



Lightning Strike Kills in Bihar

Why in News?

Recently, At least 12 people were killed by [lightning strikes](#) in different parts of Bihar. The **Chief Minister expressed his condolences** over the deaths and **announced an [ex gratia](#) of 4 lakh each for their families.**

- **Ex gratia** meaning is a **payment made out of virtue** to individuals by an organization or government **for claims and damages.**

Key Points

- The Chief minister has asked people to be **vigilant and stay at home during [thunderstorms](#).**
 - He has also encouraged citizens to adhere to the advisories released by the [State Disaster Management Department](#) regarding thunderstorms and heavy rainfall.
- According to **the [Bihar Economic Survey report for 2023-2024](#)**, the state witnessed **400 deaths related to lightning and thunderstorms in 2022-23** and the highest number of deaths were reported from Gaya (46), Bhojpur (23) and Nawada (21).
 - The state government allocated Rs 430 crore for management of disasters in 2022-23 and of this Rs 285.22 crore went toward local disasters like lightning and drowning.

Lightning

- It is the natural process of "**an electrical discharge of very little duration and high voltage** between a cloud and the ground or within a cloud," accompanied by a bright flash, a loud sound, and occasionally thunderstorms.
- **Cloud-to-ground (CG) lightning is dangerous because** it can electrocute people due to its high electric voltage and current. **Inter- or intra-cloud lightning** is visible and safe.