

# Ocean-wide mock drill to check India's preparedness for Tsunami



Twenty four nations including India are undergoing a mock Tsunami drill to check their preparedness for a Tsunami as well as their warning & detection systems.

A tsunami warning was issued after simulating an earthquake of magnitude 9.2 south of Sumatra, Indonesia in the eastern Indian Ocean at 8.30 a.m.

## In Focus

The two-day mock drill, 'IOWave16' will be undertaken in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala, [Gujarat](#) and Goa.

The drill will last more than 15 hours and Indian authorities will practice evacuating 40,000 people from the coast in less than three hours.

The exercise has been organised by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the UNESCO. The drill is to test India's response mechanism at the time of a Tsunami and will check the efficiency of communication links, disaster management offices and local communities at risk.

This drill will also check the implementation of the standard operating procedures of emergency services as well as evaluate their state of readiness to handle emergency situations such as a Tsunami.

On the second day of the two-day exercise on Thursday, IOC will simulate a magnitude 9.0 earthquake in the Makran Trench, south of Iran and Pakistan, in the northwestern Indian Ocean.

The Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre (ITEWC), based out of the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) here is capable of detecting tsunamigenic earthquakes within 10 minutes of their occurrence and issue timely advisories to disaster management officials as well as to the vulnerable communities, an INCOIS statement said.

The ITEWC will issue 15 tsunami bulletins to both national and regional stakeholders through GTS (global telecommunication system), e-mail, fax, SMS as well as web.

Other than India, the countries participating in the drill are - Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, France (La Reunion), Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor Leste and Yemen.

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