

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:290  
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010  
NATIONAL MISSION ON MONSOON  
Patel Shri Bal Kumar

**Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to launch National Mission on Monsoon (NMM);
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features of NMM;
- (c) whether the current system/operational model being used for long range or seasonal forecast is not a dynamic one;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the proposed mission will be effective and dynamic one; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Madam

(b) The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has mooted a proposal to take up National Mission on Monsoon (NMM) to develop most representative and advanced dynamic model framework for India for forecasting monsoon rainfall and its variability in various space and time scales. Subsequent to the national level consultation held for finalizing the scope, identification and short-listing of models, activity schedule, roles of various participating groups, time frame etc., preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) is taken up. National level monitoring and implementation mechanisms will be put in place for implementing the NMM.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) Currently, IMD uses statistical models for prediction of seasonal monsoon rainfall over India. Such a mechanism is continued to be used due to non-availability of a suitable coupled ocean-atmospheric model with a proven performance of capturing the realistic monsoon rainfall variability over India.

(e)-(f) With the commissioning of the high-performance computing system at Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune during the current year, the performance of an adopted coupled ocean-atmospheric model of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA is being critically examined for the monsoon-2010 in terms of reasonably capturing locations of excess and deficient rainfall on monthly and seasonal time scales. Based on the above, it is planned to build all activities of the Monsoon Mission by involving all relevant organizations and research institutes for improving the prediction of the monsoon using the above dynamical framework.