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|  | **SOOP Report for 2017** | | | | | | **Country =** | |  | | **INDIA** | |
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|  | **a.** |  | | | **Programme description:** | | | | | | | |
| **Line** | | **Agency** | | | **Sampling programme and target mode (if applicable)** | | | | **XBT/XCTD/CTD/pCO2** | | **No. of Ship Riders** |
| Chennai - Port Blair | | Shipping Corporation of India (M.V.Nancowry M.V.Nicobar  M.V.Harshawardhan  MV Swarajdweep or  M.V.Campbell bay) | | | XBT probes are launched at every half degree interval in the nearshore region (~3 deg) and at 1 deg interval in the offshore | | | | XBT and surface salinity sample, sea surface temperature | | two |
|  | Port Blair Kolkata | | Shipping Corporation of India (M.V.Nancowry M.V.Nicobar  M.V.Harshawardhan  MV Swarajdweep or  M.V.Campbell bay) | | | XCTD probes are launched at 1 deg interval | | | | XCTD and surface salinity sample, sea surface temperature are collected at every half degree interval | | two |
|  | Kochi- Kavaratti | | SCI, M.V.Kavaratti | | | XBT and XCTD probes are launched at half deg interval | | | | XCTD and surface salinity sample, sea surface temperature are collected at every half degree interval | | two |
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|  | **b.** |  | | | **Data management** | | | | | | | |
|  | **Agency** | | | **No. of BUFR messages on the GTS in 2017** | | | | **Location of delayed-mode data** | | | | |
|  | CSIR-NIO | | | -- | | | | Presently data transmitted from Chennai, Kolkata or Goa | | | | |
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|  | **c.** | **Major challenges and difficulties:** |
|  | 1. one of the main constraint is the availability of ship cabin ticket which needs to be reserved well in advance as these ships are passenger ships plying between the mainland and the islands.  2. Also there is a restriction on sending data online from the ships as no internet facility is available on board.  3.XBT along Mumbai- Mauritius transect is suspended non availability of ships due to piracy and other issues | |
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|  | **d.** | **Research / development / testing:** |
| It is well known that the low salinity waters from the Bay of Bengal (BoB) flow into the Arabian Sea (AS) and vice versa. The XBT/XCTD data collected from BoB and AS are very useful in studying the inrtannual variability of the water exchange between these two basins. Also the study on the horizontal SST and salinity differences between these two regions are very important to understand the strength of EICC and WMC. we are focussing on these aspects of the BoB and AS using the XBT data | |
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|  | **e.** | **Other comments:** |
| If communication facilities are available, data can be transmitted from the ship at the end of every XBT launch | |
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