

## **A consolidated report on the events organized by INCOIS on the occasion of World Tsunami Awareness Day in 2023**

### **Nov 5: INCOIS Open Day**

On the occasion of World Tsunami Awareness Day (WTAD), the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Ministry of Earth Sciences, Hyderabad opened its doors to the public, hosting an Open Day that drew a diverse crowd of over 1000 visitors.

The theme of 2023 WTAD was “Fighting Inequality for a Resilient Future”. WTAD 2023 activities focused on raising awareness about the underlying disaster risk drivers – poverty, inequality and vulnerability – that make tsunamis more deadly for those most at risk. INCOIS commemorates WTAD every year with various activities to create awareness and preparedness.

The INCOIS Open Day kicked off with an introductory session on INCOIS Services followed by a visit to the Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre at INCOIS. The visitors watched engaging videos from the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and INCOIS.

The visitors were then taken on a tour to the Tsunami Early Warning Centre, Operational Ocean Services Lab, National Glider Operations Facility and the Ground Station, to provide them an opportunity to explore the world of oceanography, learn about INCOIS cutting-edge research, and understand the vital role of oceans in daily lives. During the Open Day, visitors had a chance to engage with the scientists and researchers at INCOIS.

The Open Day helped the visitors to understand in detail about the advanced tools used by INCOIS in generating Tsunami Early Warning and other ocean services. The kids were in awe seeing the variety of instruments used for studying the ocean,” said Mylavarapu Lakshmi from RK Layout, Pragati Nagar.

**Selfie Booth:** A social media contest was also conducted to create awareness on Tsunamis. INCOIS set up an informative photo booth, inviting visitors to capture not just moments, but also crucial knowledge about tsunami response plans and preparedness. This social media competition encouraged the visitors to take a picture at the selfie-point and post it on social media with a nice message related to “Tsunami Awareness & Preparedness”.

**Q&A Sessions:** To encourage dialogue and address queries, INCOIS organised Q&A sessions where attendees could interact directly with scientists and researchers. This helped break the barrier between the scientific community and the public.

**Visitor List:** 439 students (the list of schools/colleges is listed below), 58 staff from different schools/colleges based in Hyderabad & over 550 general public visited INCOIS on Nov 5, 2023. A few selective photographs of this event are also enclosed.

<b>Institute</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>No.of students</b>	<b>Staff</b>
Srinidhi Global School	7, 8, 9, 10	57	12
Sri Vidyanjali School	8	37	4
Daksha School	7, 8, 9	36	4
Canary The School	8, 9, 10, 11	27	5
Quest International School	7, 8, 9, 10	41	6
Govt Degree College, Chevella	B.Sc, BCom, BA	23	4
Dhruva Degree College	B.Sc, BCom, BA	54	1
Shikra School	9, 10	23	2
The Global Edge School	7	40	5
Sri Vidyanjali School	9	39	4
Siddhis School	6, 7, 8	40	7
Shantiniketan Degree College for Women	B.Sc	22	4













### **Nov 5: Tsunami Mock Exercise**

On World Tsunami Awareness Day, the Odisha State Disaster Management Authority conducted a Tsunami Mock Exercise based on test bulletins issued by INCOIS to Odisha. Around 20,000 people from 30 villages, under 18 blocks of 6 coastal districts participated and were evacuated to higher ground. The 30 IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready programme implementing communities participated in the exercise to evaluate Tsunami Ready Indicators. The exercises helped to test communication lines, review SOPs and enhance emergency preparedness. Emergency strategies were fine-tuned based on the simulated scenarios.









## **Nov 6: School Competitions at INCOIS**

### **World Tsunami Awareness Day Competitions for School Students**

In commemoration of World Tsunami Awareness Day, a Drawing/Painting, Extempore and Science Exhibition/model making competitions were conducted on Nov 6, 2023 at the International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOcean) of INCOIS. The events aimed to bring together students from various schools around the city to create awareness about Tsunami and provided a platform for participants to showcase their skills and gain knowledge on the importance of Tsunami awareness.

The events began with a brief on the working and services provided by the Tsunami Early Warning Centre at INCOIS.

#### **Theme/ Topic for showcasing models (science exhibition)**

- i. Tsunami genesis and propagation of tsunami
- ii. Devastating effects of tsunami
- iii. Tsunami mitigation and prevention of risk
- iv. Tsunami-related technology innovations
- v. Geology and Earth sciences

#### **List of Topics for Extempore Competition**

- i. What is a tsunami and how is it caused?
- ii. Damages of Tsunami to Human Beings
- iii. Tsunami crisis management
- iv. Role of Indian Tsunami Early Warning System (IEWS)
- v. Tsunami Ready Villages Programme

#### **List of Topics for Drawing/Painting Competition**

- i. A sunny beach day
- ii. Tsunami Awareness Mascot (challenge students to create a mascot to spread awareness on Tsunami)
- iii. Tsunami preparedness poster (an informative drawing/painting with necessary writings to create a poster that can provide tips and guidelines for Tsunami preparedness)

- iv. Tsunami in my town (students can depict how their city/town will be affected if its hit by a Tsunami. How their famous landmarks would change, etc.)

