

## VIDYA BHAWAN, BALIKA VIDYAPITH SHAKTI UTTHAN ASHRAM, LAKHISARAI - 811311

STUDY NOTES

CLASS- VII (All Section)

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## SCIENCE LESSON-07

CHAPTER: 8 Winds, Storms and Cyclones Today's Topic: Thunderstorms and cyclones

At the centre of the eye there is no cloud or rain and the winds are fairly light. But winds around the eye can reach speeds of up to 200 km/h. The most violent activity takes place in the area immediately around the eye, called the 'eye wall'.

As the cyclone approaches the coast, the sky begins to darken and the wind gets stronger. As it nears lands, it may bring torrential rain and very high winds that cause widespread devastation. High-speed winds accompanying a cyclone can uproot trees, damage houses, telephone lines and other communication systems and cause tremendous loss of life and property.

Tropical cyclones not only produce extremely powerful winds and torrential rain, they also produce high waves. The damaging storms surge in the oceans, with water rising to a height of 3-10 m, Appearing like a water-wall moving towards the shore. Coastal regions usually bear the brunt of a tropical cyclone, while inland regions are relatively safe from receiving strong winds.

Heavy rains, however, can produce significant flooding inland, and storm surges can produce extensive coastal flooding even up to 50 km from the coastline. As a result, the seawater enters the low-lying coastal areas, causing severe loss of life and property. Inland flooding also reduces the fertility of the soil.

The whole coastline of India, particularly the east coast, is vulnerable to cyclones. On an average, more cyclones develop over the Bay of Bengal than over the Arabian Sea and they are more intense and cause extensive damage.

**Hurricane:** a storm with a violent wind, in particular a tropical cyclone in the Caribbean.

**Typhoon:** a tropical storm in the region of the western Pacific Ocean.

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