

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1741
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2011
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 an effective and dynamic one; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) Yes madam.

(b) The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has finalized a detailed project report (DPR) 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. All necessary administrative and financial approvals are being sought to implement this multi-institutional mission during the current financial year itself.

(c) The current operational system is not based on a dynamic model

(d) Currently, IMD uses a suite of 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) Yes Madam. The performance of an adopted coupled ocean-atmospheric model of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA is being critically examined for the monsoon seasons of 2010 and 2011 in terms of capturing locations of excess and deficient rainfall on monthly and seasonal time scales.

Based on the above, it is planned to build all research and development activities to develop a most representative and advanced dynamical model framework for India for forecasting monsoon rainfall and its variability in various space and time scales under the NMM initiative involving the above dynamical framework by involving all relevant organizations and research institutes of India and NOAA.