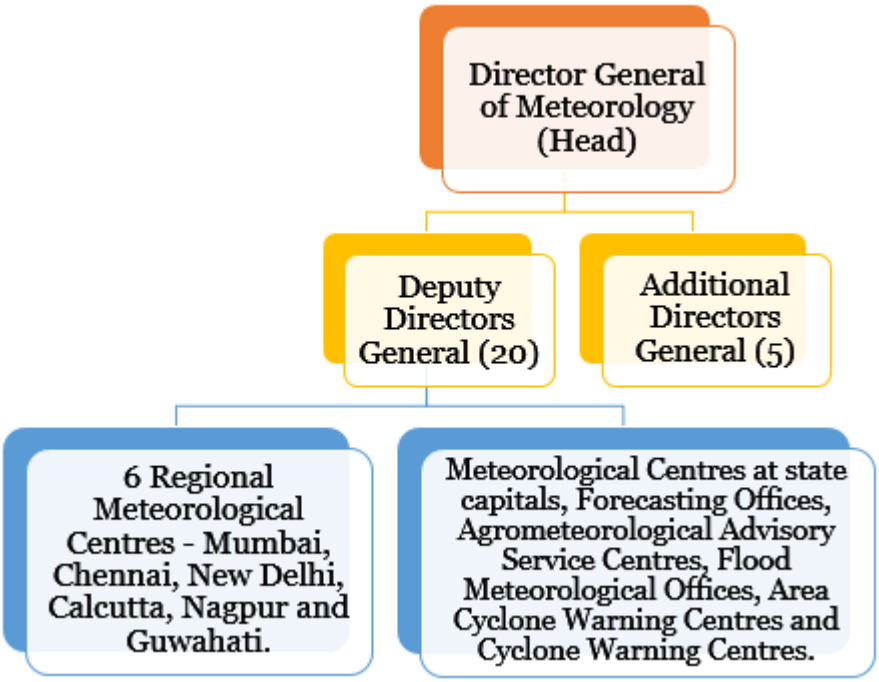
India Meteorological Department (IMD)

Why in News?

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) will be completing 150 years of service as of January 15, 2025.

- **IMD** – It is the *National Meteorological Service* of India and the principal government agency in all matters relating to meteorology and allied subjects.
- **Historical background** – Science and Meteorology in India commenced with the establishment of the *1st Meteorological and Astronomical Observatory in (then) Madras in 1793*.
- The Sanitation Committee was formed in 1860 and the Meteorological Committee at the provincial level was set up.
- **Established in** – ***1875*** with H.F. Blanford as the Meteorological Reporter.
- **Headquarters** – New Delhi.
- **Nodal Ministry** – Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- **Objectives –** To take *meteorological observations* and to provide current and forecast meteorological information.
- To *warn against severe weather phenomena* which cause destruction of life and property and to conduct and *promote research* in meteorology and allied disciplines.
- **Networks** – It has *6 Regional Meteorological Centres* (RMCs) catering to 6 regions of the country, which are further assisted by *26 Meteorological Centres (MCs) at the State level*.



- **Works**
  - Preparation of 1st chart in 1877.
  - Preparation of 1st Daily Weather Report in 1878.
  - Radar age and flood meteorological services between 1947-1959.
  - Global monitoring and better forecasting up to 24 hours in 1971-1983

Between 2014 and 2023, there was rapid enhancement of weather and climate services and the forecast accuracy improved by 40-50%.

References

1. The Hindu| 150 years of Formation of IMD
2. IMD| India Meteorological Department (IMD)