### **Event Highlights**

The event began with a warm welcome extended to all students by the committee. The students were assembled in the auditorium to brief them on the work and services provided by the Tsunami Early Warning Centre at INCOIS. Students were eager to gain more knowledge and engaged with the working staff at INCOIS. The students were then moved to the competition venue. The committee made the participants aware of the rules and regulations to be followed during the various competitions. The competitions finished smoothly within the prescribed time. The students were taken for refreshments and finally to the main auditorium for declaration of results.

The paintings were judged based on creativity, relevance to the given topic, completion of artwork, use of colour and technique. The extempore were judged based on oratory skills, content of the extempore, relevance to the given topic and adherent to the time slot. The science exhibitions were judged based on relevance to the theme, creative imagination, scientific thought and approach, originality and innovations in the model, technical skill (Art & Craftsmanship) and presentation (demonstration & explanation).

Three prizes were given based on these criteria.

33 students from classes III to V belonging to 8 schools participated in the Drawing/Painting competition; 34 students from classes VI to VIII belonging to 9 schools participated in the extempore competition; 24 students from classes IX to XII belonging to 5 schools participated in the Science Exhibition/model making competition.

Overall, the various competitions organized on the occasion of the World Tsunami Awareness Day for the school students were an inspiring experience for all who attended.

### **Feedback and Improvements**

Overall, this event was a resounding success. However, the participants were asked to provide feedback for potential improvements.

It was suggested to increase the total duration of event to conduct various competitions as school students were unable to complete the artwork within the given time.





Fig. Collage of drawing/painting prepared by the winners in the Drawing/Painting competition.









## **Nov 7: ICG/IOTWMS IOTIC Webinar**

INCOIS participated in the World Tsunami Awareness Day Webinar organised by the UNESCO-IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWMS) and Indian Ocean Tsunami Information Center (IOTIC) on the theme ‘Fighting Inequality for a Resilient Future.’

Dr. Srinivasa Kumar Tummala, Director of INCOIS – IOC Vice Chairperson spoke on the ‘Research, Development, and Implementation Plan for the Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme’. He highlighted the framework for international cooperation to enhance the end-to-end tsunami early warnings and mitigation systems.





**WORLD TSUNAMI  
AWARENESS DAY**  
5 NOVEMBER



**UNESCO-IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for  
Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System  
(ICG/IOTWMS)**

# **WORLD TSUNAMI AWARENESS DAY WEBINAR**

**“Fighting inequality for a resilient future”**



**From Left:**

**Prof. Ir. Dwikorita Karnawati, M.Sc., Ph. D. | Mrs. Maki Katsuno-Hayashikawa  
Ms. Branwen Millar | Mr. Hisan Hassan | Dr. Srinivasa Kumar Tummala  
Dr. Harkunti P. Rahayu | Mrs. Suci Dewi Anugrah**

**Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> 2023  
Time : UTC 07:00 – 08:30**



**Meeting ID : 937 6272 8359  
Passcode : 432411**

## **Week-long Events in Kerala along with Amrita University**

Amrita University in collaboration with INCOIS conducted several tsunami awareness campaigns in Alappad, Kollam, Kerala.

**Drawing competitions:** Dr. Patanjali Kumar, Scientist, INCOIS, along with the faculty and students of Amrita University participated in organising drawing competitions at four schools in Allappad - Cheriazheekal HSS, Azheekal HS and Sraykadu LP school. About 365 students participated in the competitions. These competitions targeted both lower and upper primary school children and were designed to foster awareness about tsunamis in a creative and engaging manner.

**Scavenger hunt:** The team organised a scavenger hunt that featured child and grandparent pairs participating as teams. In total, 10 pairs took part in this activity across three upper primary schools. The scavenger hunt focused on finding clues related to preparing an emergency kit for tsunamis.

**Meetings with Panchayat Leaders and Ward Members:** Dr. Patanjali Kumar and the team held meetings with local Panchayat leaders and ward members. These meetings aimed to raise tsunami awareness and gather information regarding the community's plans for tsunami evacuation, sheltering, and the placement of signage as critical indicators of resilience.

**Vulnerability Assessment Programme:** The team, consisting of women, men, and students, actively participated in organizing a vulnerability assessment program for the community base selected from Azheekal village (Total - 16). This program involved separate participation of different groups to identify the best evacuation routes, shelter locations, and signage placement. Comparative analysis of results with government officials was a significant part of this effort. As part of the activity, the concepts of “Problem Tree” and “Solution Flower” were introduced to interact with the community.

**Online Tsunami Awareness Program:** The faculty of Amrita University and the team conducted an online program to raise tsunami awareness, especially for Amrita-adopted villages. As part of this program, they inaugurated a drawing competition in other parts of the Amrita-adopted villages, including content in the local language Malayalam.

**Hybrid Awareness Sessions for Amrita Students:** Dr. Patanjali Kumar delivered hybrid awareness sessions to Faculty and Amrita students at the Amrita School for Sustainable Futures, Amrita University, Amritapuri campus, effectively educating them about tsunami awareness and preparedness.









