

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4399**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 08TH JANUARY, 2019 / PAUSHA 18, 1940 (SAKA)
CYCLONE WARNING DISSEMINATION SYSTEMS**

4399. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that five Cyclone Warning Dissemination Systems (CWDS) in Kerala are dysfunctional, which adversely affects the State from implementing disaster management activities under the Disaster Management Act and the National Disaster Management Plan, 2016;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make these CWDS operational and to establish CWDS in all fishing landing centres in Kerala, as requested by the State Government, in its communication to the Home Secretary on 6.10.2018;

(c) whether the Government has taken steps to upgrade the Cyclone Warning Centre in Kerala to an Area Cyclone Warning Centre, as requested by the State Government in its communication to the Home Secretary on 6.10.2018;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)**

(a) & (b): India Meteorological Department (IMD) has reported that the satellite based Cyclone Warning Dissemination Systems (CWDSs) have outlived their Technology and non-operational. In collaboration with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), 252 No, of analog type CWDSs were installed by India Meteorological Department (IMD) in state governments

along the coast including Kerala during 1990s and early years of 2000s. These served their useful life (around 10 years) and became outdated technology and hence are no longer in use at present. It was a one way communication of cyclone warning bulletin from IMD to the coastal places. The CWDS was conceived and operationalized when no ground based communication techniques were available in the country to connect to the coastal areas in case of a cyclone threat.

Further IMD has established communication systems for sending cyclone and other severe warnings as per the Disaster Management Act, 2005 through State Emergency Operation Centres (SEOC) and inturn to districts and designated authorities. Currently all coastal states are establishing / have established last mile connectivity of Early Warning message dissemination systems under the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP).

(c) to (e): A Cyclone Warning Centre (CWC) has already been established and is made functional at the Meteorological Centre at the State head quarter, Thiruvananthapuram with effect from 1st October 2018, so as to strengthen the weather warning system for Kerala, Karnataka & Lakshadweep and proximate areas of the Arabian Sea. Before that the cyclone warning services for Kerala had been looked after by the Area Cyclone Warning Centre, Chennai.