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## ***22nd January 2022***

***Topic: Cold Weather***

***Importance: Punjab PCS Prelims and Mains***

***What is the news?***

- After 52 years, the maximum temperature in January has dropped to 12 degrees. During the month of 2005, the city had recorded the day temperature at 12.5 degrees, according to the records of the PAU weather department. The Punjab Agricultural University observatory was set up in 1970.



First, the chills and now the rainfall. Following a chilling cold wave, two consecutive Western disturbances are likely to bring precipitation to parts of northern India and central India in the days ahead.

### ***Cold, followed by rain, causes:***

- First, the chills and now the rainfall. Following a chilling cold wave, two consecutive Western disturbances are likely to bring precipitation to parts of northern India and central India in the days ahead.

### ***Western Disturbances:***

- Western Disturbance as a low-pressure area or a trough over the surface or the upper-air in the westerly winds regime, north of 20 degrees north, causing changes in pressure, wind pattern and temperature fields. It is accompanied by clouds, with and without rainfall.

- Skymet, an Indian private company, claims that western disruptions come from the Caspian Sea or the Mediterranean Sea as extra-tropical cyclones. They are gradually moving across the Middle East from Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan into the Indian subcontinent.
- Western disturbances are at their peak in January and February and are considered important for the development of rabi crops in the Northern subcontinent.
- Western disturbances are not always signs of mild weather. Sometimes they can cause extreme weather events like floods, sudden floods, landslides, dust storms, hail storms and cold waves that kill people, the destruction of infrastructure and the impact on livelihoods.

### ***How do the two Western disruptions affect India?***

- The Meteorological Department of India (IMD) reported Sunday that two western disturbances would affect the weather, bringing precipitation into parts of India.
- Meteorologists noted on Monday that the first western disturbance of the year over the Arabian Peninsula would likely cause widespread precipitation throughout the western Himalayan region until January 7. It is also expected to produce scattered to widespread rains across Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, northern Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh by Wednesday.
- As a result, the IMD has kept Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh under orange alert for Tuesday and Wednesday, as forecasts suggest isolated heavy rains.
- Furthermore, an intense western disturbance is expected to affect the region later this week, beginning January 7. Under its influence, rain and snowfall are expected to increase across the Western Himalayan Region from Friday to Sunday, with isolated heavy falls on Saturday.
- Weather experts said that isolated hailstorms may hit

Jammu-Kashmir-Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh and over Uttarakhand.

### **Types of Alert:**

- Green Alert: This represents 'No Warning', and means 'No Action' is required. Yellow Alert: This means 'Watch', and calls for administrators to 'Be Updated'. Orange Alert: This represents 'Alert', and calls for administrators to 'Be Prepared'. Red: It's a 'Warning', and is a call to 'Take Action'

*(Source: Firstpost)*

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