UPSC 2020

Topic – Nisarga Cyclone

The Nisarga Cyclone has formed following the low-pressure area over the Southeast and East-central Arabian Sea and Lakshadweep area. Cyclone Nisarga which is a tropical cyclone is termed as 'Severe Cyclonic Storm' by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) where the department has notified that the storm is likely to cross Northern Maharashtra on 3rd June 2020 with a maximum sustained speed of 100-110 kmph gusting to 120 kmph. Read about the topic, 'Cyclone Nisarga' in this article, which is important from the current affairs and Geography syllabus' perspectives of the IAS Exam.

Candidates can read about cyclones and the recent cyclone Amphan in the articles linked in the table below:

Cyclone	Cyclone Amphan

Facts about Cyclone Nisarga for UPSC

The table-below mentions ten important facts about the Nisarga cyclone which stand relevant from the UPSC 2020 exam perspective:

Major Points about Cyclone Nisarga	
S.No	**Facts**
1.	The Nisarga Cyclone is formed because of the depression in the Arabian Sea. Note: Areas of low-pressure are called depressions or cyclones
2.	Bangladesh has given the name 'Nisarga' Note: Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) New Delhi Tropical Cyclone Center is responsible for naming the tropical cyclones that have formed over the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea when they have reached the relevant intensity.
3.	The two states that are to be affected by the Cyclone Nisarga: • Maharashtra • Gujarat
4.	Cyclone Nisarga is a tropical cyclone formed because of exceptional warm ocean temperatures.
5.	Doppler Weather Radars (DWRs) at Mumbai and Goa are being used to track the cyclonic storm.
6.	IMD stated the cyclone Nisarga will make landfall on 3rd June 2020
7.	IMD has also given the speed intensity of Nisarga Cyclone for two days: • 3rd June - Severe Cyclonic Storm - 100-110 kmph to gusting speed of 120 kmph

	• 4th June - Depression - 30-40 kmph to gusting speed of 50 kmph.
8.	Compared to Cyclone Amphan, cyclone Nisarga is speculated to bring: • Light to moderate rainfall at most places • Heavy to very heavy rainfalls at few places • Extremely heavy rainfalls at isolated places Note: Extremely Heavy Rainfalls are considered to be more than or equal to 20 cm in 24 hours
9.	1-2 metres high storm surge above astronomical tide are speculated to inundate low-lying areas of Mumbai
10.	**Is Nisarga cyclone Mumbai's first storm in 72 years?** Earliest recorded storms in Mumbai date back to May 1618, followed by storms in the 17th and 18th century. In 2005, 2017 and 2019 Mumbai was hit by floods but the reasons are speculated of not being associated with cyclones. Therefore, Nisarga cyclone is being called to fall on Mumbai as the only one in 72 years.

Cyclone Nisarga and Important Regions for UPSC

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

Maharashtra	Gujarat
Mumbai Alibaug Palghar Thane Raigad Ratnagiri Sindhudurg	Valsad Navsari Dang Surat
Note:	Daman, Dadar and Nagar Haveli and Goa are also affected

Cyclone Nisarga and Wind Warning

The wind speeds of Cyclone Nisarga at different regions is mentioned in the table below:

East Central Arabian Sea	100-110 kmph gusting to 120 kmph
North Maharashtra Coast	100-110 kmph gusting to 120 kmph
Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Palghad, Thane	85-95 kmph gusting to 105 kmph
Valsad, Navsari, Daman, Dadra, and Nagar Haveli, Northeast Arabian Sea	6-80 kmph gusting to 90 kmph

Tropical Cyclones in the Arabian Sea

A few points an IAS candidate must note about the cyclones originating in the Arabian Sea are:

1. The cyclones are less frequent in the Arabian Sea compared to the frequency of cyclones originating in the Bay of Bengal
2. The cyclones originating in the Arabian Sea are weaker than those originating from Bay of Bengal
3. The formation of weak cyclones in Arabian Sea reasons back to the presence of cold water of the sea.
4. The important cyclones that have originated in the Arabian Sea are:
    1. Vayu - Very Severe Cyclonic Storm in June 2019 affected India, Pakistan, Maldives, and Oman
    2. Hikka - Cyclonic Storm in September 2019
    3. Kyarr - First super cyclonic storm in the North Indian Ocean since Gonu in 2007, in October 2019
    4. Maha - The cyclonic storm in November 2019
    5. Pavan - Cyclone storm in December 2019

Candidates can also read related articles mentioned in the table below:

How are cyclones named?	La Nina	El Nino
El-Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO)	Heating and Cooling of Atmosphere	General Circulation of Atmosphere

UPSC Preparation:

NCERT Geography Notes for UPSC	UPSC 2020 Calendar
Documents Required for UPSC Exam	Language Papers in UPSC – Tips to Study
UPSC Admit Card 2020	IAS Eligibility Criteria