

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5303
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2018**

SETTING UP OF WEATHER STATIONS

5303. DR. KRISHAN PRATAP:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up more automatic weather stations in the country and if so, the details along with the locations thereof;**
- (b) whether the personnel deployed at these stations are properly trained to monitor the data and to provide accurate information and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether regular inspections are carried out to ensure the quality control, calibration and utilisation of data from automatic weather station in order to develop forecast and weather forecast model;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) if not, the action taken in this regard?**

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes Madam. Augmentation of the observing system networks including Automatic Weather Station (AWS) network is a continuing process that shall be taken up as per the emerging needs from time to time.**
- (b) Field maintenance staff are trained to address the functional issues periodically as AWSs are operated without placing any manpower at their locations.**

Various measures are being taken up to avoid and to rectify malfunctioning of AWSs. These are :

- Zonal Instrument Maintenance Centres (ZIMC) and Field Maintenance Units (FMU) are established for routine inspection as well as maintenance of all unmanned field observing systems.**
- Periodic preventive calibration of the field sensors and the systems.**
- Periodic maintenance of the AWS sites.**
- (c-d) Quality control is rigorously carried out at ground station after receiving the hourly weather data prior to its utilization in the assimilation and forecast system in real time.**
- (e) Does not arise.**
