

Inauguration of Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) at Lansdowne, Uttarakhand

We are happy to inform you that Shri Kiren Rijiju, Hon'ble Union Cabinet Minister, MOES, Shri Tirath Singh Rawat, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Pauri Garhwal and Former Chief Minister, Uttarakhand and Dr. Ranjit Kumar Sinha, Secretary, Department of Disaster Management and Rehabilitation, Government of Uttarakhand have agreed to inaugurate DWR Lansdowne on 23rd February 2024 at 1430 hrs IST. The X-Band Radar with the observation range of 150 kms has been installed at Lansdowne, Uttarakhand. This Doppler weather radar is the third in the state after the ones in Mukteshwar and Surkanda Devi. It will be operated to provide essential weather services to benefit the people of Uttarakhand, especially over Lansdowne, Pauri Garhwal and its neighboring district of Uttarakhand. The radar shall be beneficial for weather nowcast services in these regions. This radar will facilitate forecasters in generating nowcast for severe weather events and also help numerical weather prediction modelling to improve the model guidance.

Major advantages of Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) include:

- Wind speed measurement during rainfall and thunderstorms which was not possible in conventional weather radar. Thus, the DWR helps to provide improved warnings.
- Better estimation of rainfall with detection of heavy rainfall events and generation of warnings.
- Additional inputs to numerical weather prediction models for generating improved weather forecasts particularly nowcast (forecast for a few hours).
- Weather radars can provide area specific rainfall and storm warnings which is beneficial for aviation related services, disaster management and emergency response authorities.
- In conjunction with data from other sensors such as satellites, better forecasts and warnings can be achieved leading to better services towards public safety and socio-economic benefits.

