



## MONTHLY CLIMATE BULLETIN FEBRUARY 2026

### 1. Introduction

This bulletin provides a synthesis of the prevailing climate conditions observed over Mahe, Praslin, and La Digue during February 2026. The month of February is often associated with northwest monsoon season, characterized by: Hot and humid conditions with light to moderate winds (generally from the northwest), frequent rainfall often occurring in short, intense bursts and occasional thundery showers. However, the general synopsis observed climate conditions for February 2026 indicated mostly near-normal to below-normal rainfall across the main island of Mahe. These conditions were, marked by a predominance of dry days over wet days. In terms of sea surface temperature (SST), neutral (near normal) prevailed during February 2026 across the east-central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean while the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) showed a slight tendency toward a positive phase. Additionally, the Madden - Julian Oscillation (MJO) moved through phases 2 and 4 but remained weak or inactive for most of the month.

### 2. Monthly rainfall performance in February 2026

#### 2.1 Distribution of rainfall for February 2026

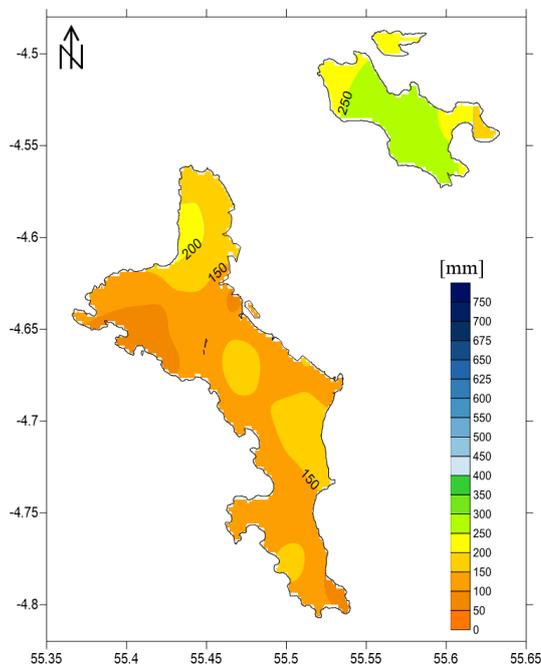


Figure 1: Monthly total rainfall in mm during February 2026

Figure 1 illustrates the spatial distribution of total rainfall across Mahe, Praslin during February 2026.

Over Mahe and inner islands, total rainfall ranged from 81.5 mm to 313 mm. The highest rainfall total accumulation was recorded at Vallée de Mai - Shelter station, while the lowest was observed at Port Launay - Waterworks (PUC) Station. The general rainfall distribution for February 2026, therefore, shows a clear spatial variation across the islands. Over Mahe, most areas recorded low to moderate rainfall totals (around 100 - 200 mm), indicating generally drier-than-average conditions with only localized pockets of slightly higher accumulation. In contrast, Praslin experienced relatively higher rainfall (around 250 mm), suggesting more frequent or intense convective activity there compared to the lower rainfall totals observed over Mahe. Further, for La Digue island, the highest accumulation rainfall total of 98.4 mm was recorded at La-Digue-Belvue-PUC station followed by La-Digue-Main-Pumping-PUC with 94.4 mm.



