

Minister lays foundation stone for ITCO-Ocean

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Hyderabad, Jan 4: Union Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences Y S Chowday today laid foundation stone for (Boomi Pooja) for the building complex of the International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCO-Ocean) at ESSO-Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services(INCOIS, here).

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Chowdary said the ITCO-Ocean was being set up by Ministry of Earth Sciences to help the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in their capacity building efforts in areas of Operational Oceanography.

The Minister wants to promote Operational Oceanography since it plays an important role in translating the benefits of science for the common public; a few examples being Potential Fishing Zones advisories to fishermen, Ocean State Forecasts for mariners, Tsunami and Storm Surge Early warnings.

Since ESSO-INCOIS has already been at the forefront,providing such operational services, Centre chose to establish ITCO ocean at ESSO-INCOIS, Hyderabad. The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has also signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with IOC/UNESCO on July 4, 2013 to cooperate in capacity development programmes.
