

Rain Alert in Rajasthan

Why in News?

Recently, the <u>India Meteorological Department</u> has issued a **yellow alert** for rainfall in several districts of eastern Rajasthan, including **Jaipur, Ajmer, Alwar,** and **Udaipur.**

Key Points

- Color Coded Alerts:
 - Green Alert: Signifies "No warning," with light to moderate rainfall forecasted, ranging from 15.6 mm to 64.4 mm.
 - Yellow Alert: Signifies "Watch," with heavy rainfall expected, ranging from 64.5 mm to 115.5 mm.
 - Orange Alert: Stands for "Alert," indicating very heavy rainfall, ranging from 115.6 mm to 204.4 mm.
 - Red Alert: Signifies "Warning," with extremely heavy rainfall forecasted, exceeding 204.5 mm.
- **Upgrade in Forecasting**: India's weather department is set for a significant upgrade to improve localized and extreme-weather predictions with greater accuracy.
 - **New Mission**: A new weather forecasting mission with a budget of at least Rs 10,000 crore is **expected to launch soon**, significantly larger than the Monsoon Mission, 2012.
 - It will emphasize developing accurate computer simulation models for India and addressing climate change scenarios.
 - The mission will enhance the use of sophisticated instruments like **Doppler radars** and **integrate** <u>Artificial Intelligence (AI)/Machine Learning (ML)</u> in weather forecasting.
 - India has three meteorological satellites (<u>INSAT-3D</u>, <u>INSAT-3DR</u> and <u>INSAT-3DS</u>), with the next-generation <u>INSAT-4 series</u> under development to provide high-resolution data for improved forecasts.

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 Sciences of the Government of India.
 - It is headquartered in New Delhi.
 - IMD is also one of the **six Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres** of the <u>World Meteorological Organization</u>.
- Roles and Responsibilities:
 - To take meteorological observations and to provide current and forecast meteorological information for optimum operation of weather-sensitive activities like agriculture, irrigation, shipping, aviation, offshore oil explorations, etc.
 - To warn against severe weather phenomena like <u>tropical cyclones</u>, norwesters, <u>dust storms</u>, heavy rains and snow, cold and <u>heat waves</u>, etc., which cause destruction of life and property.
 - To provide meteorological statistics required for agriculture, water resource management, industries, oil exploration and other nation-building activities.
 - To conduct and promote research in meteorology and allied disciplines.

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