**2.2 Monthly rainfall performance, anomaly and percentage of normal rainfall during February 2026**

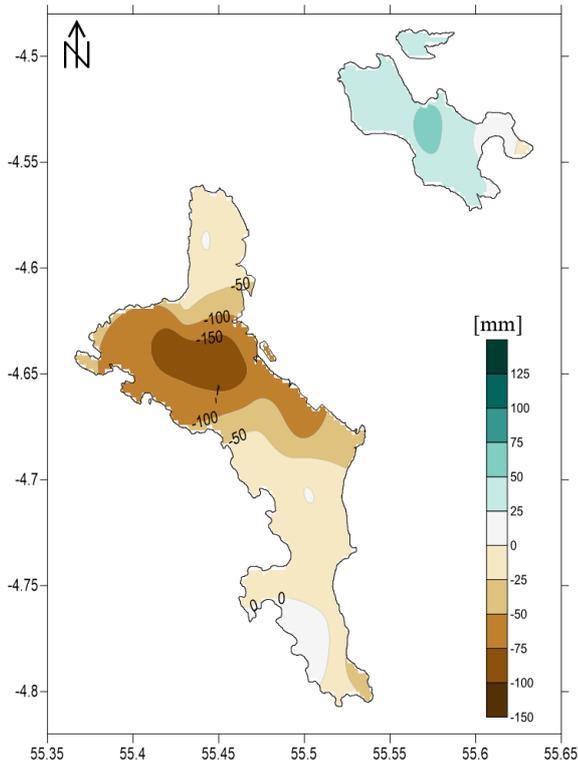


Figure 2: Monthly rainfall anomaly in mm during February 2026

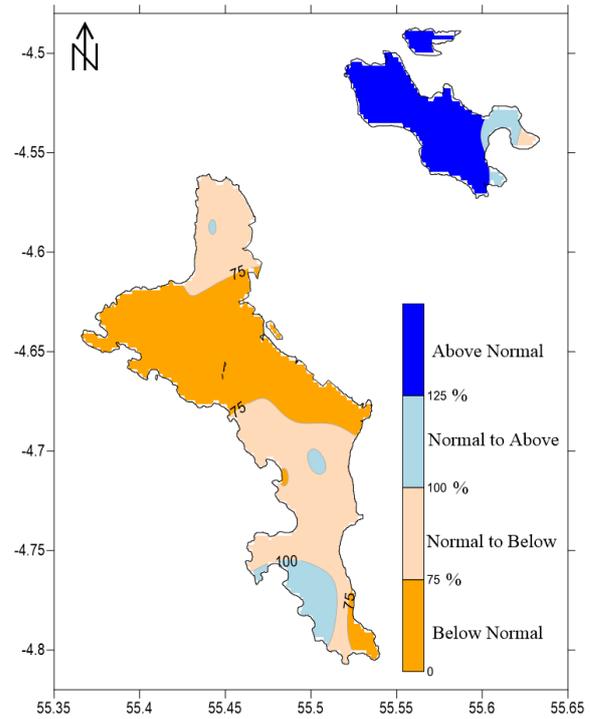


Figure 3: Percent of normal rainfall during February 2026

Figure 2 above presents the spatial distribution of rainfall anomalies across Mahe and Praslin for February 2026. Rainfall deficits were observed across Mahe, as indicated by the negative anomalies. The most pronounced rainfall deficit was observed over the central and western regions, highlighting significantly drier-than-average conditions during the month. Overall, rainfall deficits ranged from 0 to -199.5 mm, with Rochon-Waterworks-PUC station reporting the greatest rainfall deficit, while rainfall surpluses reached up to +34 mm, as observed at Quatre-Bornes-Police-Station. Similarly, Praslin experienced predominantly positive rainfall anomalies, indicating enhanced rainfall conditions across the island during the month.



Figure 3 illustrates the spatial distribution of rainfall conditions across Mahe and Praslin for February 2026. The rainfall pattern for February indicates a predominance of below-normal conditions over Mahe, with most areas receiving around 75 % of the long-term average rainfall. This suggests that the island experienced relatively drier conditions throughout the month, despite the typical influence of the northwest monsoon. Some localized areas, particularly in the southern parts of Mahe, recorded near-normal to slightly above-normal rainfall (around 100 %), reflecting isolated rainfall events. In contrast, Praslin experienced above-normal rainfall conditions (exceeding 125 %), indicating enhanced precipitation over the island during the month.

Further, Figure 4 below shows that observed rainfall was generally below the long-term mean (LTM) across several stations, particularly over Mahe. These included Roche Caiman, Port Launay, and Le Niole that recorded notably lower rainfall totals compared to their climatological averages, reinforcing the prevalence of drier-than-normal conditions. Further, stations in La Digue, Silhouette Island and Denis Island recorded below average rainfall while stations over Praslin and Curieuse Island experienced rainfall above the long-term mean.

