

IFLOWS-Mumbai: Flood Warning System

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Why in News

Recently, an integrated flood warning system - known as IFLOWS-Mumbai was launched making Mumbai the second city in India after Chennai to have such a system.

Key Points

- **Developed by:** It is developed by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), in coordination with the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM).
- Working/Features: The IFLOWS-Mumbai comprises seven modules, namely data assimilation, flood, inundation, vulnerability, risk, dissemination and decision support system.
 - It incorporates weather models from **National Centre for Medium Range** Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), India Meteorological Department **(IMD)** and field data from the rain gauge network stations.
 - This **Geographic Information System (GIS)** based decision support system has all relevant details - such as land topography, land use, infrastructure, population, lakes, creeks and data on river **bathymetry** (study of the beds or floors of water bodies) of all rivers namely Mithi, Dahisar, Oshiwara, Poisar and Ulhas.
 - The system has provisions to capture the urban drainage within the city and predict the areas of flooding in advance so that the civic body can issue alerts in advance.
- **Benefits:** This will boost the city's resilience by providing early warning for flooding specially during high rainfall events and cyclones. Bengaluru and Kolkata may also get such a system by 2021.

Need

- Mumbai has the history of flooding during extreme rainfall events. It had faced massive floods in July 2005, and recently in 2017.
- Rise in extreme rainfall events in India that are **driven by warming temperatures** and changes in the monsoon due to climate change.
- According to the <u>Global Report on Internal Displacement 2020</u>, nearly five million people were displaced in India in 2019 because of disasters related to Southwest Monsoon and Cyclones.
- According to the 'State of India's Environment 2020 in Figures' the internal displacements in India caused by disasters and extreme weather conditions were the highest in the world in 2019.