

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:188  
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010  
FORECASTING OF OCEANIC BEHAVIOUR  
Raghavan Shri M. K.

**Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) proposes to bring out a new Integrated Indian Ocean Forecasting System (INDOFOS), which is capable of predicting the surface and sub- surface features of the Indian Ocean well in advance;
- (b) if so, the features of the same; and
- (c) the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 188 FOR ANSWER ON 10th MARCH 2010.

(a&b) Yes, Madam. Recently, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), an autonomous body of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, has installed the Indian Ocean Forecasting System (INDOFOS) integrating existing forecasts of ocean wave and the surface and subsurface parameters of the Indian Ocean. The system, at present, provides forecast on wave heights, wave direction, sea surface temperature (SST), surface currents, mixed layer depth (MLD) and depth of 20oC isotherm up to 5-7 days in advance. This system is operational since January 2010.

(c) The beneficiaries of INDOFOS are: traditional and mechanized fishermen, the maritime boards, Indian Navy, Coast Guard, shipping companies and oil and natural gas industries, energy industries and academia.