GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 171 TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2016

LESS THAN NORMAL RAINFALL DURING MONSOON

171. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country got three per cent less rain than normal during the monsoon months of June to September, 2016;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that this is the first time since 2011 that the department was not able to forecast the overall sign of the monsoon this year; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the southern parts of our country received much less rain during these monsoon months, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes sir. The seasonal rainfall during the 2016 monsoon season (June-September) over the country as a whole was 862 mm or 3% less than its Long Period Average (LPA). The LPA for the period 1951-2000 is 887.5mm.
- (b) No sir. The forecasted and realized season rainfall anomalies during the period 2010-2016 are given below. As seen in the table given below, the signs of the forecasted rainfall anomalies were same as that of realized rainfall anomalies in 4 years (2010, 2012, 2014 and 2015); the signs were different during 2011, 2013 & 2016. In 2015, India Meteorological Department was successful in correctly predicting the deficient rainfall over the country.

Year	Actual % departure	Forecast % departure
2010	2	2
2011	2	-5
2012	-7	-4
2013	6	-2
2014	-12	-7
2015	-14	-12
2016	-3	6

(c) No sir.

In terms of percentage of long period average (LPA), northeast India received lowest percentage (89% of LPA) followed by south peninsular India (92% of LPA). The subdivision wise rainfall over south Peninsula during the 2016 SW monsoon season is in Annexure-1.

Annexure-1

Subdivision wise season rainfall during the 2016 SW monsoon season over south Peninsula.

SOUTH PENINSULA		Realised rainfall	LPA	% of LPA
1	A & N ISLAND	1562.6	1682.5	93%
2	COASTAL	662.9	581.1	114%
	ANDHRA			
	PRADESH			
3	TELANGANA	899.8	755.2	119%
4	RAYALASEEMA	392.2	398.3	98%
5	TAMILNADU &	258.1	317.2	81%
	PUDUCHERRY			
6	COASTAL	2428.8	3083.8	79%
	KARNATAKA			
7	N. I. KARNATAKA	525.7	506.0	104%
8	S. I. KARNATAKA	524.5	660.0	79%
9	KERALA	1352.2	2039.6	66%
10	LAKSHADWEEP	745.5	998.5	75%