




# Rapid Fire Current Affairs

## Cyclone Hamoon

**CYCLONE**

Cyclones are rapid **inward** air circulation around a **low-pressure** area.

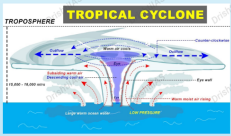


**Cyclone v/s Anticyclone**

Pressure System	Pressure Condition at the Center	Pattern of Wind Direction	
		Northern Hemisphere	Southern Hemisphere
Cyclone	Low	Anticlockwise	Clockwise
Anticyclone	High	Clockwise	Anticlockwise

**Classification**

- Tropical Cyclones;** originate between the Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer
- Extra Tropical/ Temperate Cyclones;** originate in the Polar Regions



**Conditions for Formation**

- Large sea surface with temperature  $>27^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- Presence of the **Coriolis force**
- Small variations in the **vertical wind speed**
- A **pre-existing weak low-pressure area**
- Upper divergence** above the sea level system

**Nomenclature**

- Nodal Authority - **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**
- Indian Ocean Region - **Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand** contribute to naming cyclones that occur in this region.

**Different Names for Tropical Cyclones**

- Typhoons** - Southeast Asia and China
- Hurricanes** - North Atlantic and eastern Pacific
- Tornados** - West Africa and southern USA
- Willy-willies** - Northwest Australia
- Tropical Cyclones** - Southwest Pacific and Indian Ocean

**Cyclones in India**

- Bi-annual Cyclone Season** - March to May and October to December.
- Recent Cyclones - **Tauktae, Vayu, Nisarga and Mekanu** (in Arabian Sea) and **Asani, Amphan, Fani, Nivar, Bulbul, Titi, Yaas and Sitrang** (in Bay of Bengal)



**Cyclone** Hamoon, a very severe **Bay of Bengal cyclone**, which made landfall as a cyclonic storm near midnight on October 24-25, 2023 south of Chattogram, Bangladesh, exhibited highly unusual behavior, changing categories four times within 24 hours before landfall.

- The shifts ranged from a **cyclonic storm** to a **severe cyclonic storm** to **very severe** and eventually to a **cyclonic storm**.
- Upper-level **westerly winds** played a significant role in Hamoon's acceleration, pushing it towards land earlier than predicted.
  - Westerlies are prevailing winds blowing from west to east **between 30 and 60 degrees latitude in both hemispheres**.
- **Cooler sea temperatures** in the northern Bay of Bengal likely contributed to Hamoon's rapid weakening as it moved away from the coast.
  - Hamoon took an unusual path by recurving towards Bangladesh instead of the expected Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, or Odisha coast.
- The weakening of **cyclone Tej in the Arabian Sea** may have contributed to Hamoon's strengthening in the Bay of Bengal, as twin cyclonic systems often **exhibit one growing stronger**.

Read more: [India's Cyclone Preparedness](#)

## 16th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Exhibition 2023

The **16th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Exhibition 2023** concluded. The event was organized by the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** through the Institute of Urban Transport (India) and with the support of **Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd** from 27th - 29th October, 2023 in New Delhi.

- The importance of the **National Common Mobility Card (NCMC)** as a convenient and efficient payment method for commuters was emphasized.
- The conference explored innovative funding mechanisms and public-private partnerships to meet urban transportation infrastructure demands.
  - UMI Conference & Exhibition 2023 underscored the importance of **transitioning to electric vehicles (EVs)** to reduce emissions and urged **investment in EV infrastructure**.
- Awards were presented in various categories for excellence and best practices in urban transport projects.
  - Categories included the Best Public Transport System, Most Innovative Financing Mechanism, and Best Green Transport Initiative.

Read more: [National Common Mobility Card](#)

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## Vigilance Week 2023

The **Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)** is observing the **Vigilance Awareness Week 2023 from 30th October to 5th November, 2023**, centered around the theme "**Say no to corruption; commit to the Nation.**"

- This comprehensive initiative demonstrates a concerted effort towards promoting vigilance and combating corruption within government departments and organizations.
- CVC is an **apex governmental body in India** that is responsible for promoting integrity, transparency, and accountability in the country's public administration.
  - It was established in **1964** based on recommendations of the **Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption**.

Read more: [Central Vigilance Commission](#)

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## Candolleomyces Albosquamosus: A New Species of Mushroom

Recently, the **Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI)** revealed a newly identified species of **mushroom**, **Candolleomyces albosquamosus**, found on their campus within the Western Ghats in Kerala.

- This delicate mushroom showcases a charming **honey-yellow 'cap'** with distinctive **white woolly scale-like structures**.
- It **thrives on dead logs and bamboo culms** within the natural forest habitat.



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