

Vigyan Samachar: MoES News

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MoES Webinar Series: Dr. S.C. Shenoi's talk on tsunami

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The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), is organizing an Earth Science Popular Lecture webinar series in coordination with other MoES institutes in the country.

Dr. S.C. Shenoi, Director, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, in a lucidly delivered lecture, spoke on the basic aspects of tsunami and the warning system that has been developed. While recognizing that tsunamis are one of the most destructive oceanogenic hazards, Dr Shenoi lamented about the fact that no technology or science has been developed so far to detect the occurrence of Tsunami in advance. At the same time, early warning systems are available today that can potentially minimize large-scale catastrophe when Tsunami strikes the shores by surprise.

He went on to discuss how tsunami waves occur due to earthquakes on the ocean beds and how INCOIS works to generate advisories in time. INCOIS is able to generate these advisories based on real-time data that it receives from a network of national and international seismic stations, tide gauges, and bottom pressure recorders (BPRs). A database of pre-run scenarios for travel time and run-up altitude is built using the tsunami N2 model. At the time of the event, the closest scenario is chosen from the database to generate advice.

Dr. Shenoi is a leading physical oceanographer in the world with more than 35 years of research experience. He has received several awards including the National award for ocean science and technology.