

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *252
ANSWERED ON 23/03/2023**

Ocean services in coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh

***252. Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy:**

Will the Minister of *Earth Sciences* be pleased to state:

- (a) the ocean services being provided by the Ministry, particularly related to giving species-specific advisories, to fishermen in the coastal areas of the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the number of fishermen who have benefitted from the ocean services in the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years; and
- (c) whether ocean services also include giving high wave alerts and turbulence in the seas, as precaution to fishermen, and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE RAJYA SABHA IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.*252 REGARDING ‘OCEAN SERVICES IN COASTAL AREAS OF ANDHRA PRADESH’ FOR ANSWER ON THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023

- (a) Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Hyderabad is mandated to provide various Ocean Information services such as Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ) Advisory services, Ocean State Forecast (OSF) Services, Early warning services for Tsunami and Storm surges, High Wave/ Swell warnings, Oil Spill Trajectory prediction and Search and Rescue Aided Tool (SARAT), etc. to the coastal population, on a daily basis in operational mode. The PFZ advisory services consists of general PFZ service as well as species-specific advisories for Yellowfin Tuna. These PFZ services are being provided to the fishermen community of state of Andhra Pradesh throughout the year except during the period of marine fishing ban imposed by Government of India. These services are being disseminated in local languages through various dissemination platforms. INCOIS also collaborates with state fishery department and various NGOs to disseminate the advisories on a daily operational basis. The species-specific advisories for Yellowfin Tuna are also being disseminated to the registered fishermen community of Andhra Pradesh.
- (b) During last three years, more than one lakh fishermen of Andhra Pradesh benefited from the ocean services of INCOIS through various modes of communication such as SMS, Email, WhatsApp, Telegram, etc. The details of the fishermen from Andhra Pradesh benefitted during last three years is given below.

Table: Number of fishermen from Andhra Pradesh who received ocean services of INCOIS.

Year	Number of Fishermen
2020-21	1,15,285
2021-22	1,15,288
2022-23	1,15,465

In addition, these ocean services are reaching more than one lakh user through the channels (WhatsApp, Mobile Apps, Helpline services, etc.) of NGO partners like M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) and Reliance Foundation (RF).

- (c) Yes, Sir. The Ocean State Forecast services are provided for the safety (both while on sea as well as in the coast) of the fishermen community and coastal population on daily operational basis. Ocean State Forecast services include the forecasts of Wave height, direction, and period (of both wind waves and swell waves), Sea surface currents, Astronomical tides, Wind speed and direction in 5 to 7 days in advance. High wave warning is issued when the significant wave height is more than 3m during extreme weather conditions like Cyclones, perigeon spring tide conditions and also during high wave/swell conditions. The warning on storm surge and related inundation associated with the cyclones are also issued. Wave surges and rough sea conditions associated with the effect of high period swell waves approaching from southern Indian Ocean also are warned. During last three years, the number of high wave warnings/alerts, swell surge, rough sea alerts issued to Andhra Pradesh fishermen community are provided below.

Table: Number of high wave warnings/alerts, swell surge, rough sea alerts issued to Andhra Pradesh fishermen community.

Year	Number of extreme events
2020-21	60
2021-22	38
2022-23	40
