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**INAUGURATION OF DOPPLER WEATHER RADAR AND INDIGENOUS
GPS BASED PILOT SONDE – JAMMU**

India Meteorological Department informs with pleasure that an X-Band Doppler weather radar has been installed at Jammu to provide improved weather services to the people of Jammu & Kashmir. It will help in providing nowcast (very short range forecast up to 3 hours) for all types of severe weather events affecting the region, especially thunderstorm, lightning, squall, heavy rain, etc. It will help in providing weather forecast for different sectors including tourism forecast for the pilgrims of Mata Vaishno Devi, Katra which has an average footfall of 8.5 million every year. It will also provide input to numerical weather prediction models for generating better weather forecasts.

In conjunction with the data from other sensors such as satellites and automated weather stations, better forecasts and warnings can be achieved leading to minimal loss of property and life, thus providing better services towards public safety and socio-economic benefits.

India meteorological department has a vast network of upper air observatories comprising of 56 Radiosonde/ Radiowind and 62 Radiowind observatories. The Radiowind observatories are meant for collection of wind speed and wind direction data at different levels in the atmosphere for weather forecasting.

In the past IMD has been using the manual tracking methods to gather the wind information. As a step further and a part of Make in India initiative, the state of the art Indigenous GPS based Pilot sonde has been developed. The system is at par in quality with the systems being manufactured and used in the other developed countries across the globe. This system helps to gather data in all weather conditions with minimum human intervention and has facilities of Auto detection of balloon launch and balloon burst.

We are happy to inform that Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, Government of India has kindly agreed to inaugurate the Doppler Weather Radar and Indigenous GPS based Pilot Sonde at Meteorological Office Jammu at 1100-1200 IST of 5th September, 2021.



DOPPLER WEATHER RADAR



PILOT SONDE