

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 6422
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2017**

CLOUD SEEDING

6422. SHRI S. P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA:

SHRI C. S. PUTTA RAJU:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has efficient technology for cloud seeding to improve rains in drought prone areas;**
- (b) if so, whether Government has used this technology in last three years,**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the extent to which this technology has proved useful?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY)**

- (a) No Madam. As things stand today, artificial rain making techniques involving cloud seeding cannot be used for bringing adequate rains to rainfall deficit/drought areas. Such efforts can only induce potential preexisting clouds, already passing over a given place, to produce rain only if organized weather modification intervention becomes successful.**

Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) is putting its effort in understanding the rain enhancement in clouds through studying cloud microphysical characteristics through a research program viz., Cloud Aerosol Interaction and Precipitation Enhancement Experiment (CAIPEEX).

- (b) No Madam.**
- (c) Does not arise.**
- (d) The present scientific knowledge suggests artificial rain making techniques involving cloud seeding cannot be used as an alternate for bringing rain to rainfall deficit/drought areas. These techniques can only induce potential pre-existing clouds with adequate cloud development, to produce enhanced quantum of rain.**
