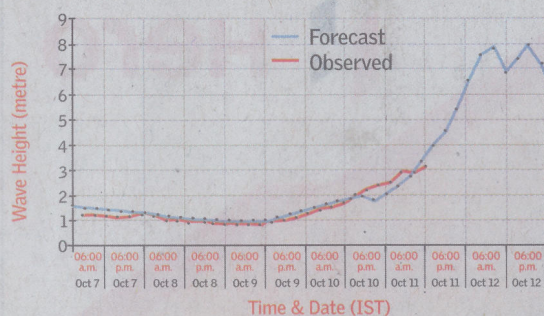


Giant waves of 8.5 metres to hit coast

REAL TIME WAVE MONITORING AND VALIDATION FOR WAVE HEIGHT



Y. Mallikarjun

HYDERABAD: Giant waves reaching a height of 8.5 metres are expected to hit the coast from Ganjam to Satapada in Odisha when the very severe cyclonic storm, Phailin, crosses the coast on Saturday afternoon, ocean scientists predicted.

Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has installed a real-time Insat-based wave rider buoy at Gopalpur in Odisha, the landfall point, to monitor and validate the ocean state forecast advisories issued by it.

From Saturday morning, waves of more than four metres will start hitting the coast from Chatrapur (Ganjam district) to Saharabedi (Jagatsingpur district), a distance of about 220 km.

"As of now, the forecast issued by INCOIS is matching well with the observations available from moored buoys, coastal wave rider buoys and satellites," said Dr. T.M. Balakrishnan Nair, Scientist and Head, Ocean Science and Information

"The forecast issued by INCOIS is matching well with the observations available from moored buoys, coastal wave rider buoys and satellites. The ocean waves are going to be very dangerous because they are high energy waves and can cause severe devastation."

DR. T.M. BALAKRISHNAN NAIR
Scientist and Head,
Ocean Science and
Information Services Group,
INCOIS

Services Group, INCOIS. He added that the wave height at Gopalpur at 5.30 pm on Friday was 3.36 metres, while INCOIS predicted it to be 3.45 metres.

According to him, the ocean waves go beyond the coast and inundate the landmass as the storm surges during the landfall of the cyclone.

"These ocean waves are going to be very dangerous because they are high energy waves and can cause severe devastation."