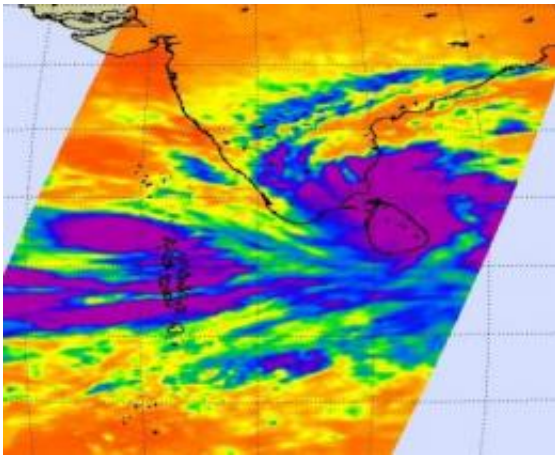


# ASA infrared eye sees tropical cyclone Nilam soak Sri Lanka

October 30 2012

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The AIRS instrument aboard NASA's Aqua satellite captured this image of Tropical Cyclone Nilam on Oct. 29 at 2029 4:29 p.m. EDT. The strongest storms with coldest cloud top temperatures appear in purple and were covering Sri Lanka. The purple indicates temperatures as cold as -63F (-52C). Credit: Credit: NASA JPL, Ed Olsen

Tropical Storm 02B was renamed Tropical Cyclone Nilam when NASA's Aqua satellite captured an infrared image of the storm soaking Sri Lanka on its crawl to a landfall in southern India.

The Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (AIRS) instrument aboard [NASA's](#) Aqua satellite captured an [infrared image](#) of Tropical Cyclone Nilam on Oct. 29 at 2029 4:29 p.m. EDT. At the time of the AIRS image, the strongest storms with coldest cloud top temperatures were covering Sri

Lanka and stretched into the open waters of the Northern Indian Ocean. Cloud top temperatures in those areas were as cold as -63F (-52C) and are indicative of heavy rainfall.

On Oct. 30 at 1200 UTC (8 a.m. EDT) Tropical [Storm](#) Nilam had maximum sustained winds near 45 knots (51.7 mph/83.3 kph). It was located about 265 nautical miles (305 miles/491 km) southeast of Chennai, India, near 9.4 North latitude and 82.9 East longitude and moving northwest at 6 knots (7 mph/11.1 kph).

Nilam's center was forecast to move over northern Sri Lanka and make landfall on Oct. 30 in Tamil Nadu, located in southern India. Tamil Nadu is located between Pondicherry to the north and Trivandrum to the south.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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