

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1798  
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018**

**TELEPHONIC ALERTS REGARDING WEATHER FORECAST**

**1798. DR. SANJAY SINH:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to issue telephonic alerts to the farmers, fishermen and other citizens along with advance weather forecasts;**
- (b) if so, the details of system facilities to be introduced and result of any pilot project therefor; and**
- (c) infrastructure development with India Meteorological Department(IMD) to expand high-tech services therein?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND  
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES  
(Dr. HARSH VARDHAN)**

**(a)-(c) Yes Sir. At present about 22.7 million farmers and 4 lakh fishermen receive agro-meteorological advisories and potential fishing zone advisories respectively through SMS.**

- (i) Under Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa (GKMS) project, farmers are receiving agromet advisories by Short Message Service (SMS) through Kisan Portal and also through agencies like IFFCO Kisan Sanchar Limited (IKSL) under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.**
- (ii) Cyclone warnings are disseminated to the users through telephone, fax, e-mail, All India Radio, print & electronic media.**
- (iii) Warnings & forecasts are available to the users through IMD's website also.**
- (iv) Warning messages can be accessed through Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) where the requests for weather information are automatically answered by this system by dialling a toll free number 1800-180-1717.**
- (v) Any citizen in the country can avail free SMS warning services on cyclones by registering through Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) website.**

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