



Indian Ocean Marine Heat Wave Advisory Bulletin

Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)

Ministry of Earth Science (MoES), Govt. of India

URL: <https://incois.gov.in/oceanservices/mhw/index.jsp>



Date of Issue: 23-MAY-2026 Bulletin No: MAHAS: 2026/05/04

Marine Heat Wave Status over the Indian Ocean.

Regions	Spread of Marine Heat Wave (% of Area)			Remarks
	Watch	Alert	Warning	
Arabian Sea	14%	05%	--	• Arabian Sea: Predominantly Watch conditions (14%) with moderate Alert conditions (5%) are observed along the west coast of India, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa - May Impact: coral reef ecosystems, pelagic fisheries, and regional marine productivity.
Bay of Bengal	01%	--	--	• Bay of Bengal: Predominantly Watch conditions (1%) are observed. No significant MHW observed during this period.
Southern Indian Ocean	08%	03%	01%	• Southern Indian Ocean: Predominantly Watch conditions (8%) with pockets of Alert (3%) and limited Warning (1%) observed near parts of Madagascar and subtropical oceanic regions - May Impact: open-ocean productivity.
South China Sea	07%	01%	--	• South China Sea: Predominantly Watch conditions (7%) with pockets of Alert (1%) observed in the central and northern South China Sea - May Impact: stress on coral reef ecosystems and regional marine productivity.
Red Sea & Gulf of Aden	02%	01%	--	• Red Sea & Gulf of Aden: Predominantly Watch conditions (2%) with pockets of Alert (1%) in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region - May Impact: ecosystem stress in sensitive marine habitats.
Persian Gulf	--	--	--	• Persian Gulf: No significant MHW observed during this period.

For a brief report on the current Marine Heat Wave bulletin, please visit: <https://incois.gov.in/oceanservices/mhw/index.jsp>

For clarifications, please contact: webmaster@incois.gov.in

Note on MHW categories level:

- **"Watch":** The anomalous temperature range from 0 to 0.5 degrees above the 90th percentile of daily climatology
- **"Alert":** The anomalous temperature range from 0.5 to 1 degree above the 90th percentile of daily climatology
- **"Warning":** The anomalous temperature range of more than 1 degree above the 90th percentile of daily climatology

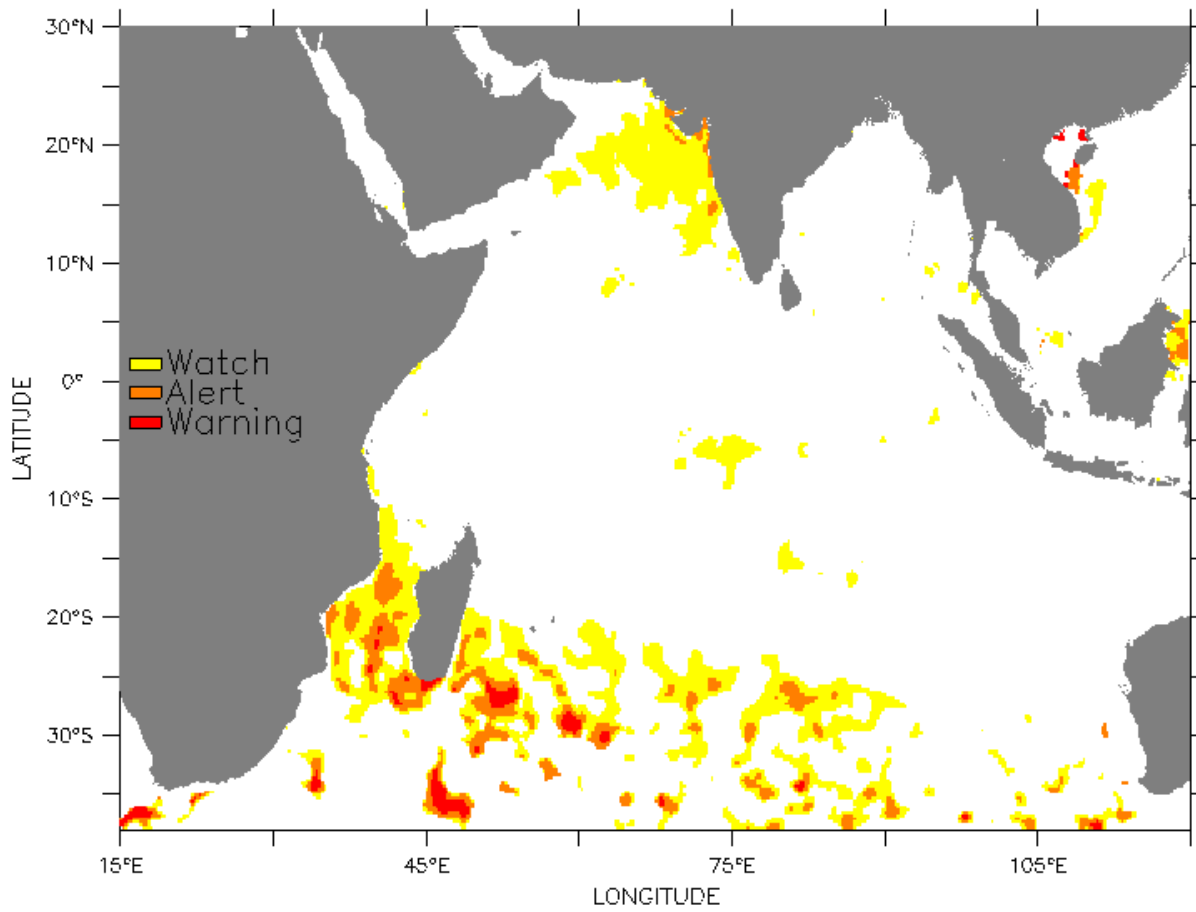
Brief Report: Indian Marine Heat Wave Alert Bulletin

Background: The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) is a research organization under the Ministry of Earth Science (MoES), Government of India, which has carried out research and development on Marine Heat Wave based on the prolonged anomalous temperature above the 90th percentiles of daily climatology calculated using OISST data over the Indian Ocean, including the South China Sea. The intensity of MHW and its different categories of products, such as 'Watch' (SST anomaly from 0 to 10), 'Alert' (1-2), and 'Warning' (> 2 °C), were generated daily and hosted on a web-GIS interface (URL: <https://incois.gov.in/oceanservices/mhw/index.jsp>). The study area of this service is divided into six ocean basins (Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, Persian Gulf, Red Sea, southern Indian Ocean and South China Sea) and fourteen sectors off the Indian states (Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, South Tamil Nadu, North Tamil Nadu, South Andhra Pradesh, North Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands) for sectoral analysis. INCOIS also assessed the intensity of MHW and its impact on marine ecosystems, including coral reefs, seagrasses, seaweeds, and fisheries, with adverse effects on biodiversity and species shifts due to future climate change.

Based on daily MHW advisories of the past seven days, a weekly summary report was generated and presented in the form of a bulletin comprising a summary of the MHW status in each ocean basin. This will provide an overview of the MHW status across different ocean basins, helping stakeholders such as ecologists, fishermen, coastal managers, tourists, and ocean researchers.

DEPTH (m) : 0
TIME : 15-MAY-2026 12:00

DATA SET: WARNING_CAT_ANO_MHW



MHW Warning Categories Index

Fig: Spatial distribution of Marine Heat Wave categories over the Indian Ocean