

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. **2231**
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2013

SETTING UP OF AWSs AND ARGs

2231. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY:

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

- (a) whether Government has constituted any Committee for preparation of guidelines for setting up Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs) and Automatic Rain Gauges (ARGs) across the country;
- (b) whether the Committee has submitted its draft report to Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has accepted the recommendations/suggestions made by the Committee;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes Sir.
- (b) Yes Sir.
- (c) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation under the Ministry of Agriculture has constituted the committee for preparation of guidelines for setting up Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs) and Automatic Rain Gauge (ARGs) across the country where DGM, Earth System Science Organization – India Meteorological Department (ESSO - IMD) is also a member. The draft report submitted by the Committee is circulated for widely for comments and suggestions that dealt with following aspects:
 - i) AWS equipment standards
 - ii) AWS installation standards & maintenance standards and
 - iii) 3rd party accreditation and data certification services
- (d) Not yet Sir as the envisaged wider consultation is still continuing.
- (e) Does not arise.
- (f) A Brainstorming meeting was held in Pune on 03rd September, 2012 by the (ESSO - IMD) to develop a national consortium involving all the concerned organizations to integrate the existing AWS/ARG networks and install new ones with the required sensors, maintenance, reception of quality controlled and uninterrupted data, data sharing mechanism, etc. as per the common standards. Based on the suggestions of this meeting and based on the on-going consultations, another brainstorming meeting is planned to be organized in June 2013 to finalize the said report.
