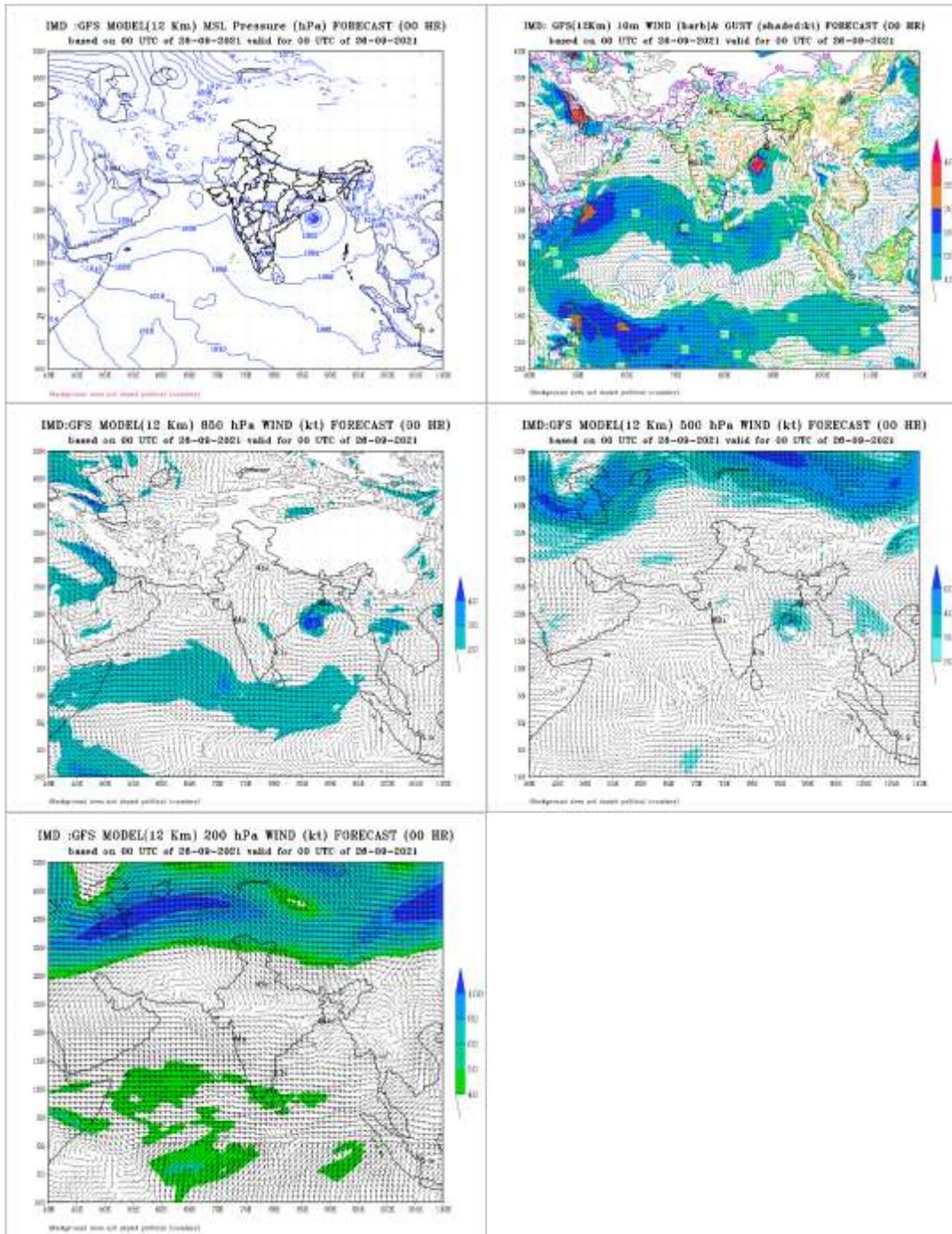


Fig. 3 (j): IMD GFS (T574) mean sea level pressure (MSLP), winds at 10m, 850, 500 and 200 hPa levels based on 0000 UTC of 26th September, 2021

