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Category: Interdisciplinary Working Groups

Paper ID: 57-IWG-A1931

Title: (IWG3A)India National Programme on GPS Studies for Geodynamics

Abstract:

Monitoring the Geodynamics and natural disasters like earthquake, volcanic eruptions, avalanches, cyclones, etc., with the ultimate aim of predicting them, and managing the rescue and rehabilitation operations during and after such calamities has assumed great importance world-wide. In India, an extensive high precision Geodetic and Geophysical control network has been established by Survey of India (SOI), the national mapping agency of India, for the primary purpose of national mapping, through dedicated efforts of over two centuries. More recently, various national organizations and institutions have taken up geodetic, geophysical and geological surveys for variety of applications. The extensive horizontal and vertical geodetic and geophysical control network established through these collaborative efforts and huge amount of valuable data thus generated, have contributed significantly towards monitoring the crustal dynamics of the Indian subcontinent. Several specific projects for geodetic monitoring of local and regional crustal deformations have been undertaken in the past, in the earthquake-affected areas in India. After the 1993 Latur earthquake in the Peninsular Shield of India, extensive Geodetic and GPS investigations have been taken up in that region by the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India. In order to evolve a comprehensive National Programme on GPS for Geodynamics Studies in India, by integrating the GPS control network for Peninsular shield, and other existing GPS stations to cover the entire country, DST set up a National GPS Expert Group in 1994. The National GPS Network for Geodynamics, recommended by the Expert Group, and now being implemented in a phased-manner by DST, consists of about 40 permanent, 700 semi-permanent, and several hundred campaign mode field GPS stations. Several GPS research groups are engaged in the study of specific regions under this national programme. An overview of this programme, along with the present status and future plans will be presented. Two case studies, being carried out by the IIT Bombay GPS research group, under this National Programme: one in the Koyna region of central India, and another in the Bhuj region of Gujarat, will be briefly described.

Presentation Mode:

Keywords: GPS, geodesy, geodynamics, control network