

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:467  
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014  
DELAY IN RAIN FORECAST  
Godse Shri Hemant Tukaram

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

- (a) whether Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) delayed its long-range forecasts for the crucial annual rainy season from mid April;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether according to forecasts by various agencies, there is a possibility of development of weak negative Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) event during the later period of 2014 and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether there is a consensus amongst experts about uncertainty in the forecast information this year and if so, the reason therefor?

**Answer**

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

- (a) No Madam. As per the practice, Earth system Science Organization - India Meteorological Department (ESSO-IMD) issued its long range forecast (LRF) of Monsoon 2014 in April 2014.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Yes Madam. However IOD remained negative, during August-September, 2014.
- (d) Yes Madam as for as timing and intensity of El Nino's occurrence over the equatorial Pacific Ocean.