

# ALERT & ADVISORY of potential cyclone

21 October 2024

## KEY MESSAGES:

- A low-pressure area has developed over the east-central Bay of Bengal and the adjacent North Andaman Sea moving in a west-northwest direction, and **with the potential to become a cyclonic storm.**
- Various forecasting models suggest that the **potential cyclone may make landfall in Bhubaneswar, India,** between the evening of 24 October and the morning of 25 October.
- Cox’s Bazar, particularly the **Ukhiya and Teknaf regions,** may experience **gusty winds exceeding 60 km/h on 23 and 24 October.**

The Bangladesh Meteorological Department has forecasted that a low-pressure area has formed over the east-central Bay and the adjacent North Andaman Sea. This low pressure is expected to strengthen into a ‘well-marked low’ in the same region. The well-marked low is likely to further intensify into a cyclonic storm, with a projected movement towards the west-northwest<sup>1</sup>.

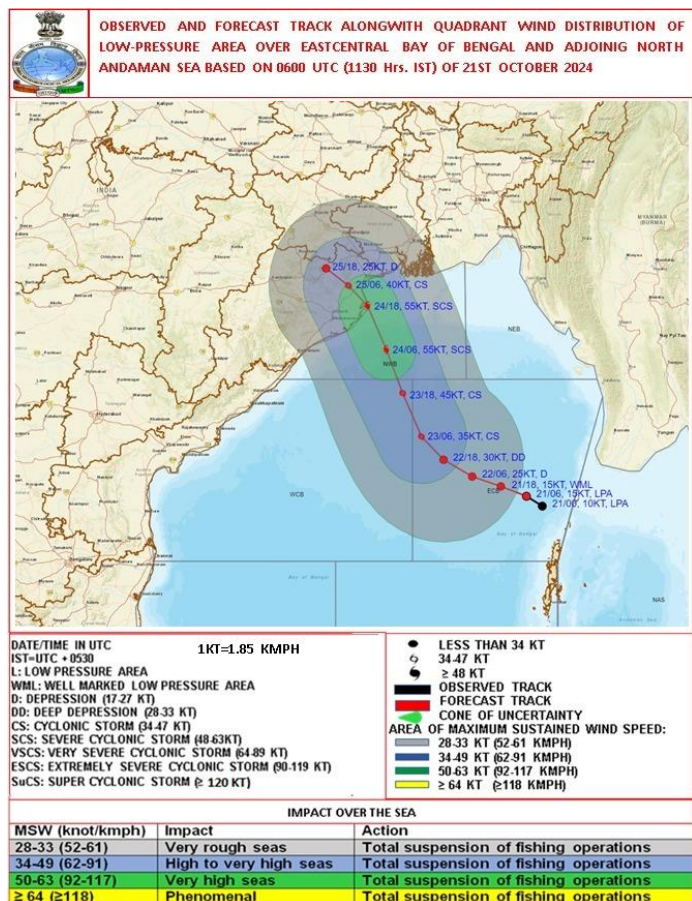
The Indian Meteorological Department indicates that the low pressure that has formed over the Bay of Bengal is very likely to move

west-northwestwards and intensify into a depression by the morning of 22 October and into a cyclonic storm by 23 October over east-central Bay of Bengal. Subsequently, it is expected to move northwestwards, reaching the northwest Bay of Bengal off the Odisha-West Bengal coasts of India by the morning of 24 October (Figure 1).

