

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1446  
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2006  
DISASTER WARNING SYSTEM  
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is bringing in a new Disaster Warning System in place of the existing one in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and how far the new Disaster Warning System would be effective to take care of all kinds of natural calamities?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b): Generation of disaster warning is a multi-institutional endeavour. Different institutions namely Geological Survey of India, Central Water Commission and Defence Research and Development Organisation are responsible for early warning for landslides, flood and avalanches respectively, while India Meteorological Department is mandated to monitor the tropical cyclones and earthquakes in the country and provide necessary information/ warnings to Government officials and public for disaster mitigation.

The existing analogue Cyclone Warning Dissemination System of IMD, with 250 receivers installed along the Indian coast, are to be replaced with a state-of-art system. The new system will provide more lead time to the disaster management officials and better voice quality for easy comprehension.

As regard to the earthquake, at present there is no advance warning system available, the world over, that can forecast the occurrences of earthquake. However, the observational network of seismological observatories maintained and operated by IMD is capable of effective surveillance in the country.

The Department of Ocean Development in association with Department of Science & Technology (DST), Department of Space (DOS) and CSIR Laboratories, is setting up an Early Warning System for Tsunami and Storm Surges in the Indian Ocean.