

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2543
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009
WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Meteorological Organization, a UN body has recently predicted, "EL NINO" effect on the South East Asian countries including India, as a result of which there is likelihood of a long dry spell in the country adversely affecting monsoons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) No Madam.

Although, the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) statement on El Nino issued on 18th June,2009 has predicted a likelihood of an El Niño event over the tropical Pacific in the second half of 2009, it has not given any statement regarding its effect on the Southeast Asian countries including India. In fact as a matter of policy, WMO do not include country level impacts in their statements. Instead it is left to the meteorological services of the concerned countries to issue the statements based on appropriate impact assessments. While issuing forecasts for the monsoon-2009 rainfall over the country, India Meteorological Department (IMD) has taken into account the possible impact of El Nino on the monsoon rainfall during the current season.

(b) Does not arise.