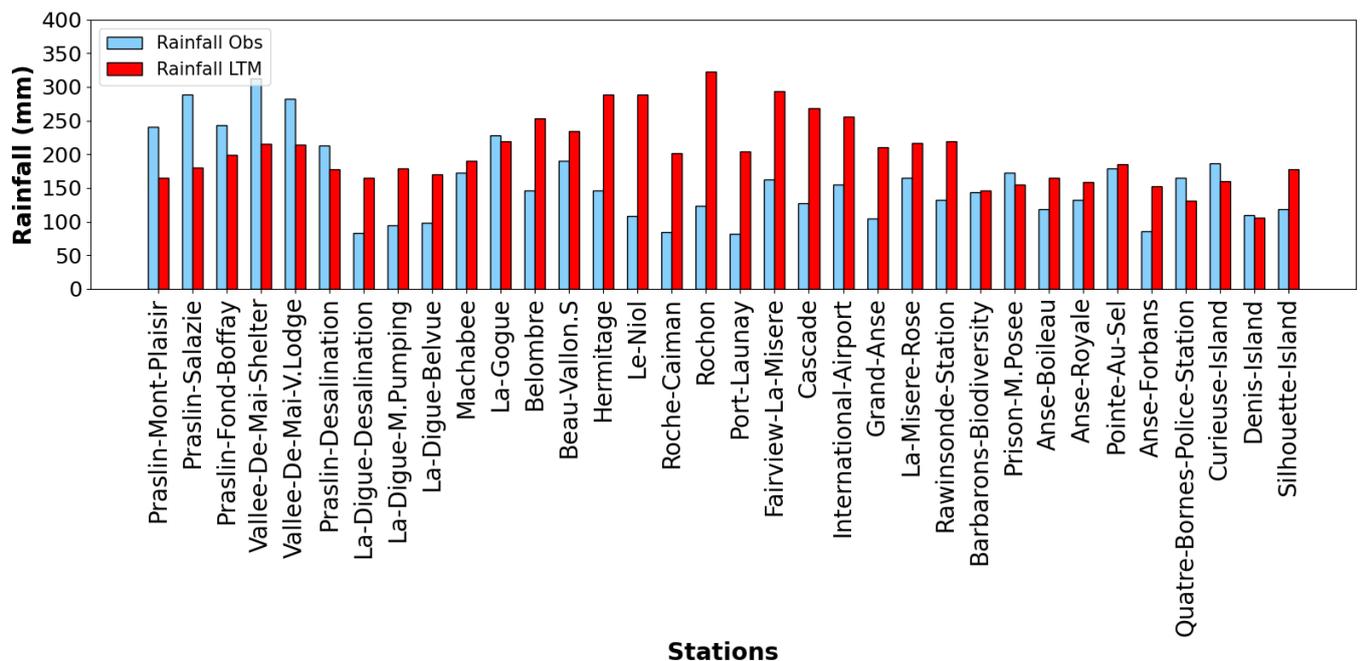


Figure 4: February 2026 rainfall total against February Long Term Mean (LTM)



### 3. Mean temperature anomaly - February 2026

The mean air temperature recorded in February 2026 was 28.4°C, representing a positive anomaly of +0.46 °C relative to the 1991-2020 reference period. This indicates that mean temperatures during the month were slightly above the climatological normal (Figure 5).

