

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 34
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, AUGUST 05, 2013

WEATHER FORECASTS FOR TOURISTS

**34. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:**

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

- (a) why India Meteorological Department, in coordination with State Government, is not considering to set up proper mechanism to provide probable weather forecasting to tourists in advance so that, in case of natural calamities, it may minimize devastation of human life, as due to lack of such information in advance to tourists, thousands of people have lost their precious human life in recent Uttarakhand natural tragedy;
- (b) whether Government is aware that, in developed nations, such probable weather forecast is available to tourists in advance; and
- (c) whether the Ministry is working on this important issue?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

- (a) India Meteorological Department (IMD), in coordination with State Governments, is already generating forecasts for major pilgrimages such as Amarnath Yatra, Manasarovar Yatra, Chardham Yatra, Kumbhmela etc. and also various mountaineering expeditions launched by Armed Forces for Mount Everest and several other Himalayan mountain ranges. However, notwithstanding with the recent heavy rainfall events and floods over Uttarakhand, continuous efforts are on to generate value added forecast products at different spatial scales (State, District, City etc.) and temporal scales (from few hours to 5 days) for all the regions of the country. The tourist city forecasts and their updates in particular are made available through designated state government level functionaries, electronic & print media and for general public on IMD's national as well as regional office websites.
- (b) Yes Sir.
- (c) Yes Sir.
