



Hurricane Nana

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Why in News

Atlantic Hurricane Nana has made a landfall on the coast of **Belize**.

- The country Belize is located on the **northeast coast of Central America**.
- Few days back, **Hurricane Laura** made landfall in southwestern Louisiana (South Central United States).



Key Points

- **Tropical Cyclone:**
 - A hurricane is a **type of storm called a tropical cyclone**, which forms over tropical or subtropical waters.
 - A tropical cyclone is a **rotating low-pressure weather system** that has organized **thunderstorms but no fronts** (a boundary separating two air masses of different densities).
- **Speed of Winds:**
 - Tropical cyclones with maximum sustained surface **winds** of less than **39 miles per hour (mph)** are called **tropical depressions**.
 - Those with maximum sustained winds of 39 mph or **higher are called tropical storms**.
 - When a storm's maximum sustained winds reach **74 mph**, it is called a **hurricane**.
- **Measurement of Wind Speed:**
 - The **Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale** is a **1 to 5 rating**, or category, based on a hurricane's maximum sustained winds.
 - The higher the category, the **greater the hurricane's** potential for property **damage**.
- **Formation:**
 - There needs to be **warm ocean water** and **moist, humid air** in the region.
 - When humid air is flowing upward at a zone of low pressure over warm ocean water, the water is released from the air as creating the **clouds of the storm**.
- **Features:**
 - It has a **low pressure centre** and clouds spiraling towards the eyewall surrounding the "**eye**", the central part of the system where the weather is normally calm and free of clouds.
 - Its **diameter** is typically around **200 to 500 km**, but can reach 1000 km.
 - The **winds** blow **counterclockwise** in the **Northern Hemisphere** and clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere.
 - A tropical cyclone brings very violent winds, torrential rain, high waves and, in some cases, very destructive storm surges and coastal flooding.
- **Different Names:**
 - **Hurricane:** Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico, North Atlantic Ocean and the eastern and central North Pacific Ocean
 - **Typhoon:** Western North Pacific
 - **Cyclone:** Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea
 - **Willy-willies:** Australia

Source: IE