

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 231
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2015**

HAIL CONTROL TECHNOLOGY

231. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to launch Innovative Hail Control Technology programme to control hailstorm damage in the country for accurate predictions of monsoons, cyclones and other weather-related phenomena and if so, the details with status of the projects;**
- (b) the length-capacity of a Hail Control Technology programme i.e. weather surveillance in the area;**
- (c) whether it provides round the clock updates of cloud mass and rain patches with updates every minutes; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which it has proved beneficial to the farming community in the country?**

ANSWER

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

(a)-(b) No Madam.

(c) Under the areas covered under the radial range of Doppler Weather Radars (DWRs), 10-minutes updates of cloud characteristics and rainfall rate and associated spatial distribution are getting generated for very short range (6h) – Nowcast of various severe weather phenomena including severe thunder storms and associated possible hail storm activity.

Further, specific agro-meteorological advisories preceding three major Hail/severe thunder storm events that have severely impacted parts of Maharashtra-NW & Central India during 28 Feb. – 1 March and during 13-16 March; J & K during 28-30 March of 2015 were issued covering safeguards/remedial measures on 27th Feb./3rd March; 12-13/17th March and 27/31 March respectively under Gramin Krishi Mausam Seva (GKMS) Program of ESSO-IMD.

(d) Specific Feedback from Farmers suggest that

- i) Farmers from Uttarakhand harvested Toria crop prior to the intense rain spell that saved from shattering atleast 50% of its recorded yield (2.5 t/ha).**
- ii) 8-Farmers from different villages of Amaravati District of Maharashtra have harvested their vegetable crops so as to avoid damage from the hail/rain.**
