



Late Prof. R. Ananthkrishnan (Ex-Director and Honorary Fellow of IITM, Pune) started his research career as a research scholar in the field of light scattering under the guidance of noble laureate Prof. C. V. Raman and awarded D.Sc. in 1937 from University of Madras.

Then he joined IMD and occupied several positions up to DDG and then he worked as Director IITM during 1968-1971. He was awarded Padma Shri by the President of India in 1969 and C.V. Raman Centenary Medal in 1988. He was elected as an INSA Fellow in 1961 and was also member of many learned and professional societies like (Indian Academy of Sciences, Maharashtra Academy of Sciences). He was associated with some technical committees and working groups of WMO Geneva. He was editor of some national and international reputed journals in Meteorology.

Prof. Ananthkrishnan was deeply associated in organizing and teaching Msc./M.Tech. courses in Meteorology in University of Cochin and University of Pune. Under his able guidance 12 persons have been awarded Ph.D.

Research contribution of Prof. R. Ananthkrishnan includes various topics viz. Light scattering and Raman Effect, Solar Physics and Meteor Astronomy and Meteorology. In the field Meteorology his work covers different topics : Aerology, Dynamics, Thermodynamics, Errors in upper air data, monsoon circulation, Tracks of storms and depressions. Atmospheric pressure and oscillations, Indian rainfall and features associated with onset of southwest monsoon. To meet defense needs he organized the publications titled 'Climatology of Himalayas, Tibet and adjoining areas'. There are 110 national/international (research papers/technical contributions) papers to his credit and one book titled 'An Introduction to Meteorology'. This textbook is found extremely useful to all the new comers in the field of meteorology. Prof. R. Ananthkrishnan pursued his research and guidance in the field of atmospheric sciences after retirement as an honorary fellow in the IITM till his last days.



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Title of Talk: Pre-monsoon rainfall over northeast India: a signal of false alarms of Indian monsoon droughts

Abstract:

Indian monsoon has a critical relevance both in terms of the physics of the atmosphere and also in terms of socio-economic consequences. Predictors of the Indian monsoon season are priceless. We report here a signal of monsoon strength a season ahead. An excess pre-monsoon rainfall over northeastern India indicates a normal monsoon rainfall over central India despite the sea surface temperature anomalies suggesting a drought monsoon. In other words, Northeast India gets normal-to-excess pre-monsoon rainfall in years when a drought monsoon signal from the Pacific Ocean turns out a false alarm. Our finding would provide substantial assistance in assessing confidence in seasonal Indian monsoon predictions conditioned on the Pacific Ocean surface temperature anomalies.

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