

Place in News - Super Typhoon Ragasa

Context: The Philippines has suspended work and classes as Super Typhoon Ragasa approaches northern Luzon with wind speeds reaching up to 250 km/h.



About Super Typhoon Ragasa:

- A Category 5 Super Typhoon characterized by sustained winds of 205 km/h and gusts that can reach 250 km/h.
- Locally referred to as “Nando”, it ranks among the most powerful typhoons to affect the region in recent years.

26 Sep 2025

Origin:

- Developed over the western Pacific Ocean, where warm waters and minimal wind shear provided optimal conditions for intensification.
- Currently traversing the Luzon Strait, it is anticipated to affect the Babuyan Islands before proceeding towards southern China.

About the Philippines:

Location:

- An archipelagic nation situated in Southeast Asia, in the western Pacific Ocean, comprising over 7,000 islands.
- Located approximately 800 km east of Vietnam, it is part of the Pacific “Ring of Fire”.
- **Capital:** Manila (the political hub).
- **Neighbours:** All neighboring countries are separated by maritime channels or straits:
 - **North: Taiwan** – across the Luzon Strait
 - **West: Vietnam** – across the South China Sea
 - **South: Malaysia** (Sabah, Borneo) and Indonesia – across the Sulu Sea and Celebes Sea

Key Features:

- **Geography:** Comprises three primary island groups – Luzon (north), Visayas (central), Mindanao (south).
- **Mountains & Volcanoes:** Home to active volcanoes such as Mayon and Taal, and is susceptible to earthquakes and eruptions.
- **Culture:** A blend of Asian and Western influences, it is one of only two nations in Asia with a Roman Catholic majority.