PRESS RELEASE

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Sub: Inauguration of 17th Tropical Cyclones Forecasters Training - 2021

India Meteorological Department (IMD) is one of six Regional Specialised Meteorological Centres (RSMCs) in the world recognised by the Word Meteorological Organisation (WMO) under a global system for issue of warnings and advisories in association with cyclonic disturbances over north Indian Ocean. As an international commitment, Tropical Cyclone (TC) advisories are issued by RSMC, New Delhi, to 13 WMO/Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) Panel member countries including Bangladesh, India, Iran, Maldives, Myanmar, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sultanate of Oman, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen. In addition, IMD also conducts training for cyclone forecasters in the region annually as part of capacity building measure. WMO sponsors the participants from the Panel Member countries outside India who are nominated for this training.

This year, the Tropical Cyclones Forecasters Training 2021 is being conducted by Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre (RSMC), New Delhi during 06-18 October through online mode. This is the 17th training programme conducted every year since 2005 for the cyclone forecasters of the 13 member countries. This year there are 57 participants including 23 International participants from Thailand, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Pakistan, Iran, Oman, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, and 34 participants from various sub-offices of IMD. The training is aimed at building capacity of the TC forecasters in the region by understanding the latest developments in observations, monitoring, modeling, prediction and early warning services of TCs over the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea and carrying out the case studies as practical examples in these aspects. The training will include resource persons from UN-ESCAP, RSMC Tokyo, IMD, National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS).

Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, Director General of Meteorology, IMD inaugurated the online training programme today, the 6th October. Dr. Taoyong Peng, Chief, Tropical Cyclone Programme Division, WMO, Dr. Sanjay Srivastava, Chief DRR, ESCAP, and arrious resource persons from RSMC Tokyo, INCOIS & NCMRWF participated in the inaugural programme as Guests of Honour. In his inaugural address DGM IMD highlighted various advancements in the early warning system of tropical cyclones adopted by IMD that has enabled disaster managers and general public to minimise the loss of lives due to cyclones to less than 100 in recent years not only in India but also in member countries. Dr T Peng, WMO appreciated the role of RSMC, New Delhi for providing the tropical cyclone advisories and daily tropical weather outlook and extended range outlook to the member countries. He also appreciated IMD all organisations involved in this training programme. Dr Srivastava, UN-ESCAP also highlighted the contributions of IMD and RSMC for capacity building in the region and the services provided by IMD for management of the cyclones.
Area of responsibility of RSMC - Tropical Cyclone, New Delhi

Left to Right:
1st Row (L to R): Ms. Sunitha Devi, IMD, Dr. M. Mohapatra, DGM IMD, Dr. Taoyong Peng, WMO, Dr. Sanjay Srivastava, UN ESCAP, Dr. R.K. Jenamani, IMD.