WEDNESDAY
August 7, 2024
HYDERABAD
CITY EDITION
16 Pages ₹ 8.00

THE HINDU
www.thehindu.com
INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig
RNI No. TELENG/1976/49963
Vol. 49 • No. 188

Date 7th August, 2024 Page No:02

'Cloudbursts or landslides difficult to predict due to gaps in satellite data'

India Meteorological Department Director General acknowledges gaps in severe weather prediction, calls for improved satellite data resolution to prevent fatalities; urges researchers, academicians and the industry to come up with innovative solutions

V. Geetanath
HYDERABAD

India Meteorological Department (IMD) Director General (DG) Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, on Tuesday admitted that there were 'gap areas' in the detection and prediction of severe weather events such as flash floods, cloudbursts and lightning due to lack of finer resolutions from satellite data.

"Our motto is no weather hazard should go undetected and we have practically reduced the deaths due to cyclones to zero. But, there are challenges like cloudbursts and landslides as in Kerala recently. These could not be detected due to limitations in the satellite resolutions and quality of data," he maintained.

Dr. Mohapatra gave a presentation at an event organised by the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) in Hyderabad on Tuesday as part of the 'National Science Day' to commemorate the successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the dark side of the moon. "Due to usage of space technology, there has been drastic reduction in loss of lives through meteorological observations and quantum jump in economy from the 60s," he said.


Mrutyunjay Mohapatra

Little utilisation

The IMD DG pointed out that 90 per cent of the weather forecasting is based on satellite data, but only '5 per cent' of the data from the observations is being utilised currently. He called upon researchers, academicians and the industry to come up with innovative solutions by 'maximising the data'.

J.V. Thomas, director, Earth Observations and Disaster Management Services of ISRO said that better imaging round the clock and fine satellite data resolutions of both atmosphere and ocean can be obtained once the next generation of satellites like ResourceSat, CartoSat, OceanSat and INSAT 3D, RISAT-1B Oceansat 3A, NISSAR and others are launched in the coming months.

The agency was also working on an advanced imager, lightening imager and hyperspectral infrared sounder, scatterometer, altimeter, microwave radiometers, wind profile, atmosphere chemistry, temperature and humidity profiles as per the requirements of various departments. INCOIS Group Director T.M. Balakrishnan Nair, National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) director M.V. Ramana Murthy and others also spoke.

IMD issues yellow alert

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued yellow alert for parts of Telangana on Wednesday. IMD in its daily weather bulletin said that heavy rain is very likely to occur at isolated places in Adilabad, Kumaram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Mahabubabad, Warangal and Hanamkonda districts.

In other districts, there will be thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds.

As for Hyderabad and its neighbourhood areas, for the next 48 hours, there will be generally cloudy sky.

"Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied with sustained surface winds are very likely to occur in the city. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 31 degrees C and 24 degrees C respectively," the bulletin said.


IMD has forecast rain in Hyderabad and its neighbourhood.