

# INCOIS, India

Barco displays help prevent tsunami disasters on India's shores



*“We are really very happy with the quality and functionality of our display wall and we are recommending it, including the Barco support that goes with it, to every visitor with a project similar to ours.”*

*Dr. Shailesh Nayak, Director INCOIS*

When the Indian Ocean tsunami struck in December 2004, the only warning most people in the region had was the sight of a giant wave heading towards them. In the wake of the disaster, scientists and governments began working on an early warning system for the region. Today, a state-of-the-art Tsunami Early Warning Center monitors the Indian Ocean 24 hours a day, seven days a week with the help of DLP™-based Barco large screen visual display system.

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### **INCOIS: providing ocean information**

The 2004 tsunami devastated many coastal areas around the northern Indian Ocean and claimed at least 150,000 lives. Soon after the destructive event, the Indian Ministry of Earth Sciences decided to set up a Tsunami Early Warning System. Its role would be to monitor seismic activity and abnormal sea levels, evaluate potentially tsunamigenic waves and disseminate tsunami alerts or warnings to the areas in danger.

The System would be installed at INCOIS, the Indian National Center for Ocean Information Services, located at Hyderabad. INCOIS provides ocean information and advisory services to society, industry, government and the scientific community.

### **A most ambitious project**

"It was a very ambitious project," admitted the Center's Director, Dr. Shailesh Nayak, "which needed meticulous preparation. Our timing, though, was tight as everyone wanted the new system to become operational as soon as possible." INCOIS was looking for an advanced computational and communication infrastructure to enable the smooth reception of real-time data from all sensors, a thorough analysis, processing and visualization of the data, fast generation and dissemination of tsunami-related warnings, etc. One of the components needed was a visualization system to display the data the Center receives from multiple sources.

### **Barco: the standard in control rooms worldwide**

Dr. Shailesh Nayak: "We required a display system that would deliver a clear and sharp image and consistent performance throughout the product life cycle with 200% reliability, 24/7. Additionally, we wanted the display wall to look like a seamless wall, instead of a mere collection of cubes, to make sure we'd get the best possible view."

After putting out a tender, INCOIS selected Barco as its visualization supplier. "Barco is the industry standard in monitoring solutions, with over 1,000 installations in control rooms worldwide," Dr. Nayak explained. INCOIS ordered a system specifically designed for use in a 24/7 mission-critical environment: six 67" dual-lamp video wall systems, to be installed in a 3x2 linear set-up.

### **A one-shot view**

The National Tsunami Early Warning System was inaugurated in October 2007. Barco's display wall is a crucial system component that monitors the ocean and provides timely tsunami warnings. "Data from multiple sensors is continuously monitored and displayed on the Barco screens, thus providing a clear, one-shot view of all the seismic activities, 24/7. On the basis of the incoming data, model scenarios, etc., we can assess the risk. In case of high risk, a sophisticated warning system swings into action."

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