GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEPARTMENT OF SPACE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1797

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2021 ASSISTANCE TO SMALL ISLAND STATES

1797. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether ISRO has geared up to provide assistance and support to small island states to help them protect from inundation due to rising temperatures;
- (b) if so, the details of the Scheme announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in the 26th Conference of Parties held in Glasgow, UK by United Nations, including technical and financial assistance;
- (c) the details of countries to be benefitted from this assistance and the financial assistance committed by India at the Glasgow meet; and
- (d) whether low lying coastal areas and islands in various

 State within India will also be offered similar support by

 ISRO and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) ISRO has the requisite technologies and expertize to provide information on advance warning of cyclones, monitoring of coast lines and coral reefs using space based inputs. ISRO is gearing up to provide such information to some of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Indian Ocean Region.
- (b) India, UK, Australia, Fiji, Jamaica and Mauritius jointly launched an initiative, Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) to provide technical support on disaster resilience of infrastructure systems to SIDS, during the 26th Conference of Parties held in Glasgow, UK by United Nations. IRIS, will also support SIDS by facilitating access to existing financial mechanisms for resilient infrastructure development. Through Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), IRIS will deliver the following three outcomes:
 - i. Improved resilience of SIDS infrastructure to climate change and disaster risks
 - ii. Strengthened knowledge and partnerships for integrating resilience in SIDS infrastructure

- iii. Gender equality and disability inclusion promoted through resilient SIDS infrastructure.
- (c) IRIS will extend its support on demand basis to 58 Small Island Developing States (SIDS) across geographic regions.
- (d) ISRO carries out prediction of track, intensity, landfall time and location of all cyclones originated in Indian Oceans using space based inputs. While India Meteorological Department (IMD) is the mandated agency to provide the Cyclone forecast advisories, ISRO supports IMD in improving the prediction methodologies and publish the R&D outputs for the help of all.

ISRO has carried out vulnerability assessment of the selected states along the Indian coastal region and has identified coastal stretch that are susceptible due to sea level rise. ISRO provides near real time prediction of storm surge and surge induced inundation for Indian coast during cyclone using satellite observations and numerical model.

Maps of coral reefs of Indian Ocean, Red Sea and Gulf of Aden have been published and are updated regularly. A region-specific Coral Bleaching Monitoring System based on sea surface temperature data is hosted on ISRO's VEDAS geoportal.