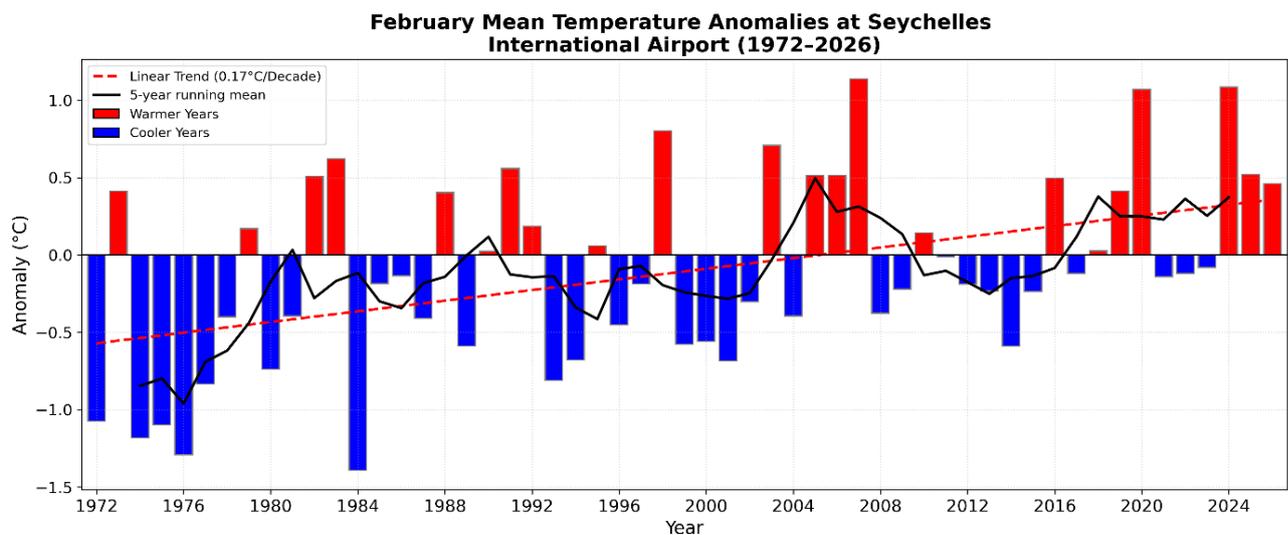


Figure 5: Mean temperature anomalies relative to the 1991-2020 reference period. *Note:* Anomalies refer to deviations from the mean or average temperatures. Positive anomalies (in red bars) imply that temperatures were warmer than average while negative anomalies (in blue bars) imply that temperatures were cooler than average.

### 4. Daily weather for February 2026 at Seychelles International Airport

#### 4.1. Daily rainfall, relative humidity, maximum and minimum temperature in February 2026

At the Seychelles International Airport, a total of 154.4 mm of rainfall was recorded in February 2026, which is below the climatological normal for the month (250.8 mm). The highest daily rainfall was observed on 19<sup>th</sup> February, with a total of 50.0 mm. Rainfall distribution by dekad shows that 19.2 mm was recorded during the first dekad (1-10), 134.9 mm during the second dekad (11-20), and 0.3 mm during the third dekad (21-28).

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E-mail: [info@meteo.sc](mailto:info@meteo.sc) Web: [www.meteo.sc](http://www.meteo.sc)**MONTHLY CLIMATE BULLETIN****SMA/CLI/FM/011****Created by : T. Nomenjanahary****Revision Number : 0 (NEW)****Page 5 of 9**

Most of the monthly rainfall occurred during the second dekad, while the third dekad was largely dry. The month began with five consecutive dry days (days with rainfall amount less than 1 mm) while the third dekad was characterised by eight consecutive dry days. Overall, 8 rainy days (days with rainfall amount greater 1 mm) were recorded during the month.

Relative humidity during February ranged from 70% to 87%. The monthly mean relative humidity was 76%, which is slightly below the 1991-2020 climatological normal of 80%. The highest relative humidity of 87% was recorded on 15<sup>th</sup> February, while the lowest value of 70% occurred on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. In terms of dekadal distribution, relative humidity ranged between 71% and 77% during the first dekad (1-10). Conditions became more humid during the second dekad (11-20), when the maximum value was observed while during the third dekad (21-28), relative humidity ranged from 70% to 82%, a slight decrease compared to the second dekad.

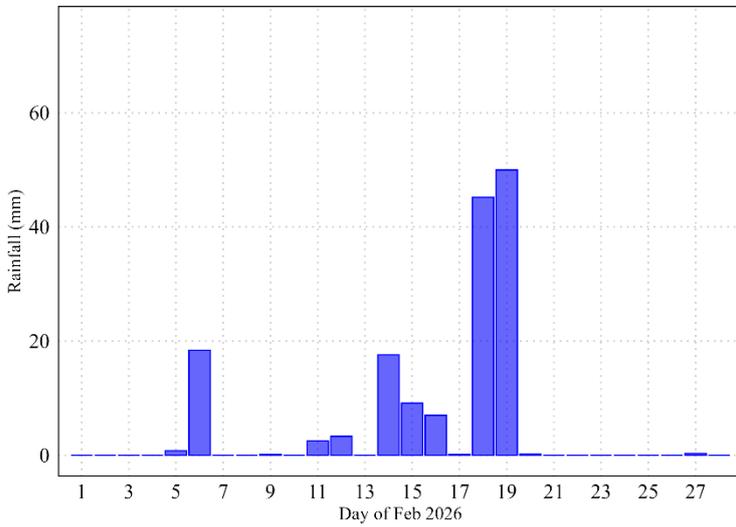
The Maximum temperatures ranged from 30.3 °C to 33.1 °C. The highest daily maximum temperature was recorded on two consecutive days, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February, while the lowest maximum temperature occurred on 15<sup>th</sup> February. The monthly mean maximum temperature was 31.5 °C, above the February long-term climatological normal of 30.6°C. Noticeably, after the peak, a gradual decrease in maximum temperatures was observed.

