

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3735
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th April, 2010

NATIONAL MISSION ON MONSOON

3735. SHRI P. RAJEEVE:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps that had been taken by his Ministry to set up the National Mission on Monsoon;
- (b) whether Government has made any study about the failure of the current models which were hitherto followed for forecasting the monsoon; and
- (c) if so, whether with the establishment of National Mission on Monsoon, the handicap of the current model could be overcome?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES,
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF
STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

- (a) The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has proposed National Mission on Monsoon to develop most representative and advanced dynamic model framework for India for forecasting monsoon rainfall and its variability in various space and time scales.

On 16th January 2010, National level consultation meeting was organized with experts working in the atmospheric and oceanic modeling. Experts from the MoES units, viz. India Meteorological Department (IMD), Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) etc., also participated in the meeting to finalise the scope, identification/shortlisting of suite of models, activity schedule, roles of various participating groups, time frame, etc. for the preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) alongwith implementation mechanism.

- (b) Yes Sir.
- (c) The accomplishment of accurate medium and long range prediction of the monsoon rainfall along with associated variability (interannual and intraseasonal) is a highly challenging task scientifically. At present no dynamic model, globally, has a proven track record of accurately predicting the summer monsoon rainfall and its variability. The National Mission on Monsoon envisages developing India specific dynamical model framework that would outperform the existing suite of models available today.
