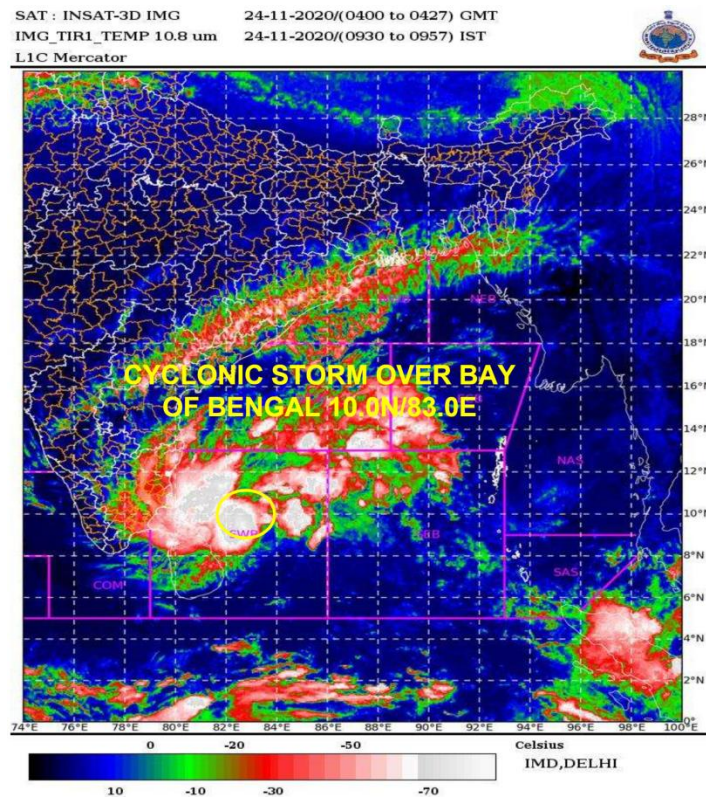


Cyclone 'NIVAR' to intensify: Tamil Nadu and Puducherry coasts on orange alert

New Delhi, November 24, 2020 (Vigyan Samachar)

As per ESSO-Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) and India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast, there is a cyclonic storm 'NIVAR' over the southwest Bay of Bengal in the past three hours which lay centered at near latitude 10.0°N and longitude 83.0°E, at 0830 hrs IST on today 24 November 2020. This has intensified into an extremely severe cyclonic storm during the next 24 hours, IMD said today morning.



The IMD-INCOIS also issued an orange alert for the Tamil Nadu and Puducherry coasts warning of the possibility of widespread damage in Nagapattinam, Karaikal, Myladuthurai, Cuddalore, Puducherry, Villupuram, and Chengalpattu districts due to cyclone NIVAR.

The extremely severe cyclonic storm is also expected to move west-northwestwards for the next 12 hours and then northwestwards and across Tamil Nadu and Puducherry coasts between Karaikal and Mamallapuram around Puducherry during the evening of 25 November 2020 at high velocity as a severe cyclonic storm, the weather office said.

As per latest update cyclone Nivar may cross Tamil Nadu-Puducherry coasts between Karaikal and Mamallapuram as a very severe cyclonic storm during late evening of November 25, 2020 or midnight. **Hence, All India Radio Puducherry (Pondicherry) will have special emergency broadcasts continuously tonight on 1215 kHz (20 kW) instead of signing off at 11.10 pm.**

The INCOIS-IMD weather advisory warns fishermen not to venture into Southwest & adjoining west-central & the southeast Bay of Bengal, Gulf of Mannar, and along & off Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and south Andhra Pradesh coasts during 24-25 November 2020.

The IMD has also warning people in these areas to stay indoor and advised coastal hutment dwellers to shift to safer places and postpone fishing operations until 26 November 2020.

VS/MoES/MFA/24.11.2020