

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2044  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2012  
SCANTY MONSOON RAINS  
Patel Shri Lalubhai

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

- (a) whether the reasons for lesser rainfall in the current year have been identified; and
- (b) 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 deficiency to certain extent is attributed to the delayed onset and advance of monsoon over various parts of the country (in a range of 1-2 weeks). The lower frequency of the formation of principal rain bearing cyclonic weather systems (lows and depressions) over the Indian seas of Bay of Bengal and Arabian Seas during the current season (as against the average frequency of about 6-7, only one low pressure area formed so far) is seen to be the main contributing factor for the deficit rainfall distribution observed over the country.

The rainfall during August (till date) has been close to normal due to formation of low pressure area over the Bay of Bengal and their west-northwestward movement inland. It has resulted in decreasing the deficiency over northwest India. Detailed study on the above seasonal scale monsoon circulation anomalies and associated characteristics are monitored closely to examine their impacts on the ensuing rainfall during the remaining period of August and September, 2012.