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Location-specific ocean forecasting system in place

Special Correspondent

Madhura Swaminathan takes over as MSSRF chairperson

M S Swaminathan Research Foundation announced the launch of location-specific ocean state forecasting and fisheries information system for southern districts of the State.

On the foundation day of MSSRF on Tuesday, the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Service (INCOIS), a strategic partner of MSSRF, decided to deploy a wave rider buoy at Kodiakarai sanctuary in Vedaranyam in Nagapattinam district in the third week of August.

The buoy will provide real-time information on wave, swell patterns and sea surface temperature which will be used for forecasting sea conditions for another three days at three-hourly intervals to monitor the high wave conditions.

MSSRF's Vedharanyam Village Resource Centre (VRC) will act as a local receiver station to get the real time information and disseminate it to the coastal community. Kodiakarai has been chosen as it will help improving greatly the wave forecasts of the Palk Bay region. Images, movies and text information on ocean forecast and real-time sea conditions will be updated on INCOIS website and displayed in electronic display boards in English and Tamil.

MSSRF will be disseminating the information through voice and text messages to the coastal community. With the deployment of the buoy, the MSSRF will expand the number of villages covered. It will also organise user interaction and feedback meetings as the information will be vital to save lives and property in times of emergency.

Madhura Swaminathan took over as the chairperson of M S Swaminathan Research Foundation. Taking over the chair from her father M.S. Swaminathan, Ms. Madhura, in her address, said the foundation's research would focus on small and marginal farmers.

Keywords: MSSRF, fisheries department

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