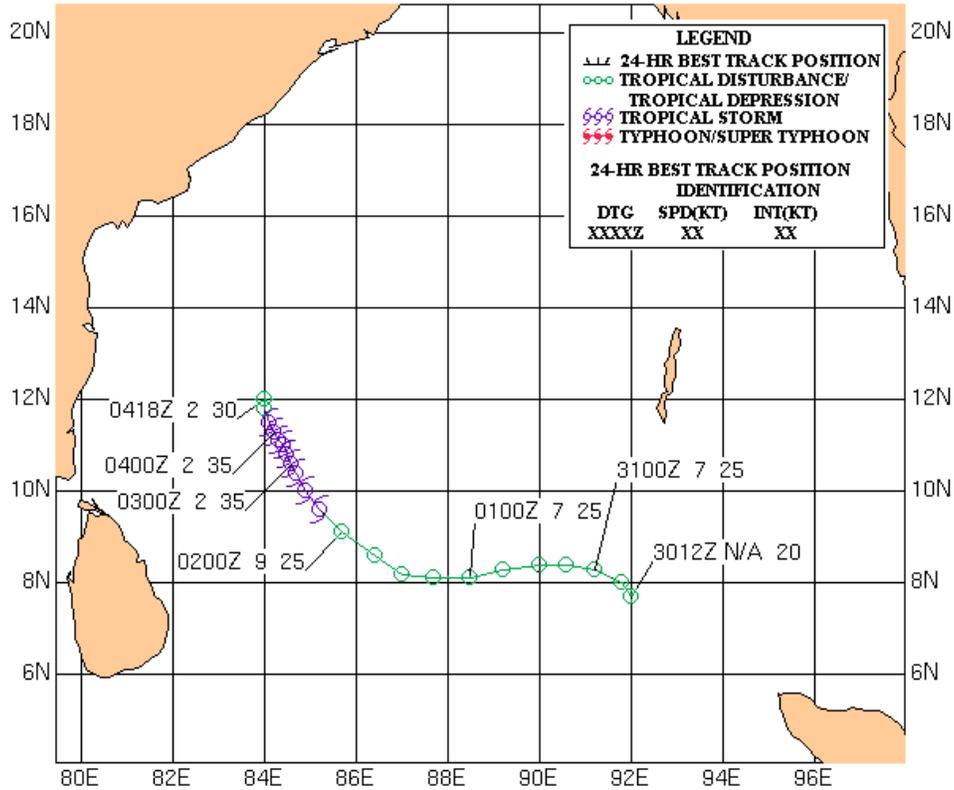


Tropical Cyclone 01B

The first 1999 North Indian Ocean tropical cyclone warned on by JTWC developed in the southeastern Bay of Bengal. It intensified slowly (max 40 kt), moving westward, then northwestward, and dissipated over water after six days.

The disturbance that became TC 01B was very slow to develop and was first mentioned in the ABIO on 291800Z February. As the convection slowly consolidated, three Tropical Cyclone Formation Alerts were issued from 31 January to 02 February. Tropical Cyclone (TC) 01B formed approximately 370 nm west of Phuket, Thailand and JTWC issued the first warning at 020900Z February as satellite imagery indicated the disturbance had intensified. By 030600Z February, the cyclone had reached a maximum intensity of 40 kt. Subsequently, vertical wind shear caused TC 01B to weaken with an exposed low level circulation becoming apparent after 031800Z February.

JTWC issued the sixth and final warning at 042100Z February.



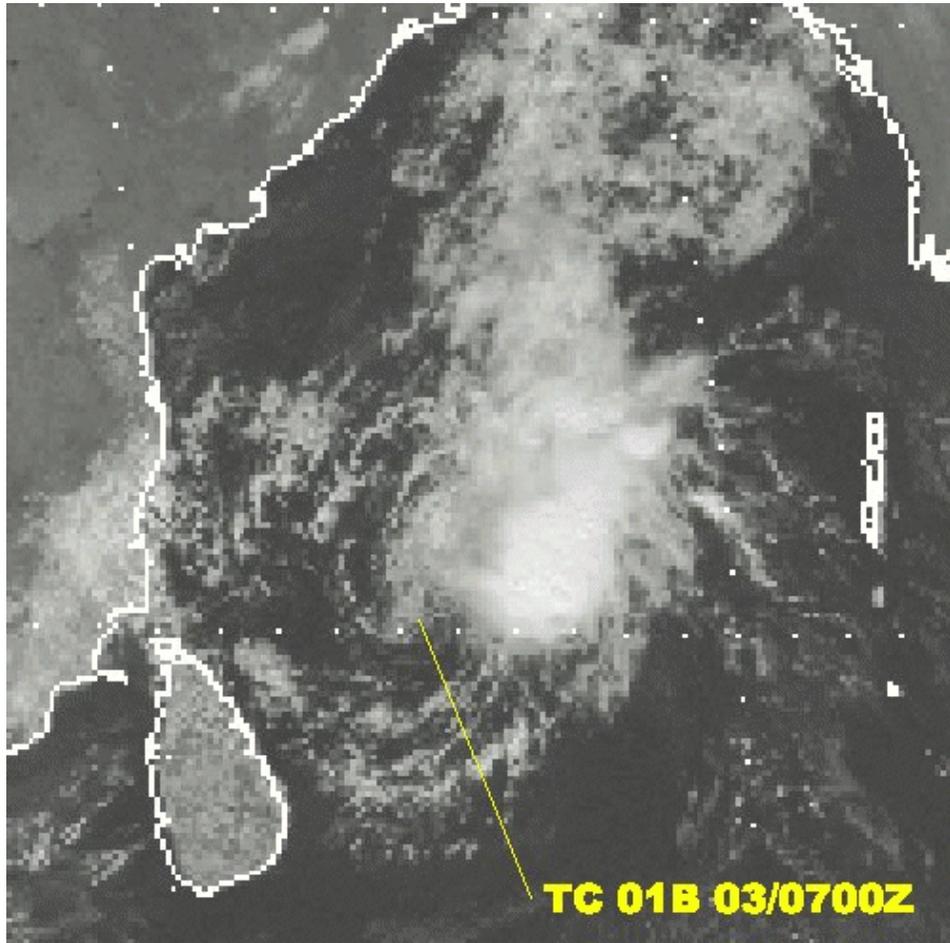


Figure 1-01B-1. This visible satellite imagery is indicative of the strong vertical wind shear environment in which TC 01B was situated as its maximum intensity. The Northeastern Monsoon coupled with strong southwesterly flow in the upper-levels is typical of this time of year, inhibiting tropical cyclone development. TC 01B was able to develop due to a weakness in the upper-level ridge.