Heavy Rain Forecasts | Haryana | 12 Aug 2024

Why in News?

Recently, The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an **orange alert** for **Chandigarh, Haryana, and Punjab** and forecast heavy to very heavy rain in isolated areas.

Key Points

- Colour- Coded Weather Warning is issued by the IMD whose objective is to alert people ahead of severe or hazardous weather which has the potential to cause damage, widespread disruption or danger to life.
- Warnings are updated daily.
- The IMD uses 4 colour codes are:
  - **Green (All is well): No advisory** is issued.
  - **Yellow (Be Aware):** Yellow indicates **severely bad weather** spanning across several days. It also suggests that the weather could change for the worse, causing disruption in day-to-day activities.
  - **Orange/Amber (Be prepared)**: The orange alert is issued as a warning of **extremely bad weather** with the potential of disruption in commute with road and rail closures, and interruption of power supply.
  - **Red (Take Action):** When the extremely bad weather conditions are certainly going to **disrupt travel and power** and have significant risk to life, the red alert is issued.
- These alerts are **universal in nature** and are also issued during floods, depending on the amount of water rising above land/in a river as a result of torrential rainfall.
  - For instance, when the water in a river is 'above normal' level, or between the 'warning' and 'danger' levels, a yellow alert is issued.

India Meteorological Department (IMD)

- **IMD** was established in **1875**. It is the **National Meteorological Service** of the country and the principal government agency in all matters relating to meteorology and allied subjects.
  - It works as an agency of the **Ministry of Earth Science**s of the Government of India.
- It is headquartered in **New Delhi.**
- IMD is also one of the **six Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres** of the World Meteorological Organization.