

National

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Rich, brash, with rich friends and Papa to clear up his mess, Jagat's typical of the brat brigade

PTI

QUAKE-SYSTEM

US testing advance warning system for earthquakes

NEW DELHI, NOV 10 (PTI)

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American seismologists at the University of California in Berkeley have found a way to get an advance warning seconds before an impending earthquake.

While a few seconds may not sound like much, it is enough time for schoolchildren to dive under desks, gas and electric companies to shut down or isolate their systems, and airports to halt takeoffs and landings.

Richard Allen and his colleagues are now testing an early warning system called 'ElarmS' that would predict the quake's magnitude and its destructive potential even before it occurs.

The researchers who published their work in today's issue of 'Nature' journal are working with the US Geological Survey to determine how accurate these warnings would be, according to a university press release.

The system's early warnings will come after a quake rupture has already begun but before the shaking is felt tens of miles from the epicentre.

Allen's demonstration that this observation holds for earthquakes around the world, from California to Taiwan and Japan, provides a solid basis for constructing an early warning system, the release said.

Once the magnitude of the quake has been estimated, computers can predict areas of 'serious ground-shaking' based on an understanding of a particular fault. Within five seconds, warnings could be sent to cities in the areas calculated to expect damaging ground motion.

Because humans couldn't respond fast enough, Allen said, these warnings would have to rely on computers programmed to respond to quakes of a certain magnitude.

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13-Nov-2005

- Traffic to resume on Srinagar-Muzaffarabad road tomorrow
- Fourth LoC point set to reopen tomorrow
- Kaman post to be opened tomorrow for stranded bus passengers
- CII provides aid worth Rs 52 lakhs for quake victims
- LoC proves bridge too far for quake divided families
- Pak army and criminals selling organs of quake victims: JKLF
- No fee for govt school students in Uri and Karnah tehsils

12-Nov-2005

- Responding to questions, Saran, however, said India could be ready to "take away" its forces not only on the Line of Control (LoC) but the entire border with Pakistan if cross-border terrorism and infiltration ended and the two countries reached that level of "trust."
- Scribes disappointed at being denied audience by Pak officials
- India offers to take up rebuilding projects in quake-hit Pak

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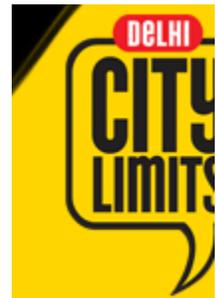
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