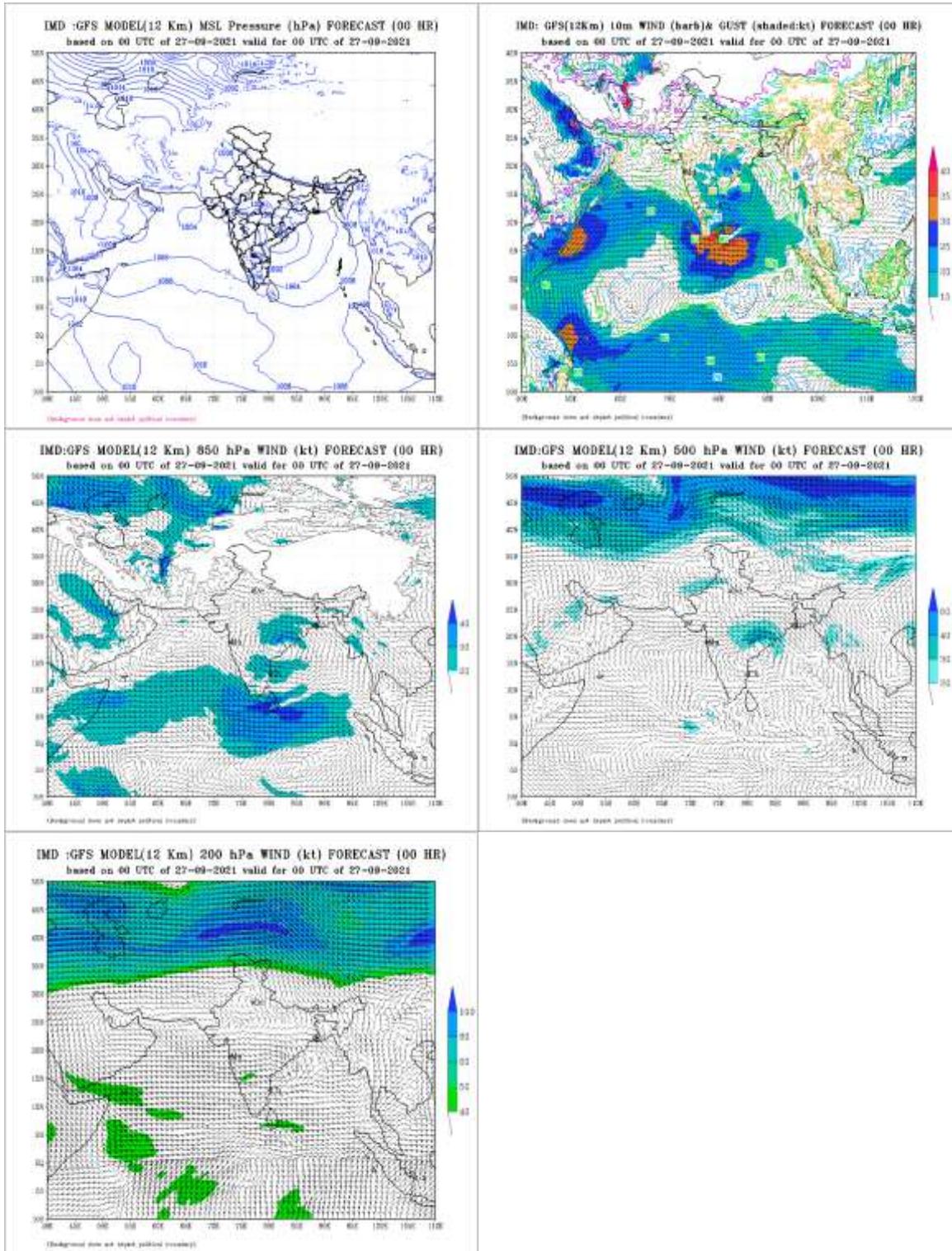


Fig. 3 (k): IMD GFS (T574) mean sea level pressure (MSLP), winds at 10m, 850, 500 and 200 hPa levels based on 0000 UTC of 27th September, 2021

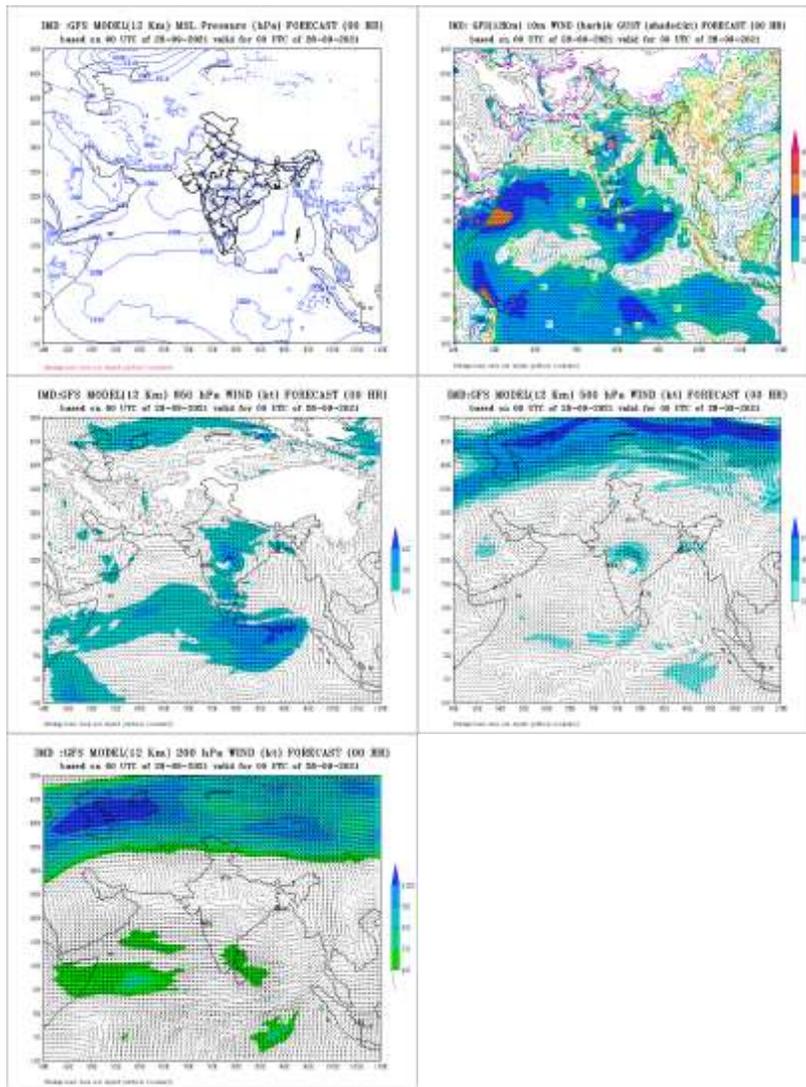


Fig. 3 (I): IMD GFS (T574) mean sea level pressure (MSLP), winds at 10m, 850, 500 and 200 hPa levels based on 0000 UTC of 28th September, 2021

4. Realised Weather:

4.1. Rainfall

Rainfall associated with CS Gulab based on IMD-NCMRWF GPM merged gauge 24 hours cumulative rainfall ending at 0830 IST of date is depicted in Fig 4. The figure shows that on 22nd & 23rd, when the system was in developing stage, it caused heavy rainfall at a few places over northeast BoB. The region of heavy to very heavy rainfall gradually moved westwards towards westcentral BoB during 24th & 25th. On 26th, it caused heavy to extremely rainfall at a few places over north coastal Andhra Pradesh & adjoining south Odisha coasts. On 27th, the system caused heavy to very heavy rainfall over central parts of India extending from coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Marathwada, Gujarat region. On 28th Gujarat and Saurashtra region witnessed heavy to very heavy falls with extremely heavy rainfall at isolated places.

