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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT
(Ministry of Earth Sciences)
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PRESS RELEASE

ESTABLISHMENT OF CYCLONE WARNING CENTRE (CWC) AT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

India Meteorological Department provides the national meteorological service to the country and is the principal government agency in all matters relating to meteorology, seismology and allied subjects. Its mandate is to take meteorological observations, to provide current and forecast meteorological information for the optimum operation of weather sensitive activities like agriculture, irrigation, shipping, aviation etc., to warn against severe weather phenomena like tropical cyclones, norwesters, dust storms, heavy rains, snow, cold and heat waves etc., which cause destruction of life and property, to provide meteorological statistics required for agriculture, water resource management, industries and other nation-building activities and to conduct & promote research in meteorology and allied disciplines.

At present, the cyclone warning organization of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has a three-tier system to cater to the needs of the maritime states. The coordination of cyclone warning operations at the international and national level and liaison with the Central Government organizations and other agencies as well as co-ordination and supervision of cyclone warning activities are done by Cyclone Warning Division (CWD) at New Delhi. CWD, New Delhi is also functioning as Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre - Tropical Cyclones (RSMC - Tropical Cyclones), New Delhi. RSMC is assigned the responsibility of issuing Tropical Weather Outlooks and Tropical Cyclone Advisories for the benefit of the countries in the WMO/ESCAP Panel region bordering the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, namely, Bangladesh, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand. At the regional level, Area Cyclone Warning Centres (ACWC) at Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata supervise and coordinate the forecasting work at the Meteorological Centres / CWCs functioning under them. Cyclone Warning Centres (CWCs) are situated at Visakhapatnam, Ahmedabad and Bhubaneswar.

The 4th Cyclone Warning Centre (CWC) in the country under Area Cyclone Warning Centres (ACWC), will be established at Meteorological Centre, India Meteorological Department, Thiruvananthapuram w.e.f. 1st October 2018 to monitor and issue warnings about cyclones / depressions and other disastrous weather events affecting the coastal area / states of Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep. The capability for better forecasts and warnings is achieved by modernization programmes of IMD, such as establishment of very good network of observation system, advanced weather modeling etc. leading to minimal loss of property and life, thus providing better services towards public safety and social-economic benefits. The main activities of the center will be to issue the following bulletins to Govt. authorities and other stakeholders in these states:

1. Coastal weather bulletins for ships plying in coastal waters
2. Port Warnings
3. Fisheries Warnings
4. Four stage warnings for Cyclone to Central and State Govt. Officials
5. Bulletins for broadcast through AIRs for general public
6. Warning for registered users
7. Bulletins for Press
8. Warnings for Aviation (issued by concerned Aviation Meteorological Offices).

With the establishment of the additional Cyclone Warning Centre at Thiruvananthapuram, it will be functioning under the control of the Area Cyclone Warning Centre (ACWC) at Chennai and under the guidance of RSMC New Delhi.

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Director