

**DROUGHT OF 1983****T. K. Fernando***(Dept. of Meteorology, Colombo 7)*

The rainfall of January, February, March and April 1983 was analysed. The poor rainfall of the Northeast monsoon months was due to the low and mid tropospheric ridge system being stagnant to the South of its average position. The April rainfall which is normally associated with afternoon convective activity was less than average due to lack of cyclonic vortices forming on the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) across the latitudes of Sri Lanka. These conditions may be teleconnected with other global circulation features.

*References*

1. De Silva, M. B. G. (1975). Upper air circulation patterns and the climatology over the tropical Indian Ocean and adjoining land areas, *M.Sc. Thesis*, University of Reading.
2. Fernando, T. K. (1981). Some observed features of the Intertropical convergence zone, *M.Sc. Thesis*, University of Reading.
3. Krueger, A. F. and Gray, T. I., jr. (1969). Long-term variations in equatorial circulation and rainfall, *Mon. Weath. Rev.*, **97**, 700-711.
4. Ramage, C. S. and Raman, C. R. V. (1972). Meteorological atlas of the International Indian Ocean Expedition, *National Science Foundation*, Washington, 2 vols.