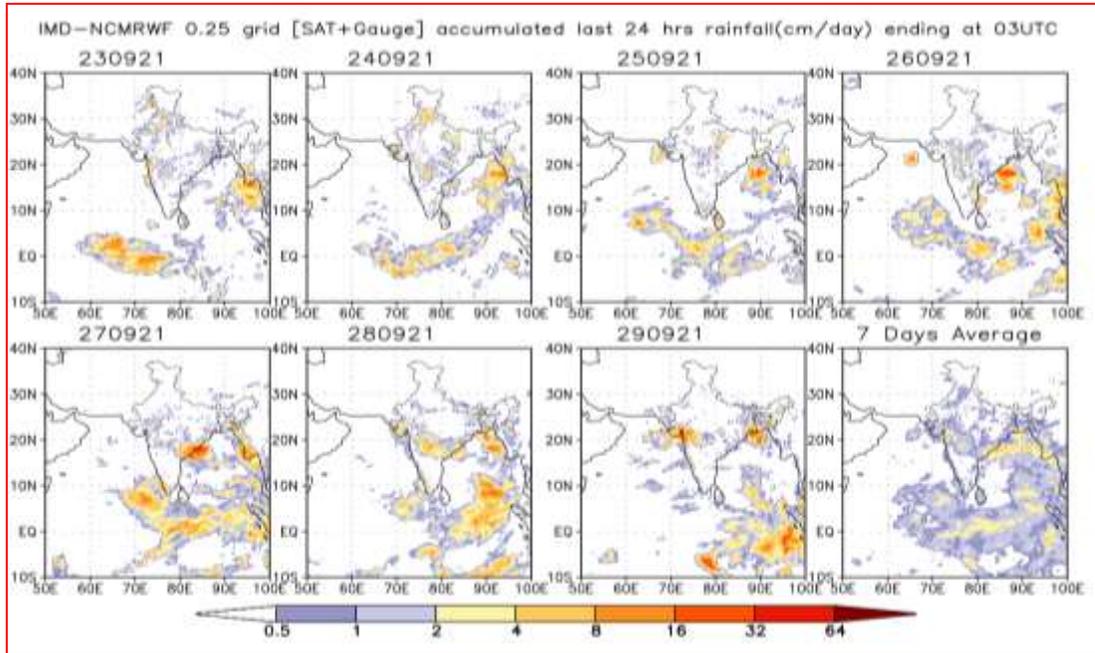


Fig.4: IMD-NCMRWF GPM merged gauge 24 hr cumulative rainfall (cm) ending at 0830 IST of date during 23rd – 29th September and 7 days average rainfall (cm/day)

Significant amounts of Rainfall (≥ 7 cm) reported during the 24 hour period ending at 0830 hrs IST of date in cm are:

26.09.2021

Odisha: Khariar-7

Coastal Andhra Pradesh & Yanam: Avanigada-14, Bapatla-7

Telangana: Golkonda-10, Sangareddy-10, Domakonda-8, Chandur-8,

TamilNadu, Puducherry and Karaikal: Marakkanam-13, Neyveli AWS-8, Kurinjipadi-7, Cuddalore-7,

27.09.2021

Coastal Andhra Pradesh & Yanam : Visakhapatnam, Gajapathinagaram and Nellimarla - 28 each, Visakhapatnam - 27, Mentada - 25, Pusapatirega - 24, Garividi, Denkada and Gantyada - 19 each, Anakapalle and Salur - 18 each, Bondapalle 17, Cheepurupalle 16, Ranastalam and Therlam - 15 each, Chodavaram - 14, Vizianagaram, Vepada, Bheemunipatnam and Kalingapatnam 13 each, Bobbili, Araku Valley and Amalapuram - 12 each, Kakinada , Merakamudidam and Vijayawada - 11 each, Polavaram, Palakoderu, Chintalapudi and Koyyalagudem - 10 each, Chintapalle , Srungavarapukota, Palakonda, Tadepalligudem, Narsipatnam, Yanam, Bhimadole, Tanuku and Yelamanchili - 9 each, Palasa, Nuzvid, Seethanagaram and Parvathipuram - 8 each, Vararamachandrapur, Paderu, Balajipeta, Chintur, Eluru, Mandasa, Garugubilli, Tekkali, Kaikalur and Velairpad - 7 each.

Odisha: Pottangi - 15, Mahendragarh - 9, Mohana and Nandapur - 8, Lamataput , Semiliguda and R.Udayagiri - 7 each

28.09.2021

Odisha: Cuttack-13, Gajapati-8, Jajpur-7;

Chhattisgarh: Dantewada-18;

Coastal Andhra Pradesh & Yanam: Vishakhapatnam and West Godavari-13 each; Krishna and Vijaywada-8 each;

Telangana: Jakranpalle 23, Navipet 21, Dhar Palle 21, Ranjal , Dich Palle & Armur 18 each, Nandipet, Chandurthi & Sirsilla 17 each, Jammikunta & Bheemgal 16 each, Yeda Palle, Makloor , Ellanthukunta, Jukkal, Sarangapurnrl & Velpur 15 each, Nizamabad, Bodhan, Nirmal, Shiramsag pocha & Dilawarpur 14 each, Mudhole, Mogullapalle, Mallapur, Balkonda & Laxmanchanda 13 each, Srirampur, Nizam Sagar & Domakonda 12 each, Mortad, Venkatapur, Gundala, Elagaid, Tadwai Mlg & Peddapalle 11 each, Kusumanchi, Naga Reddipet, Konaraopeta, Kammar Palle, Metpalle, Madhira, Manthani, Machareddy & Bhiknur – 10 each, Sultanabad, Parkal, Kamareddy, Burgampadu, Pinapaka, Chegunta, Khanpur, Gambhiraopet, Thimmapur, Banswada, Madnur, Mulug, Boath, Ibrahimpatnam & Julapalle 9 each, Mustabad, Shadnagar, Choppadandi, Shayampet, Shamirpet, Papannapet, Karimnagar, Pitlam, Tupran, Govindaraopet, Dharmaram, Aswapuram & Dummugudem – 8 each and Yellareddypeta, Varni, Hakimpet, Kotgiri, Ramgundam, Bhupalpalle, Manuguru, Karimnagar, Venkatapuram, Manchal, Tekmal, Chigurumamidy, Lingampet, Birkoor, Bomraspeta, Ramayampet, Kothaguda, Bejjanki, Narayankhed, Tadwai, Kondurg, Bhadrachalam, Medak, Sadasivanagar – 7 each

