

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:210

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2013

FORECAST MECHANISM

Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash; Sugavanam Shri E.G.; Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India Meteorological Department (IMD) has proposed to improve its forecast mechanism in the landslide prone areas by installing state-of-the-art automatic weather stations and closely spaced, Doppler instruments for monitoring and developing early warning system;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount allocated/earmarked for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which the said project would be completed?

Answer

MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) Earth System Science Organization (ESSO) - IMD has formulated a plan towards building improved weather monitoring and forecasting system over western Himalayan states (Jammu & Kashmir; Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) but not for early warning of landslides per se.

(b) A new plan scheme - Himalayan Meteorology Program is aimed at to augment various state-of-the-art observing systems by deploying Doppler Weather Radars, rain radars, Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs), Automatic Rain Gauges (ARGs) etc. The above observations will lead to improved understanding of Himalayan weather in general and severe weather in particular. The assimilation of the above observational data will facilitate improvement in now-casting and forecasting. A sum of Rs. 110 crores is earmarked for this scheme within the XII Plan allocation.

(c) It is envisaged to be implemented by the end of the XII Plan period (2017).