

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4113
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2015
Fog Forecast
Prabakaran Shri K.R.P.

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether fog forecast information is being provided to the people in the country in advance and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to upgrade the fog forecast facilities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY)

(a) Yes Madam. Earth System Science Organisation-India Meteorological Department (ESSO-IMD) provides large scale fog formation forecast to the people in general by its national and regional forecast offices. The locations specific fog information is being given through our city forecasts for about 320 stations across the country. The fog monitoring, detection, forecasting and dissemination systems has been automated at the various national and international airports of northwest India where fog formation is critical for minimizing the flight diversions.

ESSO-IMD disseminates real time updates of possible fog formation scenarios to Airport Authority of India (AAI) and Airport Operators/Airlines for taking appropriate actions further.

(b-d) Improvement of weather forecasting services is a continuous process. ESSO-IMD has taken up a forecast demonstration project for improving the fog forecast services in the country. ESSO-IMD and ESSO-Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) Pune are working together for generating improved understanding of the fog formation processes through capturing associated micro-scale turbulent characteristics, soil, environment and surface weather parameters through field campaigns during the winter. The knowledge gained through such process studies results in to the improvement of warning systems.