Satellite Meteorology and Oceanography in India



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Early Experiences

1963 SOUNDING ROCKETS



- Atmospheric profiles up to 100kms
- Atmospheric dynamics during Monsoon onset
- Stratospheric warming & impact on monsoon





- SAR (L-band)
- Altimeter & Scatterometer
- VIS/IR Radiometer

Provided immense insight for initiating Meteorological & Ocean studies

1979 & 1981 BHASKARA - 1 & 2



- Study of moisture content
- Cloud amounts in atmosphere
- Surface wind speed over ocean



- Retrieve chlorophyll
- Suspended sediments
- Aerosol Optical Thickness



Evolution of Meteorological satellites - INSAT series





Growth of Microwave payloads

1979	1999	2009	2011	2013	2016, 2023	2023
SAMIR	MSMR (IRS-P4)	SCAT (OSAT-2)	Megha-Tropiques	Altika (SARAL)	SCAT	TSU & HSU
19.35, 22.35, 31.4 GHz	6.6,10.6, 18, 21 GHz	13.515 GHz	18.7, 23.8, 36.5, 89, 157 GHz, 6 Channels at 183.31GHz	35.75 GHz Altimeter 23.8, 37 GHz Radiometer	13.515 GHz	23.8, 31.5, 15 Ch. at 50-59 GHz (TSU) Multi-Channels at 183 GHz (HSU)
WV, LWC, Rain, OSW	SST, Wind, TPWC, CLW	Wind Vector	Rain, WV, LW, Cloud-ice, Humidity Profiles	SSH, SWH	Wind Vector	Temp & Humidity Profiles

MADRAS Daily Average Rain 07 July, 2012



SARAL track



Waveform across the river transect

INSAT - 3D & 3DR

Observations at 15-minute interval : 48 images/ day

- Provide opportunity to capture short-lived cloud processes.
- More no. of Atmospheric Motion Vectors
- Capture structural changes within cyclone during rapid intensification
- Better estimation of cloud growth/ decay and improvement in rainfall estimation



6 Channel IMAGER				
Bands (μm)	Resolution			
VIS (0.55-0.75)	1km			
SWIR (1.55-1.70)	1 km			
MIR (3.8-4.0)	4km			
WV (6.5-7.1)	8km			
TIR-1 (10.2-11.3)	4km			
TIR-2 (11.5-12.5)				

19 Channel SOUNDER					
Central WL : 0.695 – 14.71 um					
Visible : One Band					
SWIR : Six bands					
MWIR : Five Bands					
LWIR : Seven Bands					
Resolution (km): 10 X 10					
40 profiles of Temp. (surface to 70 km)					
21 Profiles of Humid. (surface to 15 km)					
Integrated Ozone (Surface to ~ 12 km)					

OCEANSAT- 3 (2022) / 3A (2025)



Orbit	Sun synchronous	Daily global observation with 2 satellites	
Payloa	ads OCM-3 (13 bands: 407 to 1020 nm) : 360 m Scatterometer-3 (Ku Band - 13.51GHz) SSTM-1 (2 Bands: 11 &12 μm) : 1080 m Argos-4 (CNES Payload)	 13 bands than OCM-2 (08 bands) Better SNR (1000) Spectral bandwidth improved from 20- 	
Swath	1400 x 1400 km	40 nm to 10-20 nm (OCM-3).	





Early detection of tropical cyclogenesis Mean Prediction Lead Time: ~3 days in advance)





Ocean surface wind vectors at 12.5 km



Data disseminated freely to NASA, NOAA, EUMETSAT, KNMI, ECMWF.....



Cyclone genesis, Track & Landfall

Cyclogenesis Prediction



Tropical cyclone "Mandous" as captured by EOS-06 SCAT 08-Dec-2022, 17:58 UTC

Cyclone Track Prediction



Cyclone track prediction by Lagrangian advection Model for different initial conditions

Cyclone Intensity Prediction



Cyclone intensity prediction using hurricane weather research forecast model

6 hourly cyclone track prediction up to 96 hours

INSAT 3D TIR-1







Cyclone landfall prediction accuracy is ± 25 km and landfall time ±1 hr.

Cloud Height (km)



Enabling Energy Security



Solar Energy Potential (INSAT-3D/3DR)



Wind Energy Potential (using Scatsat Data)

Potential areas to achieve target of 500 GW by 2030

- Digital Energy Atlas
- 48 Hour forecast for solar insolation & wind speed - for plant operators supplying power to the grid
- Development of Geo-spatial Energy portal & Apps









Mobile Apps for assessing location-specific Solar & Wind energy potential

Space Technology for Blue Economy



Potential Fishing Zone & NavIC services for Fishermen

7500 km coastline
> 7 M people dependent on fishing







- Increased Fish catch per unit effort by 2-4 times.
- Reduced Search time by 60-70% saving of fuel
- Improved welfare of community Better livelihood

Supporting Fishermen Livelihood



- Potential Fish Catch
- Navigation Support
- Rough Weather Alerts
- Approaching international boundary









Safety at Beach (Rip Current Prediction)



- Fully-automated Forecast for 175 Indian beaches
- HR 2.5 km altimeter satellite assimilated WAVEWATCH-III model
- Very useful for lifeguards, Police, Beach Patrol and can save many lives. Can boost Beach Tourism.
- Developed SAFE BEACH app for issuing alerts to the beach users, in 2021.

Operational products from SARAL - AltiKa

Sea Surface Height Anomaly (cm) 1-Cycle Plot (35 days)



Ocean Surface Wind Speed (m/s) 1-CyclePlot (35 days)



Significant Wave Height (m) 1-Cycle Plot (35 days)



Ice sheet Surface Elevation &Sea ice thickness distribution

Sea Surface Height = ~4 cm Significant Wave Height = ~30 cm Surface Wind Speed =~1.7 m/s AltiKa Repeat Cycle = 35 days Along-track res. for 1-Hz data = 6 km Along-track res. for 40-Hz data = 175 m Ice sheet surface elevation derived using re-tracker data

Sea ice thickness distribution - using waveform data







Coastal Products (Sea level, Significant Wave Height & Wind speed) hosted on MOSDAC







Thank You