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INDIA'S TSUNAMI ALERT SYSTEM WORKED WELL

INCOIS officials monitored tsunami over 20 hours after it hit Japan and reconfirmed that India was safe

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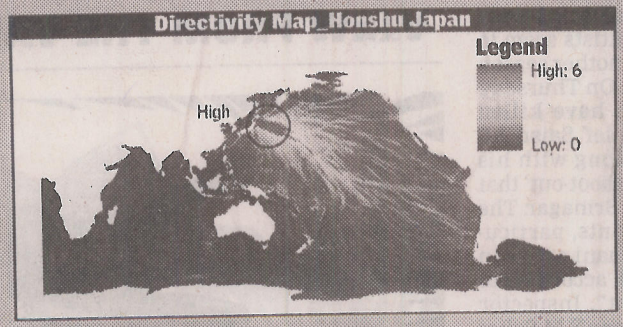
THE Indian tsunami early warning system performed well meeting the international standards giving a sense of relief to the Indian monitoring agencies when the models and data were tallied with the international agencies.

According to the officials of the Hyderabad-based Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), all the systems that sent the data to the control centre from various location worked well to the ascertained tasks.

"We continued monitoring tsunami well over 20 hours after it hit the Japanese coasts and reconfirmed that the sea levels in the Indian Ocean were not different from expected from model simulations," an official said.

According to Satheesh C Shenoi, Director, ICOIS, there existed no significant tsunami threat to India, based on the observations of sea level gauges in the Pacific and model simulations.



According to the decoded data, after the main shock on Friday, about 130 aftershocks of more than 6.0 magnitudes had been recorded, till 9 am on Saturday.

The INCOIS officials said that all the systems, including the control centre at INCOIS that receives and processes the data from seismic stations, sea-level gauges, bottom pressure recorders (tsunami buoys) and the numerical model to predict the water level changes expected at various locations along the coast, worked exceptionally well.

Twenty-two sea level gauges deployed along the Indian coast and three bottom pressure recorders reported data to the warning centre at INCOIS.

Two recorders in Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal got triggered to tsunami mode due to the arrival of seismic waves.

In addition to the Indian systems, INCOIS also accessed the data in real-time/near real-time from similar observing systems maintained by other countries in the Indian and Pacific Ocean to follow the progress of tsunami waves.

The guages that reported to early warning control system include Aerial Bay, Chennai, Ennore, Garden Reach, JNPT, Haldia, Kandla, Karwar, Kavaratti, Krishnapatnam, Marmagao, Machilipatnam, Minicoy, Nagapattinam, New Mangalore, Noncowry, Okha, Paradeep, Port Blair, Tuticorin, Vadinar and Vishakhapatnam.