



Cyclone Nisarga

Why in News

A fast-moving **depression in the Arabian Sea** is predicted to be intensified **into a severe cyclone named 'Nisarga'**.

- The **name 'Nisarga'** has [been suggested by Bangladesh](#).

Key Points

- As per the **India Meteorological Department**, the impact of the cyclone is likely to be felt in **Maharashtra** and **Gujarat**.
- There is a **concern about the impact of the cyclonic storm on the battle against Covid-19**, as the rain and flooding may set back social distancing and other necessary measures at evacuation centres, and even at some Covid-19 facilities located in low-lying areas.
- Few days back, [super cyclone Amphan](#) - one of the strongest cyclones the country has seen in the last few decades - hit West Bengal, Odisha and Bangladesh.
 - **Cyclone Nisarga is expected to be weaker than Cyclone Amphan** in strength and intensity.
 - However in case of both the cyclones, the **exceptional warm ocean temperatures** seem to be behind the intense storms.
- **Cyclones in Arabian Sea:**
 - While cyclones have always been more frequent in Bay of Bengal, they have been **less frequent off of India's western coast** — a trend that has been gradually changing, according to scientists.
 - Further, cyclones formed in the Bay of Bengal are stronger than those on the Arabian Sea side. The **relatively cold waters of the Arabian Sea discourage the kind of very strong cyclones** that are formed on the Bay of Bengal side.
 - The **year 2019 was slightly unusual** as the Arabian Sea saw the most frequent and intense cyclonic activity in more than 100 years. Five cyclones originated in the area in 2019 — [Vayu](#), [Hikka](#), [Kyarr](#), [Maha](#) and Pavan - when normally only one or two are formed.
 - The Arabian Sea saw more cyclonic storms than the Bay of Bengal during 2019. The Bay of Bengal reported less than normal number of cyclones. The three cyclones formed were — Cyclones [Pabuk](#), [Fani](#), [Bulbul](#).
 - Post-monsoon cyclones have been seen in Arabian Sea. However, pre-monsoon cyclones, such as Nisarga, have so far been rare.

Tropical Cyclone

- A Tropical cyclone is an intense circular storm that originates over **warm tropical oceans and is characterized by low atmospheric pressure, high winds, and heavy rain**.
- A characteristic feature of tropical cyclones is the **eye**, a central region of clear skies, warm temperatures, and low atmospheric pressure.
- Storms of this type are called **hurricanes in the North Atlantic and eastern Pacific** and

typhoons in SouthEast Asia and China. They are called **tropical cyclones in the southwest Pacific and Indian Ocean region.**

- In the **southern hemisphere storms rotate clockwise** and **anticlockwise in the northern hemisphere.**

India Meteorological Department

- IMD was established in 1875.
- It is an agency of the **Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Government of India.**
- It is the principal agency responsible for meteorological observations, weather forecasting and seismology.

Source: IE

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