

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:235  
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012  
FUNCTIONING OF IMD  
Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Yashvir

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

- (a) whether scientific and administrative services in the India Meteorological Department (IMD) have been bifurcated as per the approval by the Ministry of Finance in 1980;
- (b) if so, whether technical officials have been deployed for non- technical assignments;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether this has impacted the working of the Department and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it has attracted adverse comments from the auditing authority; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI VILASRAO DESHMUKH)

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. 235 REGARDING "FUNCTIONING OF IMD" TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 29, 2012

(a) Yes Madam.

(b) Yes Madam.

(c) Out of total number of 8404 posts, comprising 1681 officers of Gr. A/B and 6723 staff, 315 posts are sanctioned for supporting administrative services. However, limited numbers of technical officers/staff (219 out of 8089 sanctioned scientific posts) are also deployed for work in addition to administrative officials in administrative units due to the demanding functional requirements of different offices. Detailed information is presented in Annexure-I.

(d) No Madam, as most of the officials at Group 'A' Level, have been given assignment of administrative nature in addition to their scientific and technical duties. Moreover all heads of Divisions and Heads of Sub-offices have dual responsibility for both scientific & administrative nature.

(e) Yes Madam.

(f) The scientific/technical officers are deployed in different units in addition to the administrative staff. These officials are deployed for technical and scientific examination and processing of the cases exclusively as most of the administrative/planning follow-up actions would follow the critical scientific and technology review.

Unlike most of the administrative departments, majority of the activities in IMD including those related to procurement, planning, training and personnel management have a large quantum of technically oriented activities that necessitates the presence of experienced technical peoples for efficient handling of techno-legal and techno-administrative nature of issues, viz. equipment procurement, planning and programme development and implementation, human resource development and management/coordination.

Moreover with the creation of 78 new posts in administrative cadre by the government recently, the deployment of scientific staff in administrative units is expected to reduce substantially in the immediate future.