The Minimum temperatures ranged from 24.3 °C to 27.3 °C. The highest minimum temperature was recorded on 5<sup>th</sup> February, while the lowest value was observed on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February. The monthly mean minimum temperature was 25.2 °C, which was close to the February long-term climatological normal of 25.3 °C. Further analysis showed a gradual decrease in minimum temperatures from the peak observed on 5<sup>th</sup> February to a minimum on 16<sup>th</sup> February. Thereafter, minimum temperatures gradually increased, rising from 24.3 °C to 26.5 °C by 26<sup>th</sup> February, before settling at 25.2 °C during the last two days of the month.

*Refer to Figures 6 and 7 below for graphical presentation of observed Rainfall, Relative, Maximum and Minimum temperature for February 2026.*



Rainfall - Feb 2026



Relative Humidity - Feb 2026

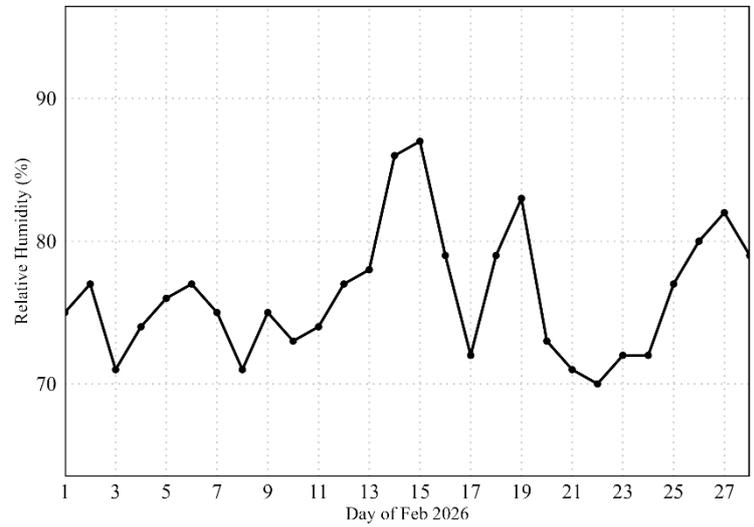
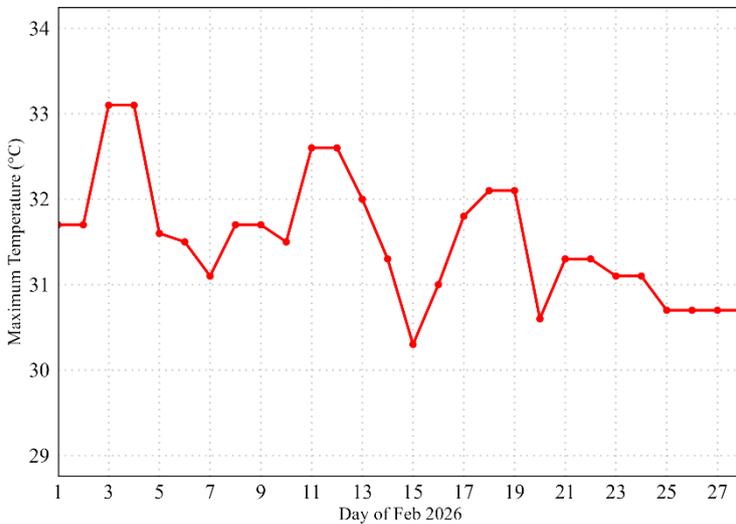


Figure 6: Analytical plots of Daily rainfall and Relative humidity in February 2026

