

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:320  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010  
MONSOON FORECAST  
Ramkishun Shri ;Rani Killi Krupa

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

- (a) whether the United States of America is likely to share with India advanced satellite data which will enable prediction and tracking of the monsoon with a greater degree of certainty and reduce chances of economic dislocation and loss of lives as a result of drought and floods;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Indian scientists, at present, are able to predict the monsoon in advance for one or two days only, while the new system would allow the scientists to predict rainfall fifteen days in advance;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has evaluated the parameters used by United Kingdom, China and other countries for monsoon forecasts;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to adopt a suitable model particularly for the benefits of the Indian farmers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF TELECOMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

a) – f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN REPLY TO (a) to (f) OF STARRED QUESTION No. 320 REGARDING "MONSOON FORECAST" ASKED BY SHRI RAMKISHUN AND DR. KRUPARANI KILLI FOR ANSWER ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 01st, 2010

(a) No Madam.

(b) Under the existing meteorological data exchange policies of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), all available data is exchanged freely across its member countries. Global satellite meteorological data is also exchanged bi-laterally among the countries, including between India and USA as a part of various bilateral cooperation agreements. India is already using global satellite data in its global analysis-forecast system for generating medium range (up to 7 days in advance) weather forecasts.

(c) No Madam.

(d) Weekly Agro-meteorological Advisory Service (AAS), based on 7-days weather forecasts, has been operating since Monsoon - 2005. Further, in an attempt to provide an additional rainfall outlook up to 15-days, experimental extended range forecast assessment has been put under extensive performance evaluation.

(e) Research group from the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) has been critically examining rainfall forecasts obtained from Japan, UK and USA for monsoon seasons of 2008, 2009 and 2010 but not from China. It is seen that the skill of all these models including that of NCMRWF-India are of similar nature.

(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 its performance in capturing locations of excess and deficient rainfall on monthly and seasonal time scales. Based on the above, it is planned to build all activities under the National Monsoon Mission initiative by involving all relevant organizations and research institutes of India and NOAA for improving the prediction of the monsoon using the above dynamical framework.