Deep depression in Bay of Bengal intensifies into cyclone 'Murasu'

AMARAVATI, Nov 1 (IANS)

THE India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Sunday issued a cyclone alert for Andhra Pradesh and adjoining north Tamil Nadu coasts as the deep depression in the Bay of Bengal has intensified into a cyclonic storm.

The cyclone, which has been given the name 'Murasu', is likely to intensify into a severe cyclone and cross the Andhra Pradesh coast on November 2-3. The IMD said in a bulletin on Sunday afternoon that a deep depression intensified into cyclonic storm 'Murasu' over southwest and adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal.



The deep depression moved west-northwestwards with speed of 23 kmph during past 6 hours, intensified into the cyclonic storm 'Murasu' and lay centered at 11.30 am IST of Sunday over southwest and adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal.

It is very likely to move west-northwestwards and intensify further into a severe cyclonic storm over the west-central Bay of Bengal around Monday morning. Thereafter, it is very likely to move northwestwards and cross the south Andhra Pradesh coast as a severe cyclonic storm with wind speed of 100 to 110 kmph gusting 120kmph between Nellore and Narsapur during midnight (2330 Hrs IST) of 2nd to early hours (0400 Hrs IST) on Tuesday.

This will be the second cyclonic storm to cross the Andhra Pradesh coast in less than a week.

Very severe cyclonic storm 'Arnab' crossed the Andhra Pradesh coast near Narsapur in the early hours of October 28, with the maximum sustained wind speed of 125-135 kmph gusting to 150 kmph.

Iran warns Trump that 'threats will not dictate' duration of war

TEHRAN, Nov 1 (ANI)

IRANIAN Defence Minister Mehrdad Akhlaghi on Sunday warned that any attack against Tehran would be met with a "proportionate, decisive, and impactful response," cautioning that any renewed confrontation with the United States could spiral into an extended war that US President Donald Trump would not be able to end at will, *Al Jazeera* reported. Emphasising that external aggressors would have no control over the trajectory of retaliation, Akhlaghi asserted that adversaries cannot determine Tehran's counteractions.

"Those who pose threats will not dictate the scope, timing, or consequences of Iran's defensive response," *Al Jazeera* quoted the Iranian Defence Minister as saying. According to *Al Jazeera*, Iranian officials have reiterated warnings that any fresh outbreak of war with the United States could stretch far longer than previous military conflicts, stressing that Trump would not be the one to decide when hostilities cease.

The warning comes against the backdrop of earlier hostilities this year, which saw around 40 days of intense military engagement following strikes launched by the US and Israel on February 28. While the heavy fighting gradually subsided by April, intermittent tit-for-tat exchanges have continued to simmer between the opposing sides, *Al Jazeera* reported.

Meanwhile, Iran has submitted a dossier containing documents and photographic evidence detailing alleged US and Israeli attacks to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), according to *Al Jazeera*.

The evidence was "formally circulated among IMO member states for consideration under Agenda Item 11, titled 'Protection of Vital Shipping Lanes'", and is slated for review during an upcoming council session scheduled in London from November 2 to 6. Iran highlighted that attacks targeting maritime infrastructure pose a grave threat to international shipping lanes and seafarer safety. Citing Iranian state news agency IRNA, *Al Jazeera* noted that strikes on maritime traffic control networks heighten accident risks, while the destruction of emergency rescue facilities severely impairs disaster-response capabilities across critical waterways.

INS Trishul arrives at Souda Bay in Greece

ATHENS, Nov 1 (IANS)

INDIAN Naval Ship Trishul has arrived at Greece's Souda Bay during its ongoing operational deployment to the Mediterranean Sea, the Ministry of Defence announced on Sunday,

During the port call, the ship's crew will participate in various activities to further maritime cooperation between the Indian Navy and the Hellenic Navy. These include interactions with senior functionaries of the Hellenic Navy and the Indian Embassy in Athens, professional discussions, cross-deck visits, cultural exchanges, and familiarisation with facilities at the Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay and the NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre (NMIOTC), according to the Defence Ministry statement.



The Indian Navy's INS Trishul (F43) is docked during its operational deployment to the Mediterranean Sea, at Souda Bay, Greece. (PTI)

The crew will pay homage at the Souda Bay War Cemetery. During the port call, the ship will remain open to visitors.

"The visit will further consolidate maritime cooperation and strengthen professional linkages between the Indian Navy and the Hellenic Navy," the statement said. In October, India and Greece underlined the need for regular exchanges between their defence forces through technical-level interactions and a clear focus on defence industrial collaboration in areas of mutual interest, the Ministry said. Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh met Chief of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff General Dimitrios Choupis, with talks covering a wide range of issues, including military-to-military ties and strengthening strategic cooperation.

Strengthening tri-services synergy: Top priority for new IAF chief Dixit

NEW DELHI, Nov 1 (PTI)



INDIA'S new Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit on Sunday said restoring the Indian Air Force's sanctioned fighter squadron strength, accelerating indigenous programmes like the Tejas and the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), and strengthening tri-services synergy will be his top priorities.

A day after assuming charge as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff, he outlined his core focus areas under the acronym VAYU, defining his vision as Vigilance and operational readiness, Aatmanirbharta (self-reliance), Yukti (tactical innovation), and Unity of effort across the tri-services. Highlighting his priority on self-reliance, Dixit, an accomplished fighter pilot with over 3,500 flying hours, said the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA Mk IA) and LCA Mk 2 as well as the AMCA programmes will be his "highest priority".