Automated Weather Station at Aranayake, Central Sri Lanka

Main Partners: Foundation for Environment, Climate, and Technology [FECT]; Maldives Meteorological Services [MMS]; NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center [GSFC]. Sponsors: US National Academy of Sciences and USAID.



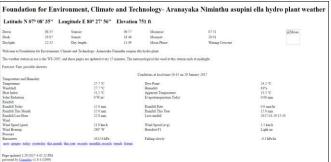




On the 15th and 16th of May of 2016, 127 persons died due to a landslide and flood disaster at Aranayake in the Kegalle District in Central Sri Lanka. Although we had anticipated extreme rainfall during these dates, and this was identified as a region with landslide risk, warnings or risk management were not effectively communicated. As the region recovers, we are trying to learn lessons from what happened here. As part of this effort, we are collecting historical climate data and setting up an automated weather station. This addresses the key question of whether we can have localized ground observed data.

We have set up an automated weather station and constructed at the 2 MW Asupiniella Mini hydro power plant (7° 7' 42" North, 80° 28' 44" South & 741 feet elevation) close to Aranayake. The data acquired from this station is recorded several times an hour and archived. In the future data shall be uploaded to http://www.tropicalclimate.org/fect aranayaka weather/after internet connectivity issues are addressed.









About FECT

Summary of Weather in Aranayaka Asupiniella Hydro Power Plant

FECT a non-profit organization registered in Sri Lanka, Maldives, Comoros and New York since 2003 working to apply science for societal welfare and ecological sustainability. It builds on collaborative projects between the International Research Institute for Climate and Society at Columbia University and the Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka.



About Lanka Transformers

LTL was established in 1982 with the aim of producing indigenous transformers as a joint venture of the Ceylon Electricity Board (the power utility of Sri Lanka) and European investors. Its work now extends to Asia and Africa and sectors such as renewable energy.



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