MEGHA-TROPIQUES PROJECT

Ref: Megha-Tropiques Science Data -2013-02  September 24\textsuperscript{th} 2013

Announcement to Megha-Tropiques Science Data Users

The Indo-French Megha-Tropiques satellite was successfully launched on 12 October 2011, from ISRO’s Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota. The on orbit performances of the spacecraft and the payloads viz., SAPHIR, SCARAB and GPS-ROSA are nominal and satisfactory.

After a few of months of technical and scientific validation, in February 2013, near real time \textbf{Level 1A} and \textbf{Level 1A2} products of SAPHIR and SCARAB were open to all users either from MOSDAC or ICARE dissemination centers. Reprocessed \textbf{Level 1A} and \textbf{Level 1A2} products of SAPHIR and SCARAB since launch, are being disseminated from MOSDAC and ICARE centers.

After a few weeks in orbit, a mix up of MADRAS channels data was detected. ISRO and CNES have performed all the required studies to correct to a very large extent the MADRAS data. Finally, after successful correction implementation in \textbf{Level 1} ground processing, some subsets of MADRAS \textbf{Level 1A} and \textbf{Level 1A2} reprocessed data were made available to PI and AO-PI. The reprocessing and dissemination to PI and AO-PI, of the full data sets since launch, is in progress.

Unfortunately, due to a serious anomaly observed in MADRAS scan mechanism, since January 26\textsuperscript{th} 2013, the data from MADRAS instrument is not valid and cannot be disseminated to science users.

Based on the conclusions of conducted technical expertise, ISRO and CNES are informing all the users that the MADRAS mission cannot be continued and the instrument has been declared non-operational.

Of course, ISRO and CNES will pursue their efforts to process and disseminate the 16 months (from Launch up to January 26\textsuperscript{th} 2013) of valuable MADRAS science data for the benefit of the science community.

Presently, MADRAS is rotating at 2 rpm (instead of nominal 24.14 rpm). MADRAS instrument configuration (Switch OFF or Standby mode) will be later decided giving priority to the safety of the Megha-Tropiques mission.