

UPSC 2020

Topic – Amphan Cyclone – UPSC GS-I

Amphan is a super tropical cyclone originated from the Bay of Bengal in May 2020. It is considered the first super cyclonic storm in the Bay of Bengal since 1999 Odisha cyclone. It is a part of the North Indian Ocean Cyclone Season. The Indian states of West Bengal and Odisha and Bangladesh are speculated to be hit by Amphan as a ‘very severe cyclonic storm.’

This article will mention the facts about Amphan which are going to be useful for the Geography syllabus (GS-I) of the [IAS Exam](#).

Facts about Cyclone Amphan

The following are the key facts about the Amphan as they form the part of [current affairs](#) of UPSC (a major section from where questions are asked):

1. Thailand has given the name of the cyclone - Amphan, which is pronounced as ‘UM-PUN’
2. Amphan formed over the Bay of Bengal as a tropical cyclone and later intensified into a ‘Very Severe Cyclonic Storm’ (VSCS) to ‘Extreme Severe Cyclonic Storm (ESCS)’.
3. It is said to make landfall between Digha (West Bengal) and Hathiya island (Bangladesh) on May 20
4. The regions of East Midnapore, North and South 24 Parganas, Howrah, Hooghly, and West Midnapore are speculated to be affected by the heavy rainfall
5. North Odisha Coast is said to face the maximum impact after Amphan makes landfall with the wind speed of 110-120 mph.
6. The range of wind speed of Amphan is speculated to reach up to 230-265 mph before it weakens in intensity.
7. Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) at Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) is used to track the cyclone Amphan.
8. After the Phailin cyclone that had hit Bengal-Odisha coast in 2013, Amphan is said to be the strongest [tropical cyclone](#) to hit the coast.
9. The trajectory of Amphan is towards West Bengal and Bangladesh and it is speculated to make landfall as a severe storm at:
 1. West Bengal - Sagar Islands
 2. Bangladesh - Hatiya Islands
10. [National Disaster Response Force \(NDRF\)](#) is a specialized authority constituted under the Disaster Management Act 2005. It is monitoring Amphan with the parallel monitoring by:
 1. National Crisis Monitoring Committee (Constituted by the Government of India, to meet the exigencies of natural calamities.)
 2. Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)
 3. [Indian Meteorological Committee \(IMD\)](#)
11. The other Indian States to have been impacted by Amphan are:
 1. Kerala - Heavy rainfall; Yellow Alert has been issued

Aspirants can refer to our [Comprehensive News Analysis \(CNA\)](#) of all important issues in news for UPSC.

Amphan and Important Regions for UPSC

With the cyclone Amphan, a few cities and islands have been in the news which IAS aspirants should know about as questions can be asked from these:

Odisha	West Bengal	Bangladesh
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Paradip CoastBhadrakJagatsinghpurKendrapadaBalasore	<ul style="list-style-type: none">East Midnapore, South 24-Parganas and North 24-ParganasDigha IslandSyama Prasad Mookerjee Port Trust (SPMPT)HowrahHooghlyKolkata of Gangetic West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hatiya Island

Candidates can refer to [Geography notes](#) for other such important topics.