

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. *56
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, April 28, 2016**

UPGRADATION OF IMD

***56. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY:**

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the India Meteorological Department (IMD) is technologically way behind and hence, is unable to predict even the severe and sudden change in the weather conditions;**
- (b) whether it is because of the poor technical condition of the IMD that the torrential rains and the devastating floods that followed creating havoc with the lives and the properties of people in Tamil Nadu recently, could not be predicted; and**
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry would consider bringing in the latest equipments for the upgradation of IMD and its efficient functioning?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE RAJYA SABHA IN REPLY (a) to (c) TO STARRED QUESTION NO. *56 REGARDING “UPGRADATION OF IMD” TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2016

- (a) **No Sir. There is no reason to carry such impression about the performance of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) that operates a dedicated weather and climate monitoring, detection and warning services useful for various sectors of economy. The weather forecasting systems in the country are comparable to most of the advanced countries in the world with respect to weather forecasting. Efforts are continuously made to optimize the level of efficiency of the forecasting systems. During the past few years, the IMD has been continuously improving weather prediction services in terms of accuracy, lead time and associated impact.**
- (b) **No Sir. IMD issued warnings (as detailed in Annexure – I) 3-days in advance for occurrence of heavy (7-12 cm per day) to very heavy (13-25 cm per day) rainfall that occurred in Chennai and other parts of Tamilnadu. Regional Meteorological Centre Chennai had further issued more area specific warnings, in which areas that were likely to receive extremely heavy rainfall (> 25cm per day) were also indicated to the state level disaster management authorities.**
- (c) **Augmentation of the observing system networks for the upgradation of IMD is a continuing process that shall be taken up as per the emerging needs from time to time.**

Salient features of heavy rainfall forecast issued by ESSO-IMD for Tamil Nadu and Puducherry:

Spells of Heavy rainfall commencing from	Date of Warnings issued
09-11-2015	05 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at isolated places
	06 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at isolated places
	07 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at a few places with isolated extremely heavy
	08 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at a few places with isolated extremely heavy
16-11-2015	13 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at a few places with isolated extremely heavy
	14 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at a few places with isolated extremely heavy
	15 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at a few places with isolated extremely heavy
21-11-2015	18 Nov. Heavy rain at isolated places
	19 Nov. Heavy rain at isolated places
	20 Nov. Heavy rain at isolated places
30-11-2015	25 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at isolated places
	26 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at isolated places
	27 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at isolated places
	28 Nov. Heavy to very heavy rain at isolated places
	29, 30 Nov & 1 Dec. Heavy to very heavy rain at a few places with isolated extremely heavy rainfall
	02 Dec. Heavy to very heavy rain at a few places with isolated extremely heavy rainfall
	03 Dec. Heavy to very heavy rain at a few places with isolated extremely heavy rainfall