Maximum Temperature - Feb 2026



Minimum Temperature - Feb 2026

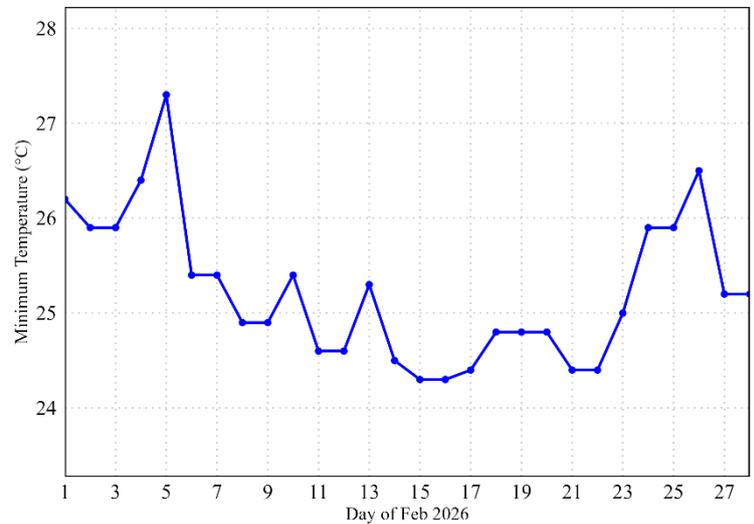


Figure 7: Analytical plots of Maximum and Minimum temperature in February 2026

**4.2. Daily sunshine hours, Mean Sea level pressure and surface wind in February 2026**

February 2026, Wind speeds at the Seychelles International Airport ranged from 3.1 to 9.3 knots with the highest daily wind speed observed on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February. The monthly mean wind speed was 5.7 kt, slightly below the February climatological normal (6.5 kt).

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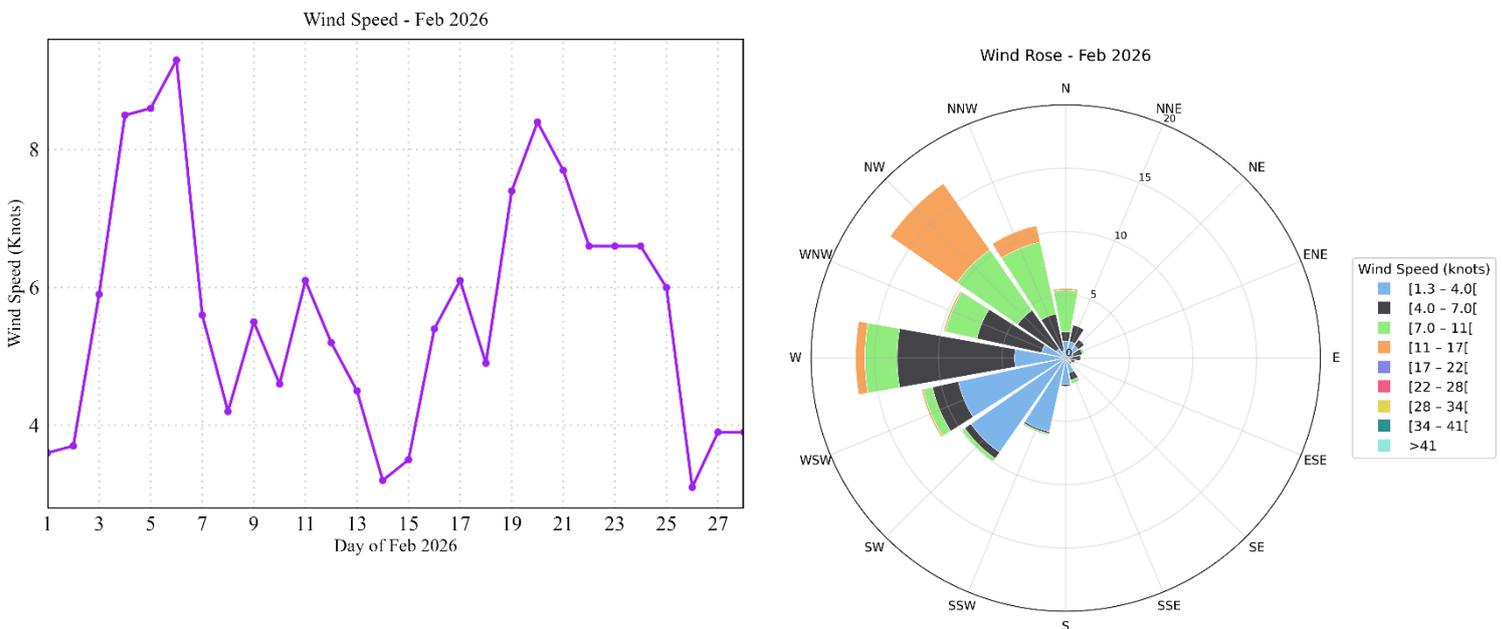


The strongest wind gust (sudden increase of wind for a short period), reaching 23 knots, was observed on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February. Throughout the month, wind directions varied between South-westerly to North-northwesterly, with North-westerly winds being the most dominant.

