

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)

of India Meteorological Department (IMD) is successful in providing the crop specific advisories to the farmers through different print/visual/Radio/ IT based media including short message service (SMS) and Interactive Voice Response Service (IVRS) facilitating for appropriate field level actions. However efforts are continuously being made to expand the participation and outreach to all farmers under GKMS scheme.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Yes Sir. Crop specific advisories under GKMS of IMD through Agriculture Field Monitoring Unit (AFMU) are rendered twice a week in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), institutions of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), NTs etc. Such advisories are formulated based on district level weather forecast for next 5-days in respect of:

- rainfall
- maximum temperature, minimum temperature
- wind speed, wind direction
- relative humidity and cloud/Cover
- weekly cumulative rainfall forecast

Weather forecast based agro meteorological advisories are disseminated in vernacular language through Kisan portal launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and also under public private partnership. At present, the GKMS products are disseminated through SMS and IVRS to 19.1 million farmers in the country.

(d) Details of numbers of farmers utilizing these services during July 2015 and during July 2016 (State wise) are given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise number of Farmers receiving Agromet Advisories through SMS during July 2015 & July 2016.*

State	Number of farmers receiving SMS through Kisan Portal -July 2015	Number of farmers receiving SMS through Kisan Portal-July 2016
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	109200	143091
Assam	33475	24240

1	2	3
Bihar	453330	676325
Gujarat	214660	154747
Haryana	265339	339253
Himachal Pradesh	15556	541634
Jammu and Kashmir	19376	4817
Karnataka	151244	218808
Kerala	468190	373240
Madhya Pradesh	519936	232328
Maharashtra	2088203	4928562
Manipur	797	184
Meghalaya	923	987
Mizoram	0	1831
Nagaland	1965	2539
Odisha	113133	156168
Punjab	123530	136526
Rajasthan	185625	221473
Tamil Nadu	754498	709317
Tripura	3723	4389
Uttar Pradesh	1287475	852112
Uttarakhand	75456	80587
West Bengal	123611	389440
Chattisgarh	1292293	1366443
Jharkand	535812	748535
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1234	2056
Arunachal Pradesh	308	450
Delhi	3725	1926
Puducherry	3167	23538
Telangana	78270	82294
Sikkim	2	
TOTAL	8924056	12417840

1	2	3
SMS sent by AMFUS through NIC, way 2 sms etc.	130198	129961
Reliance Foundation	17000	2639919
SMS by Private Companies Under PPP Mode	2407853	3912280
GRAND TOTAL	11.5 million	19.1 million

#### **Fishermen arrested by Sri Lankan Navy**

1999. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian fishermen arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy during past three years, year-wise; and

(b) the number of Indian fishermen released from Sri Lanka during the same period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH): (a) and (b) The data on the Indian fishermen taken into custody by Sri Lankan Navy and released in the last three years is as follows:

Year	Fishermen Arrested	Fishermen Released
2014	787	1045 (including 273 of 2013 and 772 of 2014)
2015	454	375 (including 15 of 2014 and 360 of 2015)
2016	222	316 (including 94 of 2015 and 222 of 2016)

#### **Exploitation of Indian women in gulf countries**

†2000. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the fact that the Indian women going abroad for various jobs are being exploited;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.