Marathwada: Nanded-15, Aurangabad-13, Beed-11; Osmanabad and Latur-10 each; Jalna 8, Hingoli and Parbhani-7 each;

Vidarbha: Chandrapur-10; Buldana-9;

Madhya Maharashtra: Jalgaon-11, Kolhapur-7;

West Madhya Pradesh: Dewas-7;

Gujarat Region: Mehsana-9; Saurashtra & Kutch: Amreli-12, Gir Somnath-8. Jamnagar, Junagarh, Morbi and Porbandar-7 each

29.09.2021

Gujarat Region: Khanvel-37, Silvassa-22 & Umerpada-22 each, Palsana-19, Bharuch-18, Maktampur & Madhbun-17 each, Dang, Nanipalson & Garudeshwar-16, Kaprada, Dholera, Tilakwada & Dediapada-15 each, Khambhat & Nizer-14 each, Hansot, Narmadakvkaws & Dangkvkaws-13 each, Waghai-12, Rajpipala, Kukarmunda, Uchchhal & Dholka-11 each, Subir, Dhandhuka, Choryasi, Nandod, Ukai, Valsad & Naswadi-10 each, Vagra, Surat City, Gandevi, Valia, Ankleshwer, Vansda, Sagbara, Kamrej, Surat kvk AWS, Khergam, Surat AWS, Tarapur, Borsad & Pardi-9 each, Vadodara, Songadh, Daman FMO, Daman, Netrang & Jhagadia-8 each, Navasari AWS, Vapi, Dharampur, Sojitra, Mahuva, Nadiad, Bardoli, Karjan, Arnej AWS, Dabhoi, Umergam & Valod-7 each

Saurashtra & Kutch: Jamnagar kvk AWS-14, Targhadia-11, Lodhika, Gondal & Barvala-10 each, Rajkot, Kotdasangani & Botad-9 each, Chuda, Junagadh & Babra-8 each, Chotila, Jamkandorna, Vadia, Chotila ARG, Jetpur & Dhoraji-7 each

Madhya Maharashtra: Shahada-18, Harsul FMO-15, Akkalkuwa & Shirampur-14 each, Peth-13, Surgana, Taloda & Jamner-12 each, Nandurbar, Igatpuri & Yeola-11 each, Ozarkheda FMO-10, Dhadgaon/Akrani- Hydro, Trimbakshwar & Lonavala Agri-9 each, Nandgaon & Girnadam FMO-8, Shirpur, Savlivihiir Agri, Parola, Pachora & Bhadgaon-7 each

Marathwada: Khultabad-14, Vaijapur-11, Paithan-10, Gangapur-9, Kannad-7,

4.2. Realised wind

Maximum Wind Speed of 52 knots (95 kmph) was reported at Kalingapatnam on 26.09.2021 at 1349 UTC (19.19 hrs IST).

5. Operational Forecast Performance:

5.1. Genesis, track, landfall and intensity forecast performance:

- First information about likely formation of low pressure area over central parts of BoB during the week 24th Sep. to 30th Sep. was given in extended range outlook issued on 16th September (about 8 days prior to formation of LPA over eastcentral BoB). It was also indicated that the system would move west-northwestwards towards Odisha coast.
- The tropical weather outlook issued at 1130 hours IST of 23rd further reiterated that an LPA would form over northeast and adjoining eastcentral BoB around 24th evening. It was also indicated that the system would move west-northwestwards towards Odisha coast during subsequent 48 hours (till 26th).
- Special Message issued at 1630 IST of 24th September on formation of WML indicated that it would intensify further into a depression within next 12 hours and move towards south Odisha-north Andhra Pradesh coasts. Fishermen were advised not to venture into eastcentral and adjoining northeast BoB on 24th & 25th Sep. and into westcentral BoB and along & off Odisha, West Bengal & North Andhra Pradesh coasts from 24th night till 27th Sep.
- The first bulletin issued at 2030 hours IST of 24th September (**about 48 hours prior to landfall**) indicated that system would cross coast around Kalingapatnam by 26th evening with maximum sustained wind speed of 70-80 gusting to 90 kmph. The bulletin also indicated that the system would cross coast around 26th evening.
- Subsequent bulletin issued at 0515 hours IST indicated that the system would cross coast around midnight of 26th.
- Subsequent bulletin issued at 2030 hours IST of 25th September (**about 24 hours prior to landfall**) further indicated that cyclone would cross coast with wind speed of 75-85 gusting 95 kmph. The maximum wind speed in gustiness has been reported as 95 kmph over Kalingapatnam at the time of landfall.
- Thus, the genesis, track, landfall and intensity could be predicted reasonably well with a lead period of 48 hours approximately. Typical observed and forecast track of cyclone Gulab demonstrating accuracy in track, landfall and intensity prediction are presented in Fig. 5 (a and b).

