

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
OCEAN DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1010

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005

TSUNAMI WARNING SYSTEM

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**Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is installing Early Tsunami Warning system;
- (b) if so, the funds allocated for the purpose with sources of funds, geographical areas covered and the time by when the work is likely to be completed etc.;
- (c) whether such technology is being indigenously developed or is being imported/developed with foreign assistance;
- (d) if so, the details of the assistance offered by any foreign country or international institution viz. Japan and UNO and the reaction of the Government of India in this regard;
- (e) whether any Committee or Task Force has been constituted for this purpose;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether any International Tsunami Warning System with common platform to share information on Tsunami and other calamities has been proposed;
- (h) if so, the details thereof;
- (i) the reasons for India not joining Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre earlier and its decision to join it now;
- (j) the names of neighbouring countries having such warning system;
- (k) whether the Ministry has declared year 2005 as 'Disaster Awareness Year'; and
- (l) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ( KAPIL SIBAL)

a) Yes sir. It is proposed to set up a 'tsunami and storm surges warning system' in the country with the following components:

- Strengthening of the existing seismological network to indicate near real time occurrence of a tsunamigenic earthquake.
- Installation of tsunami warning sensors close to the ocean bottom at appropriate locales in the Indian Ocean, with real time connectivity.
- Tide gauge and data buoys networking.
- Modeling of the inundation scenarios for the entire coast.
- The establishment of a center for collection of the information , analysis and generating status advisories.

b) The warning system with the Government funding, is proposed at an estimated cost of Rs. 125 crores. The system will be installed in about 2 1/2 years at an estimated cost of Rs. 125 crores. A dedicated 7X 24 Tsunami Warning Centre is proposed at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, Hyderabad, an autonomous institute under Department of Ocean Development. However a variety of sensors shall be deployed near the Tsunamigenic zones, high seas and along Indian coastline.

c) The project proposes to develop the system indigenously.

d) Does not arise.

e) No, Sir.

f) Does not arise

g) No, Sir. The proposed tsunami warning system will be established to deal with tsunami wave generated in India. The information will be shared by nations touching the Indian Ocean which are likely to be affected by tsunami waves.

h) Does not arise.

i) Merely joining Pacific warning system will not help India because for forecasting of tsunami waves in the Indian Ocean, we need to have in place sensors and related systems in the Indian Ocean, high seas and along the coast line.

j) No neighbouring nation has tsunami warning system in place.

k) No, Sir.

l) Does not arise.