

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. - 177**  
ANSWERED ON 08/12/2022

**STRESS ON SHORTER PERIOD FORECASTS BY IMD**

177. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government subscribes to the view that the India Meteorological Department (IMD) must update some processes and lay stress on shorter forecasts, a month or a fortnight ahead, rather than maintain anachronistic traditions of long range forecasts that are neither accurate nor useful;
- (b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
AND EARTH SCIENCES  
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a)-(c) India Meteorological Department (IMD) has introduced the seamless forecasting system since 2021 monsoon season and currently the forecasts are issued for a season to a month, a fortnight, a week and a few days in advance. IMD issues Seasonal forecast for monsoon season in two stages, on 15 April and 1 June. It also issues forecast for every month, on the first day of the month or the last day of the previous month. It issues forecast in the Extended range every Thursday valid for next fortnight, Short to medium range, daily valid upto seven days for meteorological subdivisions, districts and blocks, and nowcast valid upto three hours at district & station level. The monthly & seasonal forecasts are being issued for the different regions of the country in the terms of spatial distribution of rainfall, temperature probability, rather than limiting to a single value/category of rainfall for the entire country as a whole.

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