

Cyclone Mandous

December 10, 2022

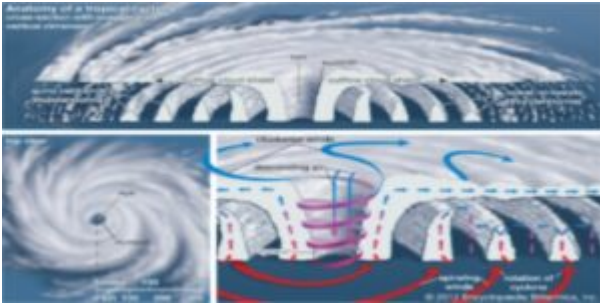
In news— Cyclonic Storm Mandous wreaked havoc across India's southeastern coast recently, bombarding the region with up to extremely heavy downpours and stormy winds.

About the Cyclonic Mandous-

- Heavy rains lashed several parts of south coastal and Rayalaseema districts of Andhra Pradesh early on Saturday after cyclonic storm Mandous made landfall off Mamallapuram in neighbouring Tamil Nadu.
- After cyclone 'Sitrang' which had largely affected Odisha, West Bengal, and North Andhra Pradesh in October, the recent storm Mandous is named after the United Arab Emirates (UAE) proposal; it means "treasure box" in Arabic.
- In April 2020, IMD shared a list containing a total of 169 names including 13 names proposed by each member country, which take turns to name tropical cyclones in a sequential manner.
- The member nations who name such storms are a part of the World Meteorological Organisation and the United Nations economic and social commission for Asia Pacific panel (WMO/ESCAP) on tropical cyclones.

What are tropical Cyclones?

- A tropical cyclone is an intense circular storm that originates over warm tropical oceans and is characterized by low atmospheric pressure, high winds, and heavy rain.
- In extreme cases winds may exceed 240 km per hour, and gusts may surpass 320 km per hour.



- In the North Atlantic Ocean and the eastern North Pacific, they are called hurricanes.
- In the western North Pacific, the storms are referred to as typhoons.
- In the western South Pacific and the Indian Ocean, they are variously referred to as severe tropical cyclones, tropical cyclones, or simply cyclones.
- Tropical cyclones occur every year during the late summer months: July–September in the Northern Hemisphere and January–March in the Southern Hemisphere.
- **Several factors are required for these thunderstorms to develop further, including-**
 - Sea surface temperatures of around 27 °C (81 °F).
 - Low vertical wind shear surrounding the system.
 - Atmospheric instability, high humidity in the lower to middle levels of the troposphere.
 - Enough Coriolis force to develop a low-pressure center.
 - A pre-existing low-level focus or disturbance.
- **Characteristic features of tropical cyclones are** the eye, a central region of clear skies, warm temperatures, and low atmospheric pressure; the eyewall, the most dangerous and destructive part where winds are strongest and rainfall is heaviest; and rainbands, secondary cells that spiral into the center of the storm.

Further reading: <https://journalsofindia.com/cyclone-emnati/>