

IMD launches dynamic impact-based cyclone warning system

New Delhi 13 October 2020 (Vigyan Samachar): The India Meteorological Department (IMD), Ministry of Earth Sciences on 12th October, 2020 launched a dynamic, impact-based cyclone warning system with a vision for minimizing economic losses and damage to property due to cyclone that hit the Indian coasts every year.



Director-General of IMD, Dr. Mrityunjay Mohapatra said that the new system would have a district or location-specific/tailored warning mechanism, which would include local population, settlements, land use as well as other elements into consideration. All disaster management agencies can make extensive use of the geological, cartographic and district wise hydrological data under this new mechanism. The system will warn about the strong wind and infrastructures at risk can be mapped in advance. This dynamic, impact-based cyclone warning system will be commissioned from this cyclone season (October-December) would be providing better forecasting and tracking of cyclones. The DG, IMD said that although the 24-hour cyclone forecast error has decreased from 91 km to 42 km, the error in forecasting intensity was still

about 10–15 nautical miles for a 24–72-hour prediction and thus differentiating the observations and modeling systems for forecasting with high spatial resolution calls for improved forecasting skills.

During the World Space Week celebrations organized by the Delhi Chapter of the India Society of Remote Sensing on 12 October 2020, Mahapatra noted that the accuracy of IMD is now at par with the world's other leading forecasting agencies. Cyclone track forecast errors have fallen from 124 km in 2009–13 to 86 km in 2015–19 for 24-hour forecasts; 202 to 132 km for 48-hour forecasts; and 268 to 177 km for 72-hour forecast. So far, IMD has been giving warnings about the kind of damage that can be expected from the cyclone. He mentioned that during the post-monsoon season of October to December, four cyclones usually cause devastations in Bay of Bengal coastal region. He also informed the stakeholders about various mobile apps launched by IMD including [Damini](#) for lightning forecast, [Mausam](#) & Umang for weather forecast including cyclone warning, and [Meghdoot](#) for agrometeorological advisories.

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