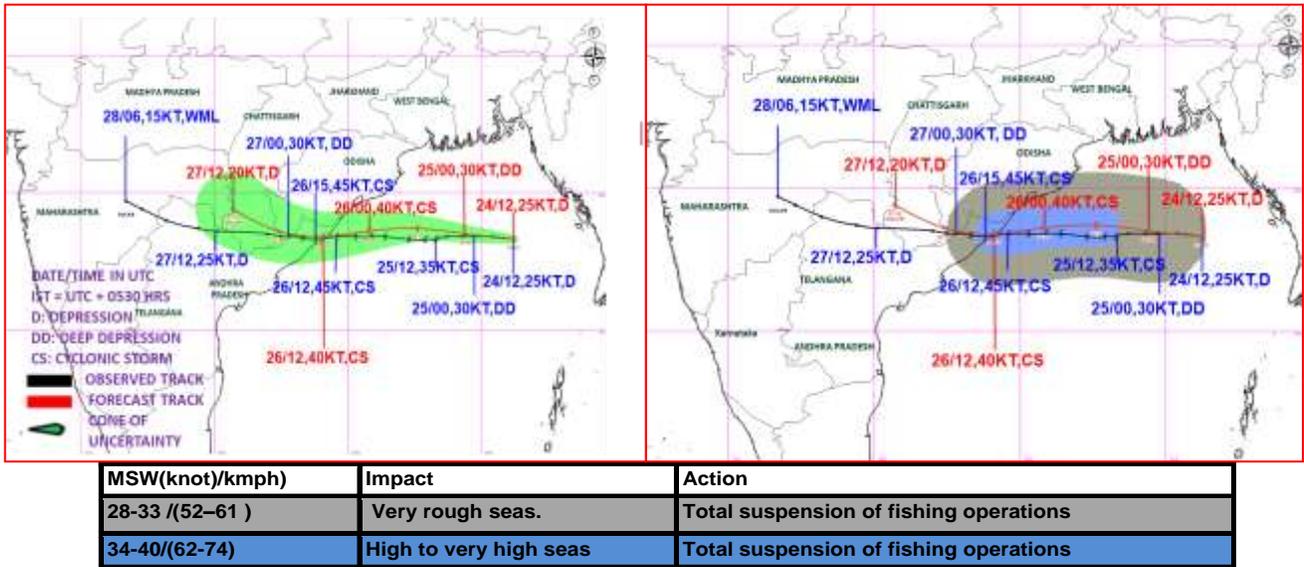


Fig. 5: Typical observed and forecast track along with (a) cone of uncertainty and (b) quadrant wind distribution based on 1730 hours IST (1200 UTC) of 24th September of cyclone Gulab demonstrating accuracy in track, landfall and intensity prediction

5.2. Operational landfall forecast error

The landfall point and time Forecast errors (Forecast – Actual) compared to long period average (LPA) errors during 2016-20 are presented in Fig.6 (a-b) and Table 2. The landfall point forecast errors for 24, 36 and 48 hrs lead period were 31, 0 and 0 km respectively against the LPA errors (2016-20) of 31.9, 43.7 and 61.5 km during 2016-20 respectively. The landfall time forecast errors for 24, 36 and 48 hrs lead period were 0.5, 3.0, and 3.0 hours respectively against the LPA errors (2016-20) 2.5, 4.7 and 5.0 hours during 2016-20 respectively. **For all lead periods, the landfall point errors were exceptionally less than the LPA errors during 2016-20. There was almost zero landfall point error for 36 and 48 hours lead period. Landfall time error was also significantly less for all lead periods from 24 to 48 hours.**

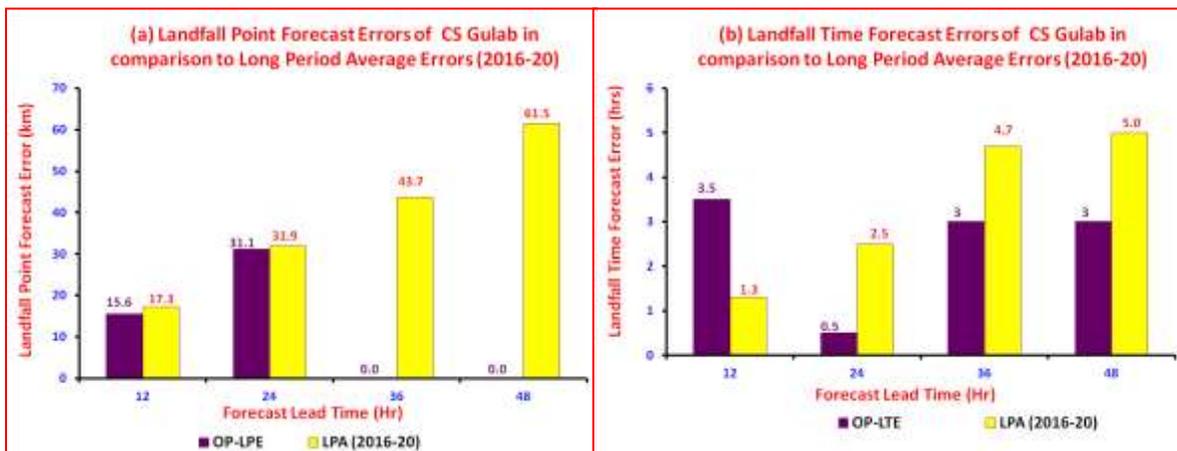


Fig.6: Operational Landfall (a) point and (b) time forecast errors of CS 'GULAB' as compared to long period average (2016-20)

Table 2: Operational Landfall point and time forecast errors of CS ‘GULAB’ as compared to long period average (2016-20)

Lead Period (hrs)	Base date/Time (UTC)	Forecast Latitude (Deg)	Forecast Longitude (Deg)	Actual latitude (Deg)	Actual Longitude (Deg)	OP-LPE (km)	Forecast Time (UTC)	Actual Time (UTC)	OP-LTE (hrs)
12	26/00	18.5	84.3	18.4	84.2	15.6	26/1800	26/1430	+3.5
24	25/12	18.6	84.4	18.4	84.2	31.1	26/1500	26/1430	+0.5
36	25/00	18.4	84.2	18.4	84.2	0.0	26/1130	26/1430	-3.0
48	24/12	18.4	84.2	18.4	84.2	0.0	26/1130	26/1430	-3.0

OP-LPE: Operational Landfall Point Error, OP-LTE: Operational Landfall Time Error, ‘+’: Delay, ‘-’: Early

5.3. Track forecast error and skill

The track forecast errors (Forecast position – Actual position of Cyclone centre) and skill as compared to Climatological and Persistence forecast are presented in Fig.7 (a-b) and Table 3. The track forecast errors for 24, 48 and 72 hrs lead period were 82.4, 65.9, and 110.0 km respectively against the LPA errors (2016-20) of 77.5, 116.8, and 158.8 km respectively (Fig.7 a). The track forecast skill was about 79%, 89%, and 92% against the LPA skill of 64%, 76%, and 78% for 24, 48 and 72 hrs lead period respectively (Fig. 7b). **The track forecast error for 48-72 hours lead period was significantly less than the LPA errors. Skill in track forecasting was better than LPA skill for all lead periods.**