The Mean sea level pressure ranged from 1007.9 hPa to 1013.2 hPa, with a monthly mean of 1010.9 hPa, which was close to the long term climatological normal of 1010.9hPa for February.

The average daily sunshine duration in February 2026 was 7.0 hours, slightly above the climatological normal of 6.3 hours. This indicates generally sunnier-than-average conditions. The highest daily sunshine duration of 11.2 hours was recorded on 17<sup>th</sup> while the lowest value of 1.2 hours occurred on 19<sup>th</sup> February. Noticeably, the lowest sunshine duration date coincided with the day on which the highest rainfall of the month was observed.

*Refer to Figure 8 and 9 below for graphical and wind rose presentation of wind Speed and direction, Sea level pressure and Sunshine during the month of February 2026.*



*Figure 8: Analytical plots of Daily wind speed, wind direction in February 2026*

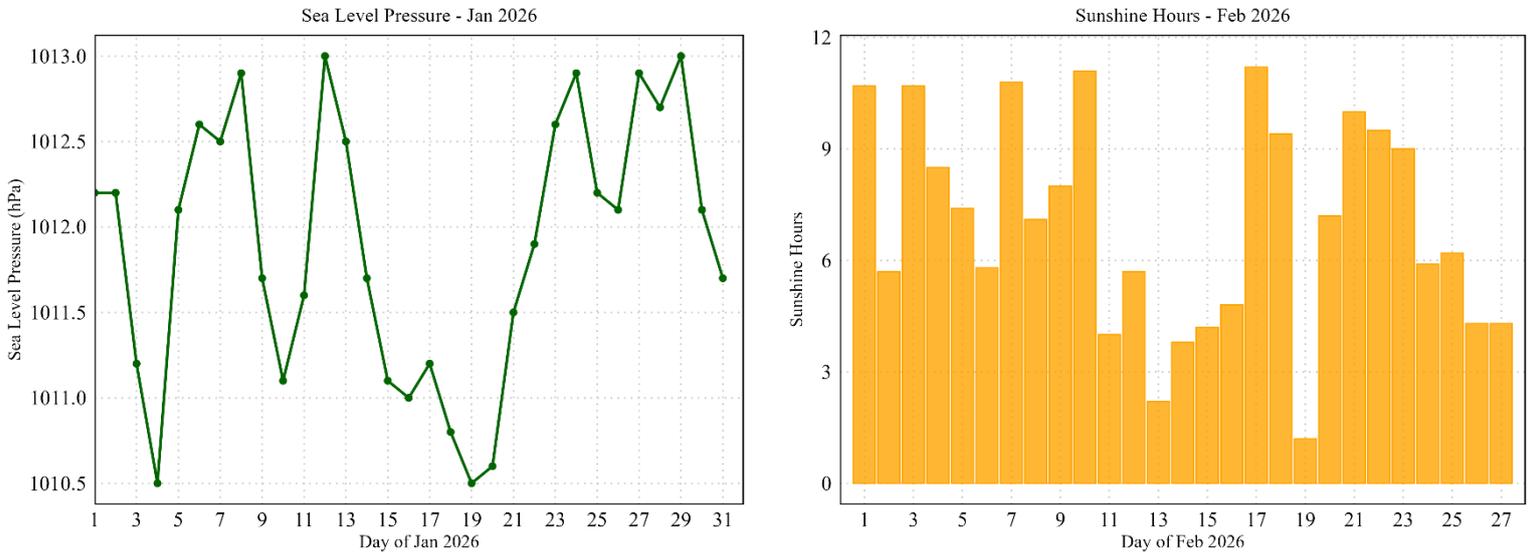


Figure 9: Analytical plots of Sea Level pressure, sunshine hours in February 2026

**4.3. Wind Pattern in February 2026**

Figure 9 presents the wind vector fields at 1000 hPa and 700 hPa over the western Indian Ocean for February 2026. At 1000 hPa, Mahe, Praslin and La Digue were predominantly influenced by a northwesterly flow associated with the Arabian high-pressure system. Weak wind speeds (below 2 m/s) were observed north of Madagascar and along approximately 12°S, indicating a zone of low-level convergence likely linked to a displaced monsoon trough/ ITCZ segment.

