



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Perunthalsivam Kamarajar"

North Indian Ocean's Storm Cycle Trends

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Context: Recent analysis shows a "drastic" shift in the behavior of cyclonic disturbances over the North Indian Ocean (NIO) over the last century.

- **The Four Major Trends:**

1. **Inverted U-Shape:** Frequency of storms peaked in the mid-20th century, declined, and is now rebounding—but with higher intensity.
 2. **Westward Shift:** While the **Bay of Bengal (BoB)** historically had 4x more storms than the **Arabian Sea**, the BoB is seeing a decline while the Arabian Sea is seeing an increase in frequency and severity.
 3. **Intensity:** Fewer disturbances are forming, but a higher percentage are intensifying into **Severe** or **Super Cyclonic Storms** due to rapid ocean warming (climate change).
 4. **Seasonality:** Storms are shifting from the monsoon (July–Sept) to the **post-monsoon (Oct–Dec)** window.
- **Impact:** This requires a massive shift in disaster preparedness for India's West Coast (Mumbai, Gujarat), which historically faced fewer cyclones than the East Coast.
 - **Subject Reference:**
 - **GS Paper I:** Geography (Important Geophysical phenomena - Cyclones).
 - **GS Paper III:** Disaster Management and Climate Change.

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