

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3629  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010  
TSUNAMI WAVES  
Sinha Shri Shatrughan

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently surveyed the coastal areas in the country which are vulnerable for Tsunami attack;
- (b) if so, the places/areas identified;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any contingency plan to tackle the enormous situation like the Tsunami waves which occurred in 2004;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the external assistance sought to tackle Tsunami Waves in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF TELECOMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

- (a) Yes, Madam. To mark thirty years of Indian presence in Antarctica a scientific expedition to South Pole was launched from the Indian Station 'Maitri' at Antarctica on 13th November, 2010. An eight member team comprising geologists, glaciologist, geophysicist apart from a doctor and vehicle engineers after travelling a journey of 2350 kms in 10 days have made it to South Pole on 22nd November, 2010.
- (b) Entire mainland coastline of India along with Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands are vulnerable to Tsunami.
- (c) Yes Madam.
- (d) The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) is the institution hosting 24X7 National Tsunami Warning System (NTWS) that covers the entire Indian Ocean. The NTWS, commissioned and made operational in 2007, is capable of detecting tsunamigenic sea-bed earthquakes and to monitor tsunamis so as to provide timely early warning advisories to concerned government departments and to vulnerable community using latest communication infrastructure.
- (e) No international assistance has been sought/received to commission/upgrade existing Tsunami Warning forecasting ability. However, India has signed an Implementation Arrangement with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA to assess the NOAA's Tsunami model performance vis-à-vis the model of NTWS over the Indian Ocean.