

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4031
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2014

Doppler Weather Radars

4031. SHRI NIMMALA KRISTAPPA:

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

- (a) whether any security concerns were raised by other Ministry/Departments with regard to some of the locations where Doppler Weather Radars have been installed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has started making weather forecasts with the help of such radars and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to evaluate the safety of these radars?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (Independent Charge)
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) Yes Madam.
- (b) 4-DWRs originally meant for Goa, Karaikal, Paradip and Mumbai could not be installed due to objection of the Ministry of Defence (MoD). Keeping the operational exigency and criticality of having DWR at Mumbai on priority then, commissioning of indigenous DWR that was meant for Kochi, had been taken up. Three Radars meant for Goa, Karaikal and Paradip are lying at respective locations in uninstalled condition.

MoD had advised the India Meteorological Department (IMD), on 23rd April 2010, not to proceed with the installation of Weather radars at coastal area and inside any defence locations considering the security implications arising out of DWRs procured from China through global tendering process.

Based on the clearance given by MoD on 15th April 2013 with the fulfillment of certain pre-conditions for proceeding with the installation of DWRs at civilian locations of Goa, Paradip and Karaikal, security audit will have to be carried out by independent agencies suggested by MoD at the respective sites.

- (c) Yes Madam. DWR network is primarily employed to improve the severe weather surveillance capability and for operating now-casting (very short range up to 6 hours in advance) service (operated for about 140 locations across India).
- (d) Evaluation of safety is done by National Security Audit Team as per Govt. norms.