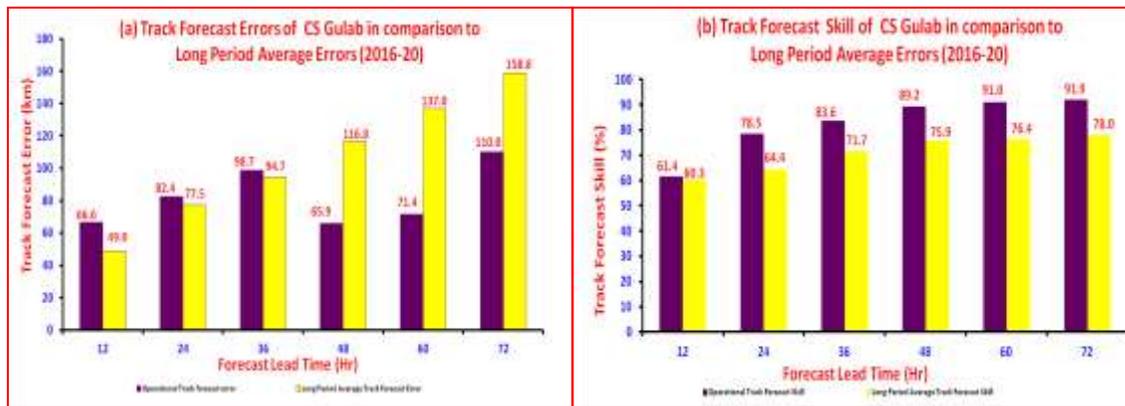


Fig. 7: Operational Track forecast (a) errors and (b) skill of CS ‘GULAB’ as compared to long period average (2016-20)

Table 3: Operational Track forecast errors and skill of CS ‘GULAB’ as compared to long period average (2016-20)

Lead Period (hrs)	N	Operational Track forecast error (km)	Operational Track Forecast Skill (%)	Long Period Average (2016-20)	
				Track Forecast Error (km)	Track Forecast Skill (%)
12	12	66.6	61.4	49.0	60.3

24	8	82.4	78.5	77.5	64.4
36	7	98.7	83.6	94.7	71.7
48	5	65.9	89.2	116.8	75.9
60	4	71.4	91.0	137.0	76.4
72	1	110.0	91.9	158.8	78.0

N: no. of observations verified

5.4. Intensity forecast error and skill

The intensity forecast errors (Forecast wind – Actual wind) and skill based on absolute errors and root mean square errors are presented in Fig.8 & and Table 4 respectively. The absolute error (AE) of intensity (wind) forecast for 24, 48 and 72 hrs lead period were 1.3, 2.2 and 5.0 knots against the LPA errors of 7.9, 11.4, and 14.1 knots during 2016-20 respectively (Fig. 8 a). The root mean square error (RMSE) of intensity (wind) forecast for 24, 48 and 72 hrs lead period were 2.5, 3.3 and 5.0 knots against the LPA errors of 9.9, 13.8, and 16.7 knots respectively (Fig. 8b). The skill (%) in intensity forecast as compared to persistence forecast based on AE for 24, 48 and 72 hrs lead period was 90%, 95% and 88% against the LPA of 52%, 72% and 75% respectively (Fig.9a). The skill(%) in intensity forecast based on RMSE for 24, 48 and 72 hrs lead period was 87%, 92% & 88% against the LPA of 60%, 69% and 78% respectively (Fig.9 b).

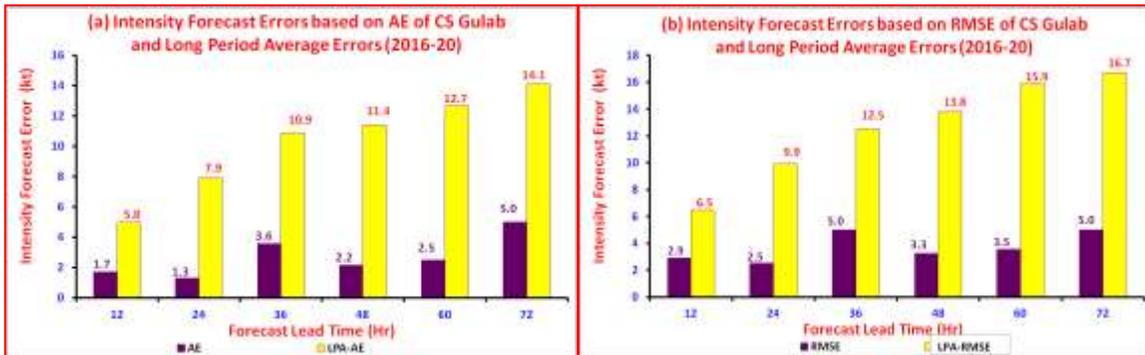


Fig. 8: (a) Absolute errors (AE) and (b) Root Mean Square errors (RMSE) in intensity forecast (winds in knots) of CS ‘GULAB’ as compared to long period average (2016-20)

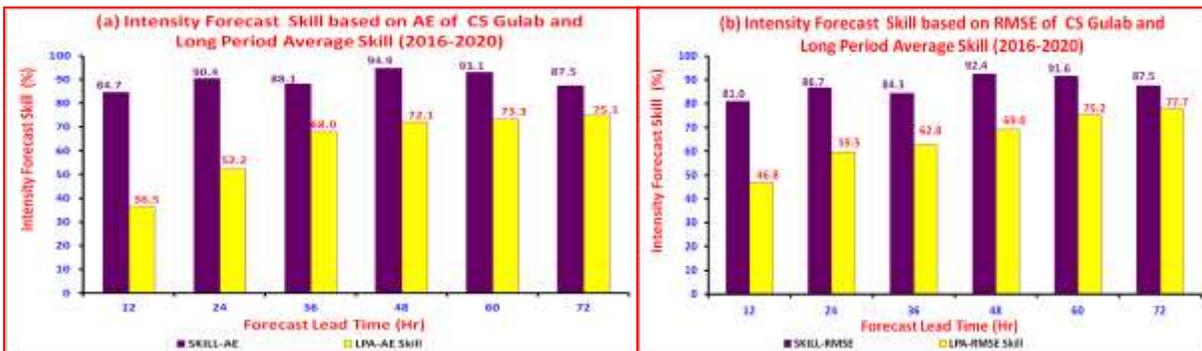


Fig. 9: Skill (%) in intensity forecast based on (a) Absolute errors (AE) and (b) Root Mean Square errors (RMSE) of CS ‘GULAB’ as compared to long period average (2016-20)

