

by commercial firms working under contract with a variety of sponsors both from the Government covering large areas as well as by Private Trusts at a local scale. The States of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh have undertaken cloud seeding operations in the past by hiring private firms and these operations were funded by the respective State Governments. Government of Karnataka carried out the cloud seeding program during the post-monsoon season (October-November) of 2012 for rain enhancement over the Cauvery catchment area. Although, Mumbai Municipal Corporation planned the cloud seeding program for rain enhancement with Israel Company during August-September 2012 over the lakes providing drinking water to Mumbai, the same was not implemented due to certain unforeseen reasons.

Causes of low rainfall

†2541. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the layer of atmosphere where monsoon gets active and causes rain, is being disturbed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that, due to increasing industrialisation in the National Capital Region, heat island formed among clouds is disturbing them and causing low rainfall;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has made any action-plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. As per all available records, there is no reduction observed in rainfall over NCR region.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.