

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES  
**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 424  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2010

**PRECISE PREDICTION OF CYCLON**

**424. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:**

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) was unable to precisely predict and forewarn the arrival of 'Phyan' cyclonic storm which struck the Indian coast;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government including funds allocated for the purpose?

**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) No Madam. The cyclonic storm 'Phyan' made landfall over north Maharashtra coast between Alibag and Mumbai on 11th November, 2009 at around 1530-1630 hrs IST. The India Meteorological Department (IMD), with the help of land, ocean and satellite based observational and monitoring systems was able to predict (about 30 hrs in advance) and closely monitor the intensity and movement of the cyclone. Periodic forewarnings were issued.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Continuous R & D efforts to improve the monitoring and prediction systems is an on-going exercise carried out by IMD in association with other research institutions, to enhance the lead time of the predictions and to improve the landfall/intensity estimates of cyclones/other high impact weather phenomena.

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