

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:183

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2016

RIMES

Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) proposes to double the corpus from present \$250000 to \$500000 over the next 18 months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether RIMES nations including India are formulating a plan for 2016-20 for early warning to disaster;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether India is likely to get an effective trans-boundary mechanism to tackle the disasters arising out of climate hazards;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and whether RIMES Conference was held recently; and
- (f) if so, the number of countries participated therein and main issues discussed in the meeting and future plan chalked out for disaster management among member countries and sharing of information?

**Answer**

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

(a) No Madam.

(b) Yes Madam.

(c) Ministers and Ministerial representatives of Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Comoros, India, Lao PDR, Maldives, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam adopted Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) Master Plan 2016-2020 during the 2nd RIMES Ministerial Conference, held on 10 July 2015 in New Delhi. The Master Plan details country-specific capacity building priorities of RIMES member and collaborating states for user-centered multi-hazard risk-based early warning, and for maximizing opportunities associated with climate variability and change.

The Ministers reiterated their continued and unwavering commitment to sustain RIMES delivery of core services and support for implementing priority programs and projects under the Master Plan. In support of their National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and national scientific and technical agencies that generate multi-hazard warning information, the Ministers committed to fund Plan implementation primarily from resources available within the countries, and secondly from donor assistance.

While accepting to serve as the Chair of the RIMES Executive Council, India announced its commitment to RIMES as a leading knowledge partner through its institutions – Earth System Science Organisation-Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (ESSO-INCOIS), ESSO-Indian National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), and ESSO-India Meteorological Department (IMD) along with other global partners in building and implementation of various prioritized program initiatives.

(d)-(f) Yes Madam. India under the aegis of the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre of World Meteorological organization and as regional tsunami service provider, trans-boundary warnings are already issued for Cyclones and Tsunami covering all countries of the Indian Ocean. RIMES platform allows us to strengthen the cooperation across the multi- hazards so as to address country specific requirement.

During the 2nd RIMES Ministerial Conference, held on 10th July 2015, the Ministers agreed to share regionally relevant meteorological and oceanographic data with partner institutions and member and collaborating states, for improving forecast systems for early warning. Presently, RIMES has 12 signatory Member States. Bhutan, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, and Vietnam have indicated their readiness to sign the RIMES Cooperation Agreement; other 15 collaborating states are in various stages of Agreement consideration and approval. Fiji has recently indicated interest to participate in RIMES programs.