

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1605
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015**

FORECAST OF NATURAL CALAMITIES LIKE CLOUDBURST

1605. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the States of Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir faced severe floods due to cloudburst in the recent past, whether Government has made any plan to avert such tragedy in other parts in future; and**
- (b) whether Government is contemplating any measures so that exact forecast of natural calamities like cloudburst can be made?**

ANSWER

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

- (a-b) Yes Sir. The states like Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir faced severe floods during 15th & 17th Sept. 2013 and 3rd – 6th Sept. 2014, respectively due to extremely heavy rainfall (more than and equal to 25 cm per day). Earth System Science Organization – India Meteorological Department (ESSO-IMD) has formulated plan of Himalayan Meteorology Program to augment observing systems by deploying Doppler Weather Radars, rain radars, Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs), Automatic Rain Gauges (ARGs) etc. The above observations will lead to improved understanding of Himalayan weather in general and severe weather in particular. The assimilation of the above observational data will facilitate improvement in now - casting very short range up to 6 hours in advance and forecasting of severe weather phenomena up to 72 hours in advance.**
