Disaster Management · GS - III

Tropical cyclones can provide rainfall to drought-prone regions while also causing widespread destruction. Discuss this dual impact with reference to disaster management in coastal India.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 03/11/2026	GS - III	Disaster Management

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Cyclone-related rainfall; drought relief and groundwater recharge; storm surge and coastal inundation; agricultural and infrastructural damage; early warning systems; evacuation and relief operations; resilient infrastructure; disaster preparedness and climate resilience

Model Answer

Introduction

Tropical cyclones are intense low-pressure systems that bring strong winds, heavy rainfall and, in coastal areas, storm surges. Their effects can be beneficial for water availability but destructive for communities and infrastructure.

Dual Impact

1. Potential Benefits: Rainfall may replenish reservoirs, improve soil moisture and support groundwater recharge in drought-prone regions.

2. Agricultural Losses: Excessive rainfall, waterlogging and strong winds can damage standing crops, orchards, livestock and agricultural infrastructure.

3. Coastal and Infrastructure Damage: Storm surges may inundate low-lying settlements, while winds can uproot trees, damage power lines and disrupt transport and communication.

4. Socioeconomic Consequences: Displacement, livelihood losses, disease risks and disruption of essential services may increase the vulnerability of coastal communities.

Disaster Management Measures

The India Meteorological Department's early warnings should be integrated with timely evacuation, cyclone shelters, emergency communication and coordinated relief operations. Flood-resistant infrastructure, resilient power networks, crop insurance and restoration of coastal ecosystems can reduce losses.

Conclusion

Cyclone management must focus not merely on emergency relief but also on preparedness, resilient infrastructure and long-term adaptation. The potential benefits of rainfall cannot offset the need to protect lives, livelihoods and ecosystems.

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