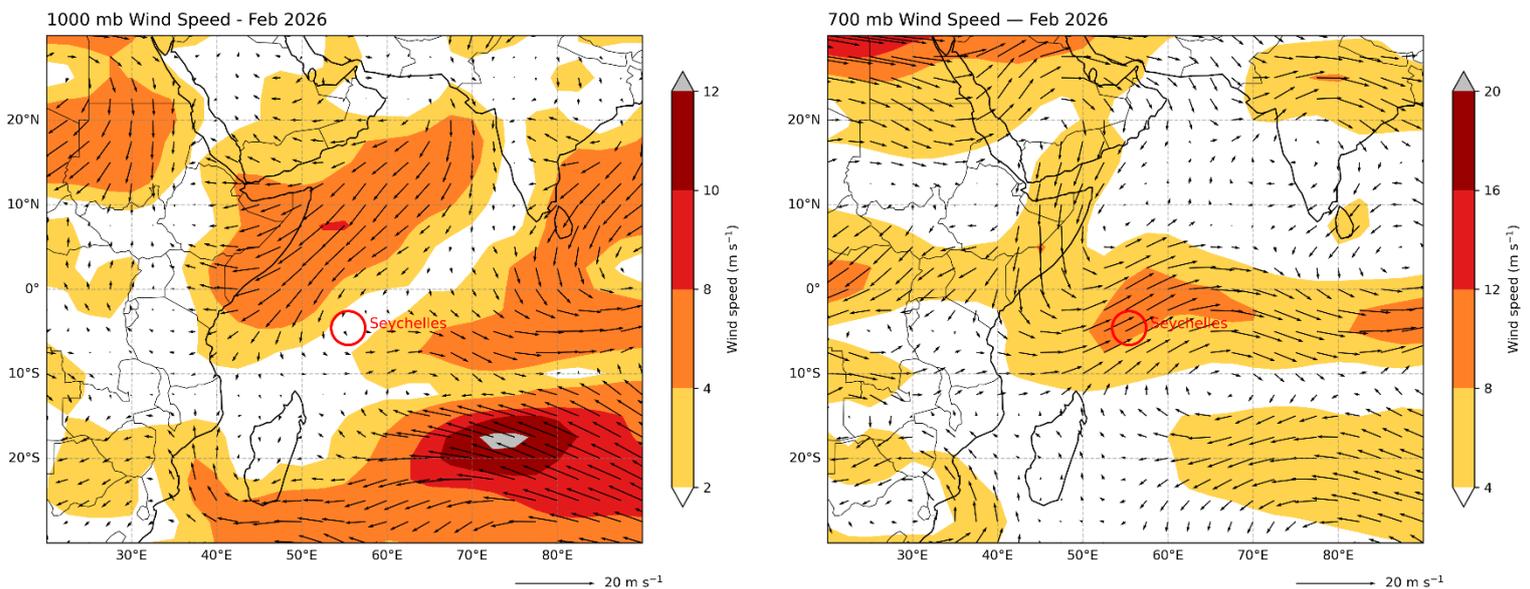
At 700 hPa, the Seychelles region was characterized by southwesterly winds with speeds ranging between 8 and 12 m/s. When considered together with the northwesterly flow at 1000 hPa, an increase in wind speed with height is evident. A slight change in wind direction is also observed. This indicates the presence of moderate vertical wind shear, primarily driven by speed differences.

Further analysis of the wind patterns at both pressure levels indicates the presence of a pronounced low-level circulation located to the southeast of Mahe, approximately between



60°E and 80°E and from 10°S to 15°S. This low-pressure region is associated with the tropical cyclones Gezani and Horacio observed in February over the South Indian Ocean Basin.

Consequently, the absence of significant low-level convergence directly over Mahe and the Inner Islands, influenced by tropical cyclone activity to the south of the Seychelles resulted to limited support for sustained convective development.



*Figure 10: Surface wind flow-1000 mb (left) and wind flow at 700 mb (right) in February 2026*