

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2381
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 21ST DECEMBER, 2022**

INTERNATIONAL MONSOONS PROJECT OFFICE

2381. SHRI RAMALINGAM S.:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently launched the International Monsoons Project Office (IMPO) for addressing common and region-specific aspects of the monsoons around the world;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of predictions by IMPO of seasonal variability of monsoon in various regions of the country that exactly happened or wherein predictions failed?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

- (a)-(b) Yes Sir. The International Monsoons Project Office (IMPO), hosted by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India, is India's contribution to global monsoon research coordination. As global monsoons have many common elements, the coordination of global monsoon research by IMPO is in India's interest, as it helps to learn from the research works on other monsoons (namely, African, American, Asian and Australian monsoons). IMPO is a part of the National Monsoon Mission of MoES, and it has the potential to engage the international monsoon community to focus on the scientific problems of our interest.

The IMPO functions as an International Project Office of the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO's) World Weather Research Programme (WWRP) and the WMO/IOC-UNESCO/ISC World Climate Research Programme (WCRP).

An agreement was signed between the Secretary-General of the WMO and the Director, IITM to host an International Monsoons Project Office (IMPO) at IITM, Pune, initially for five years with effect from 30th July 2021, to support monsoon research activities of the WWRP and WCRP.

Few of the important functions and responsibilities include:

- 1) Support active collaboration with the relevant monsoon groups to effectively pursue the applications in monsoon regions of the Subseasonal to Seasonal (S2S) Prediction Project outputs, jointly coordinated by WWRP and WCRP.
 - 2) Actively contribute to and facilitate outreach and capacity building related to WCRP/WWRP monsoon research, in the host country as well as in the region.
 - ❖ IMPO functions include planning and coordinating meetings, arranging teleconferences for the Panel Members as well as the regional working groups of the Monsoons Panel, for Asian-Australian Monsoons, African Monsoons and the American Monsoons.
 - ❖ Other activities of IMPO include support to the newsletters of WMO, WWRP and WCRP on monsoon-relevant matters, development and maintenance of the Monsoons Panel web pages cataloguing current monsoon research initiatives, information and resource relevant for the international monsoon community. This office also disseminates the latest information on WWRP/WCRP monsoon activities to the meteorological and oceanographic communities in the host country as well as in the region.
- (c) IMPO is not an operational entity and does not make any predictions. IMPO promotes monsoon prediction research that may be helpful for improving the operational forecasts of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) which is the official national weather service of India. IMPO's role is limited to the coordination of global and regional monsoon research activities identified and fostered under the leadership of WMO's WCRP and WWRP.
