

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. - 821
ANSWERED ON 27/07/2023

**PARTICIPATION OF PRIVATE SECTOR IN WEATHER FORECAST AND DISASTER
MANAGEMENT**

821. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:

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

- (a) whether Government has any plans to integrate with the private sector for augmenting its reach and enhance the efficacy of services it offers especially in the field of weather forecast and disaster management;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has explored the possibility of domestically manufacturing crucial equipment required for its flagship schemes so that the lead time, the cost and dependency on import is reduced; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER FOR EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

- (a) Yes Sir.
- (b) IMD signed a MoU with Google Asia Pvt Ltd in Sept-2021 for sharing the cyclone related advisories in the RA II region and for the development of nowcast technique for prediction of location specific rainfall.

In addition to above,

- For dissemination of forecast and warning messages related to Agricultural services, Public Private Partnership is in vogue in IMD.
- For development of Indigenous radars, support from Private Sector is taken by the department.
- For thunderstorm and lightning related weather services, IMD has working in collaboration with Climate Resilient Observing System Promotion Council (CROPC).
- For providing support in the development of various met applications and services, proposals invited from Indian Startups.

- (c) Yes Sir.
- (d) The “Satellite Tracked Lagrangian Drifter with Barometric Pressure Sensor and INSAT communication” has been indigenized with the technology transfer from National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT). Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) is the procuring entity as per need. IMD has explored the possibility of replacing the old optical the odolite-based Pilot balloon system with the latest GPS-based Pilotsonde systems to get the upper air wind data with better accuracy. This technology has the capacity to reduce the data loss and to further improve weather forecasting services. Apart from this, many of the observational instrumentation (such as Doppler weather radars, automatic rain gauges etc) which are manufactured in the country are procured to support the Government’s Make in India policy, on need basis.
