GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2608 TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2018

PREDICTION OF CYCLONES

2608. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there was a delay in predicting cyclone Ockhi which caused damage to Tamil Nadu fishermen;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has any tie-up with foreign countries in obtaining data on such prediction of weather and cyclones; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) -(b) No Sir. The cyclone Ockhi had gone through rapid intensification from its genesis stage. It intensified from the stage of deep depression into a cyclonic storm over Comorin Area within six hours, after its emergence from Sri Lanka. The possibility of formation of depression was detected on 28th Nov, 2017. In the first bulletin issued at 1150 hours IST of 29th Nov. 2017, IMD predicted its westward movement and further intensification. Three hourly updates were also provided thereafter.

> Regular warnings were issued for fishermen along and off Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Lakshadweep Islands, Goa, Maharashtra, Karnataka & Gujarat, Dadra Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu coasts in respect of cyclone OCKHI from IMD as well as Area Cyclone warning centres (ACWC &CWC) of IMD located in concerned states during 29th Nov to 6th Dec. 2017

(c)-(d) MoES/IMD has tie-up with foreign countries to share data for prediction of cyclones.

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