

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:424
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010
PRECISE PREDICTION OF CYCLON
Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) was unable to precisely predict and forewarn the arrival of 'Phyan' cyclonic storm which struck the Indian coast;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government including funds allocated for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTRY OF THE EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

- (a) No Madam. The cyclonic storm 'Phyan' made landfall over north Maharashtra coast between Alibag and Mumbai on 11th November, 2009 at around 1530-1630 hrs IST. The India Meteorological Department (IMD), with the help of land, ocean and satellite based observational and monitoring systems was able to predict (about 30 hrs in advance) and closely monitor the intensity and movement of the cyclone. Periodic forewarnings were issued.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Continuous R & D efforts to improve the monitoring and prediction systems is an on-going exercise carried out by IMD in association with other research institutions, to enhance the lead time of the predictions and to improve the landfall/intensity estimates of cyclones/other high impact weather phenomena.