

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 718  
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 07, 2024**

**DISTRESS ALERT TRANSMITTER**

**718. PROF. SOUGATA RAY:  
SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL:**

**Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether ISRO has developed an improvised Distress Alert Transmitter (DAT) with advanced capabilities for fishermen at sea;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it can send messages through a communication satellite;**
- (d) if so, the details of the advantages of such new devise for the safety and security of lakhs of fishermen who are frequently trapped in sea due to various reasons;**
- (e) whether the devise is likely to help to locate fishing zones to fishermen; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC  
GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):**

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**(a) & (b)**

**Yes. ISRO has developed an indigenous technological solution namely Distress Alert Transmitter (DAT) for the fishermen at sea to send emergency messages from fishing boats.**

**(c) & (d)**

**Yes. The messages are sent through a communication satellite and received at a central control station (INMCC: Indian Mission Control Centre) where the alert signals are decoded for the identity and location of the fishing boat. The extracted information is forwarded to Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centres (MRCCs) under Indian Coast Guard (ICG). Using this information, the MRCC co-ordinates to undertake Search and Rescue operations to save the fishermen at distress.**

**The Second Generation DAT (DAT-SG) has the facility to send back acknowledgement to the fishermen who activate the distress alert from sea. This gives an assurance of rescue coming for them.**

**DAT-SG also has the capability to receive messages from control center. Using this, advance alert messages can be sent to the fishermen at sea whenever there are events of bad weather, cyclone, tsunami or any other emergencies.**

**(e) & (f)**

**Yes. The information about Potential Fishing Zones (PFZs) are also transmitted to fishermen using DAT-SG on regular intervals. This helps fishermen to get good yield in the catch and savings in terms of time and fuel. DAT-SG can be connected to mobile phones using Bluetooth interface and the messages can be read in native language using an App in the mobile.**

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