

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:594  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012  
AUTOMATIC WEATHER STATIONS  
Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof alongwith the details of parameters that would be recorded under the above system particularly in Maharashtra;
- (c) whether the AWS would be useful in forewarning coastal people in the country about impending disasters; and
- (d) 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(DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

- (a) Yes Madam.
- (b) The India Meteorological Department (IMD) had already set up AWS network of 677 stations in the country among which 49 stations have been located in the state of Maharashtra. Annexure provides state-wise list of AWS stations commissioned. AWS records hourly data of air temperature, wind speed and direction, sea level pressure, relative humidity and 15-min data of rainfall. In addition, Agro-AWS records global radiation, soil temperature, soil moisture at 20m depth, leaf wetness and leaf temperature.
- (c) Integrated observing systems, that include AWS network, will facilitate for nowcasting of coastal hazards.
- (d) AWS network along with other observing systems comprising Doppler Weather Radars (DWR), satellite etc. provide real time monitoring of ever changing adverse weather conditions associated with hydro-meteorological hazards.