Heavy Rain Alert in Uttar Pradesh

Why in News?

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an important weather warning for Uttar Pradesh, placing various districts under **Yellow** and **Orange alerts.**

- This alert is primarily due to a **low-pressure area** over the northwest Bay of Bengal, which has intensified into a **cyclonic circulation** currently affecting Uttar Pradesh.

Key Points

- **Districts Under Heavy Rain Alert**: A total of **24 districts** are under a heavy rain alert. These include: Banda, Chitrakoot, Kaushambi, Prayagraj, Deoria, Gorakhpur, Bahraich, Lakhimpur Kheri, Sitapur, Ayodhya, Ambedkar Nagar, Jalaun, Hamirpur, Mahoba, Jhansi, Lalitpur,
    - In these districts, the **IMD** has issued a **yellow alert**, indicating the possibility of heavy rainfall.
- **Districts Under Very Heavy Rain Alert:** Eight districts are under an **orange alert** for **very heavy rainfall.** These districts are Sant Kabir Nagar, Basti, Kushinagar, Maharajganj, Siddharthnagar, Gonda, Balrampur, Shravasti.
    - Residents in these areas should be prepared for extremely heavy rainfall and potential disruptions.

Colour- Coded Weather Warning

- It 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.
- **The IMD uses 4 color 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.