

So far earthquake prediction is not possible anywhere in the world with precise degree of accuracy with respect to time, space and magnitude.

(c) The population of Indian states in the indo-Burmese are region is about 23.5 million (2011 census), whereas the population of Bangladesh is about 150 million.

Procurement of doppler weather radar for Odisha

1995. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Odisha has been pursuing the Department to expedite procurement of the Doppler Weather Radars for Balasore and Sambalpur Radar Stations for early operationalisation thereof in the Northern and Western part of the State; and

(b) if so, whether Government would take expeditious steps for procurement and installation of the Doppler Weather Radars at the above two Radar stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) at Sambhalpur is included in the next phase of DWR procurement. Physical infrastructure like Building and other support systems are being kindly provided by the Govt. of Odisha.

The DWR for Balasore needs to be reviewed in view of DWR already commissioned by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) at Chandipur (Wheeler Island) as two DWRs cannot be located in the close vicinity.

Moreover in Odisha, DWRs at Paradip is made functional and at Gopalpur is under installation.

System for accurate forecasting

1996. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any weather forecasting system is available with Government to ensure the accurate forecast of weather including the Monsoon rain; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The skill of weather forecasting systems in the country are comparable to most of the countries in the world with respect to rainfall forecasting. During the past few years, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has been continuously improving weather prediction services in terms of accuracy, lead time and associated impact. Manifestation of such quantitative improvement may be seen with accurate prediction of Monsoon 2015 and Very Severe Cyclonic Storms "Phailin", "Hudhud" and the heavy rainfall events during monsoon season of 2014 and 2015.

India's Ocean Policy

1997. SHRI. D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state which are the major recognized institutions in India which help in deliberating India's Ocean Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY): The major institutions working in the area of Ocean Science and Technology viz. National Institute of Oceanography, National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research, National Institute of Ocean Technology, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management Project Directorate, Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture and Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory help in deliberating India's ocean policy.

Agro-meteorological advisory services for farmers

1998. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the farmers in the country are not aware of Agro-Meteorological Advisory Services (AAS) being offered by Government, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether these services are offered free of cost;

(c) whether these advisories are cropspecific, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) number of farmers who utilized these services during last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY): (a) No Sir. The Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa (GKMS)