Table 4: Operational Absolute errors (AE) and Root Mean Square errors (RMSE) and corresponding skill in intensity forecast of CS ‘GULAB’ as compared to long period average (2016-20)

Lead Period	N	AE	RMSE	Skill-AE	Skill-RMSE	Long Period Average (2016-20)			
						AE	RMSE	Skill-AE	Skill-RMSE
12	12	1.7	2.9	84.7	81.0	5.0	6.5	36.5	46.8
24	8	1.3	2.5	90.4	86.7	7.9	9.9	52.2	59.5
36	7	3.6	5.0	88.1	84.3	10.9	12.5	68.0	62.8
48	5	2.2	3.3	94.9	92.4	11.4	13.8	72.1	69.0
60	4	2.5	3.5	93.1	91.6	12.7	15.9	73.3	75.2
72	1	5.0	5.0	87.5	87.5	14.1	16.7	75.1	77.7

N: No. of observations verified, AE: Absolute error, RMSE: Root Mean Square Error, LPA: Long Period Average

6. Warning Services:

➤ Track, intensity and landfall forecast:

IMD continuously monitored, predicted and issued bulletins containing track, intensity, and landfall forecast for +06, +12, +18, +24, +36 and +48... +72 hrs lead period commencing from 24th September till the system weakened into a low pressure area in the morning of 28th. The above forecasts were issued from the stage of depression onwards along with the cone of uncertainty in the track forecast five times a day and every three hours during the cyclone period. The hourly updates were also provided on the day of landfall till the system maintained the intensity of cyclonic storm over Odisha.

➤ Cyclone structure forecast for shipping and coastal hazard management:

The radius of maximum wind and radii of MSW ≥ 28 and ≥ 34 knots wind in four quadrants of cyclone was issued every six hourly, commencing from 24th September giving forecast for +06, +12, +18, +24, +36 and +72 hrs lead period.

➤ Four stage Warning color coded warnings:

- ❖ **24th September/1630 IST:** Special Message on formation of Well Marked Low Pressure Area over Eastcentral & adjoining Northeast BoB. It indicated that the system would move towards south Odisha-north Andhra Pradesh coasts. Fishermen were advised not to venture into eastcentral & adjoining northeast BoB on 24th & 25th September and into westcentral BoB and along & off Odisha, West Bengal and North AP coasts from 24th night till 27th Sep.
- ❖ **24th September/2100 IST:** Pre-Cyclone Watch for north Andhra Pradesh and adjoining south Odisha coasts (about 48 hours prior to landfall) on formation of depression over eastcentral & adjoining northeast BoB
- ❖ **25th September/0830 IST:** Cyclone Alert (Yellow Message) (about 36 hours prior to landfall) on formation of deep depression over north & adjoining eastcentral BoB
- ❖ **25th September/2030 IST:** Cyclone Warning (Orange Message) (about 24 hours prior to landfall) on formation of cyclonic storm over northwest & adjoining westcentral Bay
- ❖ **26th September/0830 IST:** Cyclone Warning & Post Landfall Outlook (Red Message) (about 12 hours prior to landfall) for south Odisha, north Andhra Pradesh, south Chhattisgarh and adjoining Telangana.

➤ **Adverse weather warning bulletins:**

The tropical cyclone forecasts along with expected adverse weather like heavy rain, gale wind and storm surge was issued with every three hourly update to central, state and district level disaster management agencies including MHA NDRF, NDMA for all concerned states along the east coast of India and interior parts of north India across which the system moved including West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Tamilnadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Daman & Diu and Karnataka. The bulletins also contained the suggested action for disaster managers and general public in particular for fishermen. These bulletins were also issued to Defense including Indian Navy & Indian Air Force, NDRF, Indian Coast Guard, ports, Shipping, Fishery, Railways, Surface Transport & Aviation Authorities.

➤ **Warning graphics:**

The graphical display of the observed and forecast track with cone of uncertainty and the wind forecast for different quadrants were disseminated by email and uploaded in the RSMC, New Delhi website (<http://rsmcnewdelhi.imd.gov.in/>) regularly. The adverse weather warnings related to heavy rain, gale/squally wind & storm surge were also presented in graphics along with colour codes in the website.

➤ **Warning and advisory through social media:**

Daily updates (every three hourly or whenever there was any significant change in intensity/track/landfall) were uploaded on Facebook and Twitter during the life period of the system since the development of low pressure area over the Bay of Bengal. However, from 26th afternoon (1230 IST/0700 UTC) onwards, hourly updates were issued and sent to disaster managers by email, uploaded on websites, posted on Facebook and Twitter till the system maintained the intensity of cyclonic storm over Odisha.

➤ **Press Conference, Press release and Media briefing:**

Press and electronic media were given daily updates since inception of system through press release, e-mail, website, video capsules by DGM, Media Briefings by all concerned Officials at Hqrs as well as in West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Tamilnadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Telangana, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Daman & Diu and Karnataka and SMS were also issued.

➤ **Warning and advisory for marine community:**

The three/six hourly Global Maritime Distress Safety System (GMDSS) bulletins were issued by the Marine Weather Services Division at New Delhi and bulletins for maritime interest were issued by Area cyclone warning centres of IMD at Kolkata, Chennai and Cyclone Warning Centres at Visakhapatnam and Bhubaneswar to ports, fishermen, coastal and high sea shipping community.

