

Storms and Cyclones

Chapter 6: Pressure, Winds, Storms, and Cyclones · Topic 2

Key Concept

Cyclones can cause severe damage through powerful winds, heavy rainfall, and storm surges (a sudden rise in sea level) when they make landfall. Modern satellite technology and weather forecasting allow meteorologists to track cyclones and issue warnings well in advance, giving communities time to prepare. Safety precautions during a cyclone include staying indoors away from windows, securing loose outdoor objects, keeping emergency supplies ready, and following evacuation orders from local authorities if issued.

Quick Revision Notes

- Cyclones form over warm ocean waters due to rising warm, moist air creating low pressure.
- The Coriolis effect (from Earth's rotation) causes cyclone winds to spin.
- Cyclones can cause damage through winds, rainfall, and storm surges.
- Safety measures: stay indoors, secure loose objects, follow evacuation orders.

Practice Questions

- 1 List two safety precautions to take during a cyclone.
- 2 Explain how the Coriolis effect contributes to the spinning of a cyclone.
- 3 Why is early warning through satellite tracking important for cyclone safety?