

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:561

ANSWERED ON:06.05.2015

COOPERATION IN EARTH SCIENCE

Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh;Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan

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

(a) whether the Earth System Science Organisation and the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR), USA have signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation in Earth System Sciences and if so, the salient features of the said MoU;

(b) whether any work under the said MoU has been initiated and if so,

(c) the details in this regard; and the extent to which the country would benefit from the said MoU?%

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a)to(c); A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN REPLY (a) to (c) TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 561 REGARDING "COOPERATION IN EARTH SCIENCE" TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 06, 2015

(a) Yes Madam. Specific activities in scientific areas of mutual interest will be undertaken under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2014 between Earth System Science Organisation - Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) and the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR), USA for cooperation and coordination of various activities and programs in Earth System Sciences. Some of the cooperation avenues identified in the MoU are development of Wind Profiler System, Radar meteorology, Airborne platforms for cyclone studies, Nowcasting of severe weather events, capacity building through scientific lectures and distance learning etc. The Research and Development (R&D) work carried out jointly under this MoU will help in addressing above mentioned scientific issues of common concern and building capacity in the country.

(b) Some preliminary work under the said MoU has been initiated. The proposal related to development of Wind Profiler System is currently under consideration between Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (ESSO-IITM), Pune, an autonomous organisation under MoES and National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), USA.

(c) UCAR, USA is a consortium of more than 100 member colleges, universities and research laboratories focused on carrying out research in the Earth System Sciences. Considering that there exist various research groups in Indian Universities and research institutions working on various aspects of Earth System Sciences, this MoU will help in bringing together a larger section of the academic and research community from both the countries which in turn will enhance the scope of R&D in Earth System Science by linking researchers having different skills and expertise. Moreover the scientific collaboration in the field of Earth System Science between the two countries will enable exchange and up-gradation of scientific knowledge, technical knowhow in addressing scientific challenges for societal benefit.