

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2577  
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012  
TSUNAMI ALERT SYSTEM  
Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the Tsunami buoys and alert systems are in a bad shape and vandalized by some unidentified elements;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its impact on the forecast of weather reports in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to repair the Tsunami alert systems and to ensure their safety and security; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) Yes Madam.

(b) Globally all countries, including India, are facing the vandalism by some unidentified elements on the ocean observing systems and possible steps are being discussed even at the level of Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).

Despite the above, Government is making all efforts to maintain sufficient redundancies to ensure the sustenance of the critical ocean observing systems over the north Indian Ocean so that the tsunami warning capability is not compromised at all.

(c) Yes Madam.

(d) Government is making several coordinated efforts through involvement of Ministry of Defence (Coast Guard and Indian Navy), Ministry of Home Affairs etc. Similarly efforts are made through

(i) raising awareness to Indian fishermen by distribution of pamphlets and conducting workshops

(ii) buoy identification through World Meteorological Organization(WMO) identification code

(iii) fitting buoys with beacon lights as per international standard IALA code

(iv) fitting radar reflector as per standard

(v) making the buoy surface slippery and protective hood to avoid tie-up by boats

(vi) making suitable structural changes so as to make difficult to remove fixtures / fasteners, etc.

(vii) notifying the buoy locations through Mariners notice sent to National Hydrographic Organization (NHO) to other neighbouring naval watch area commanders