

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4602
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2015
SATELLITE APPLICATION
Adhikari Shri Sisir Kumar

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government proposes satellite based application for the fishermen of the country; and
(b) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. A satellite based application for the fishermen community of the country, called 'Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ) Advisories', is being generated and provided on operational mode using the satellite data and Geographic Information System (GIS) tools since 1999. The PFZ advisories are generated using Sea Surface Temperature (SST) and Chlorophyll content in the sea water from NOAA and Indian (Oceansat) satellites, respectively, which would primarily provide information on the potential fishing grounds (locations of fish aggregation). These advisories are provided on a daily basis to all coastal states, except during the periods of fishing ban imposed by the Government or on the days found to be unsafe for fishing due to the high waves in the ocean. These PFZ advisories consist of maps and PFZ information in text. The PFZ Maps consists of information on the location of Potential Fishing Zone, Surface Currents, Bathymetry, Major fishing villages, Coastline, Indian EEZ, etc. The text information consists of information on bearing angle (w.r.t. True North), direction and distance from the nearest fish landing centre or nearby light house, water depth at the location of PFZ, latitude and longitude.

The PFZ advisories are provided in English, Hindi and in the local language of the coastal population i.e. Gujarati, Marathi, Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, Oriya and Bengali. A wide range of advanced communication technology are employed for dissemination of the information, including Electronic Display Boards installed at 100 fishing harbours/fish landing centers/ fishing hamlets/fishermen cooperative societies, through telephones, Fax, Local Cable TV Networks, Doordarshan, All India Radio (Thiruvananthapuram and Karwar), Community Radio's, FM Radio Stations (like Radio Benziger in Kollam, Radio Monsoon in Thiruvananthapuram, Kalpakkam Community Radio, Radio Ala in Kakinada), Local News Papers, SMS, INCOIS web site, email, Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS), mobile applications viz. Fisher Friend Mobile Application (FFMA), mKRISHI, In-house developed android application, Village information Centres, etc.