

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1976
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2019**

Low Cost Device for Fishermen

**1976. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR BELLANA:
SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
SHRI Y.S. AVINASH REDDY:**

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched a low cost device for fishermen for getting information about disaster warnings as well as locating potential fish stocks recently;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the device was manufactured locally under the Make in India initiative and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide such devices to fishermen free of cost/at highly subsidized rate and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

- (a) Yes, Sir.**
- (b) Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad an Autonomous Body under Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has developed a system together with Airport Authority of India (AAI) to transmit potential fishing zone advisories, ocean state forecasts, high wave alerts, tsunami early warnings, fish market price information at various locations along the coast etc to fishermen via satellites at no recurring costs. The system includes a device called GEMINI (GAGAN Enabled Mariner's Instrument for Navigation and Information) to receive the information transmitted through satellites. The range of GEMINI covers the entire Indian Ocean region.**
- (c) Yes, Sir. The GEMINI Receiver, a portable hand-held device, was made in India by a firm in Bangalore on the directions of INCOIS and AAI for testing and demonstration. INCOIS designed and developed the GEMINI App necessary to convert the satellite messages into readable maps and text.**

The technology to manufacture such a device is available to any willing manufacturer.

- (d) INCOIS/MoES do not have mandate and budget for distribution of such device to the fishermen. However, INCOIS has submitted a scheme to distribute/subsidize these devices, initially, to about 50,000 registered fishing vessels through respective state fisheries departments, to National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB)/Department of Fisheries, Govt. of India.**
