

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:662
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2011
LAUNCH OF WEATHER SATELLITE MISSION
Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched weather satellite mission to study monsoon and climate changes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the information so received will benefit India and other countries in the Indian ocean region;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the above is one of the early satellites for climate research; 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) The Government has recently launched a Megha-Tropiques weather satellite mission on 12th October 2011 for improved understanding of weather and climate processes through obtaining reliable statistics of the water and energy budget in the tropical atmosphere so as to describe the evolution of its systems (monsoons and cyclones) at appropriate time scales. Thus, this mission provides opportunity to critically study water cycle of the tropical atmosphere in the context of climate variability and change.

(b) The Megha-Tropiques consists of three radiometric instruments allowing to observe simultaneously three interrelated components of the atmospheric engine - water vapour, condensed water (clouds and precipitations), and radiative fluxes that has a privilege sampling the atmosphere all through day and night with all-weather viewing capabilities. It will pass over India almost a dozen times every day, thus giving opportunity for an almost real- time assessment of the evolution of clouds. Multi-frequency Microwave Scanning Radiometer would complement other global research efforts of the Global Precipitation Measurement mission of National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

(c) Yes Madam.

(d) The satellite mission will benefit India and other countries in tropical Indian Ocean region as the availability of above mentioned parameters will help the countries to study monitor and forewarn the evolution of weather systems.

(e) No Madam.

(f) Does not arise.