➤ **Fishermen Warning:**

Regular warnings for fishermen for deep Sea of BoB and the states of West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Tamilnadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Telangana were issued since 22nd September onwards.

➤ **Advisory for international Civil Aviation:**

The Tropical Cyclone Advisory Centre (TCAC) bulletin for International Civil Aviation were issued every six hourly to all meteorological watch offices in Asia Pacific region for issue of

significant meteorological information (SIGMET). It was also sent to Aviation Disaster Risk Reduction (ADRR) centre of WMO at Hong Kong.

➤ **Diagnostic and prognostic features of cyclone:**

The prognostics and diagnostics of the systems were described in the RSMC bulletins.

➤ **Hourly Bulletin:**

Hourly updates on the location, distance from recognised station, intensity and landfall commenced from 26th afternoon (0700 UTC/1230 IST) onwards till the system maintained the intensity of cyclonic storm.

➤ **Important Briefing Meetings attended by DGM IMD**

Dr. M. Mohapatra, DGM IMD participated in the National Crisis Management Committee Meeting on cyclone Gulab on 25th September.

Statistics of bulletins issued by RSMC New Delhi CWC Visakhapatnam in association with the CS Gulab are given in Table 5 (a & b).

Table 5 (a): Bulletins issued by RSMC New Delhi

S. No.	Bulletin type	No. Of Bulletins	Issued to
1	National Bulletin	25	1. IMD's website, RSMC New Delhi website 2. FAX and e-mail to Control Room Ministry of Home Affairs & National Disaster Management Authority, Cabinet Secretariat, Minister of Science & Technology, Secretary MOES, Headquarter Integrated Defense Staff, Director General Doordarshan, All India Radio, PIB MOES, UNI, DG National Disaster Response Force, Director, Punctuality, INDIAN RAILWAYS, Chief Secretary: Government of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, West Bengal, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Assam, Meghalaya.
2	Bulletin from DGM IMD	5	To senior level Govt. Officials including Cabinet Secretary, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister, Secretary Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Defence, Information & Broadcasting, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Deptt. of Science & Technology, Shipping & Surface Transport, Ministry of Home Affairs, Director Punctuality, Indian Railways, Director All India Radio, Doordarshan, Secretary NDMA, Director General NDRF, Chief Secretaries of West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Tamilnadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Telangana, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat,

			Daman & Diu and Karnataka
3	RSMC Bulletin	17	1. IMD's website 2. WMO/ESCAP member countries through GTS and E-mail.
4	GMDSS Bulletins	15	1. IMD website, RSMC New Delhi website 2. Transmitted through WMO Information System (WIS) to Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Ocean and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM)
5	Tropical Cyclone Advisory Centre Bulletin	9	1. Met Watch offices in Asia Pacific regions and middle east through GTS to issue Significant Meteorological information for International Civil Aviation 2. WMO's Aviation Disaster Risk Reduction (ADRR), Hong Kong through ftp 3. RSMC website
6	Tropical Cyclone Vital Statistics	9	Modeling group of IMD, National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting Centre (NCMRWF), Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, IIT Bhubaneswar etc.
7	Warnings through SMS	Frequently	SMS to disaster managers at national level and concerned states (every time when there was change in track, intensity and landfall characteristics) (i) 2,27,730 to General Public by IMD Headquarters (ii) 8732126 to farmers by Kisaan Portal to farmers of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Maharashtra, West Bengal, West Bengal, Chattisgarh, Gujarat and Telangana.
8	Warnings through Social Media	Daily	Cyclone Warnings were uploaded on Social networking sites (Facebook and Twitter) since inception to weakening of system (every time when there was change in track, intensity and landfall characteristics)
9	Press	4	Disaster Managers, Media persons by email and

	Release		uploaded on website
10	Press Briefings	Daily	Regular briefing daily
11	Hourly Updates	14	Disaster Managers, Media persons by email and uploaded on website

Table 5(b): Statistics of bulletins issued by Visakhapatnam & kolkata

S.No.	Type of Bulletin	No. of Bulletins issued	No. of Bulletins issued
1.	Sea Area Bulletins	----	16
2.	Coastal Weather Bulletins	16	9
3.	Fishermen Warnings issued	20	NIL
4.	Port Warnings	09	NIL
5.	Heavy Rainfall Warning	17	NIL
6.	Gale Wind Warning	01	NIL
7.	Storm Surge Warning	10	NIL
8.	Information & Warning issued to State Government and other Agencies	12	2
9.	SMS	-	NIL
10.	No. of Press releases	07	2
11.	No. of impact based warnings for a. District b. City	60 .150	NIL
12.	No. of whatsapp messages	75	1850
13.	No. of updates on facebook	15	2
14.	No. of updates on tweeter	15	2
15.	No. of Forecast / Warning video released	3	2
16.	Death reported due to GULAAB (along with source)	---	NIL
17.	Damage photographs indicating damage due to wind, heavy rainfall and tidal waves (very few as per availability alongwith source)	---	NIL
18.	Realised maximum sustained wind for verification of wind warning	---	NIL

7. Damage due to cyclonic storm Gulab

As per media reports about 4 persons in Andhra Pradesh, 3 in Telangana and 11 in Maharashtra lost their lives due to cyclonic storm Gulab. The damage photographs are presented in Fig.10.



(a) Submerged paddy field at Pinagadi in Visakhapatnam district (Source-<https://www.newindianexpress.com/> dated:29 Sept), (b) Road network to several villages in the coastal mandals of Srikakulam was cut off due to the downpour (Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/> dated: 28 Sept), (c) Waterlogged roads in Hyderabad (Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/> dated:27 Sept), (d) Uprooted trees in Santhabommali mandal (source: <https://www.thehansindia.com/> dated 27 Sept), (e) Flooded Visakhapatnam International Airport (Source: <https://www.livemint.com/> dated:27 Sept.) (f) Ramakrishna Junction main road seen inundated due to incessant rains in Visakhapatnam.(source: <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/> dated:28 Sept.)

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