**Figure 1: Forecasted track by Indian Meteorological Department**

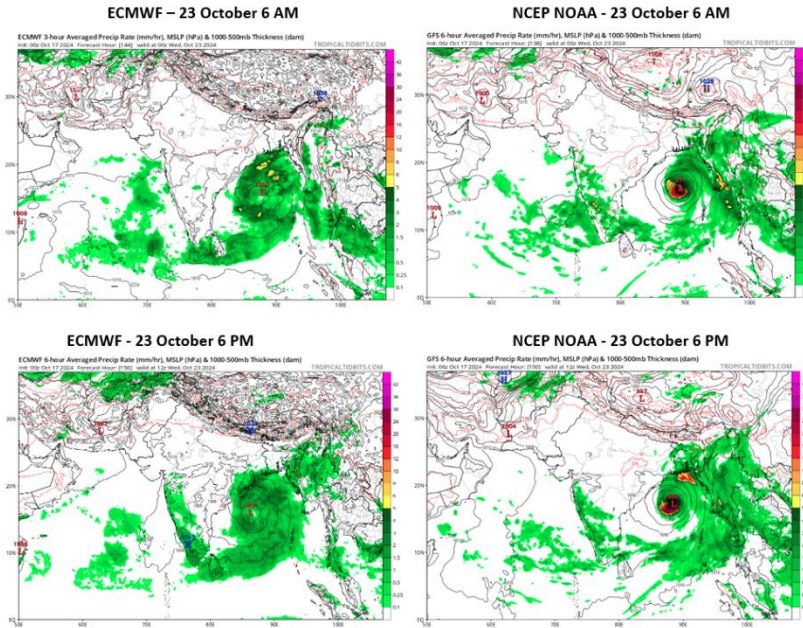
Although the potential cyclone may make landfall in Bhubaneswar, the coastal areas of Khulna and Barisal regions in Bangladesh could experience scattered wind speeds of 40-50 km/h, with gusts reaching up to 60 km/h starting from the morning of 23 October. It should gradually intensify from the evening of 24 October to the morning of 25 October. Both the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and the Global Forecast System (GFS) indicate a similar forecast for the cyclone’s track (Figure 2).

Despite this forecast, the estimated daily rainfall in Cox’s Bazar district, as per BMD’s INSTANT portal, is expected to remain below the minimum threshold of 22mm/day from 21 to 25 October, with the exception of Teknaf, which may see 28mm/day on 23 October. Additionally, wind gusts are forecasted to exceed 60 km/h in areas such as Ukhiya and Teknaf on 23 and 24 October (Figure 3).



<sup>1</sup> [BMD’s alert message, 21.10.2024](#)

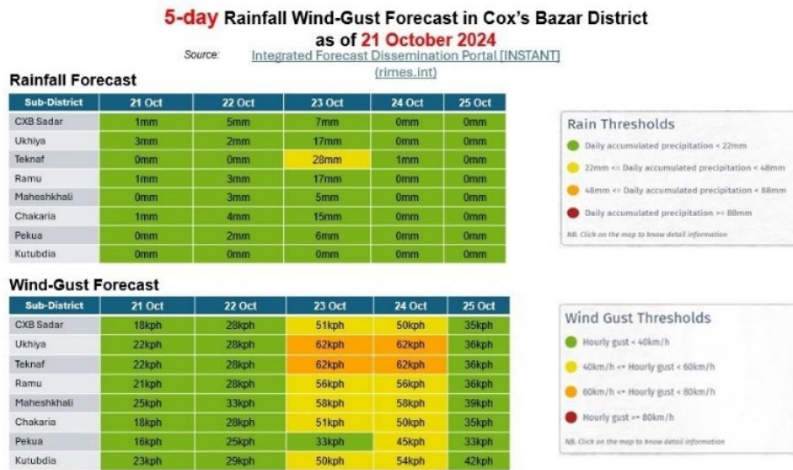
**Figure 2: Forecasted track by ECMWF & GFS**



Considering the vulnerability of the Rohingya camps, the ISCG advises that Sectors, EPR WG members, and relevant agencies **carry out emergency preparedness actions**, including **timely dissemination of early warning messages, alerts and advisories, and tie down shelters** especially in advance of gusty winds.

Importantly, the **most vulnerable should be relocated to safe places** to reduce the potential for negative consequences, significant damage, and loss of life. Actions shall be carried out closely with Sector Lead agencies and camp DMCs.

**Figure 3: 5-day rainfall and wind gust forecast in Cox's Bazar**



For harmonized preparedness messages, the ISCG advises using the [Guidebook for Multi-Hazard Risk Communication and Community Engagement in Camp Settlement](#) approved by the RRRC. This guidebook is being widely disseminated as a reference for EPR messages in the Rohingya refugee camps.