

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 462
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 02, 2015**

WEATHER FORECASTING AGENCIES

462. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether private agencies are involved in weather forecasts in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether significant differences exist between the prediction of private agencies and Indian Meteorological Department and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether such agencies are prone to fudging data and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether the Government has any regulatory framework over such agencies and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes Madam. Sky Met Weather Services is involved in weather forecasts in the country. However, Earth System Science Organization–India Meteorological Department (ESSO-IMD) is the national agency for issuing long range forecast for the country.**
- (b) Government is aware that Sky Met Weather Services has predicted seasonal rainfall of 102% of Long Period Average (LPA) for the 2015 southwest monsoon, whereas Earth System Science Organisation–India Meteorological Department (ESSO-IMD) has predicted monsoon 2015 seasonal rainfall of 88% of LPA \pm 4% model error and the season (June-September) rainfall over the country as a whole was 86% of its LPA.**
- (c) Private Weather Services have no data network of their own. They work on information available on public domain. Fudging of data is not possible.**
- (d) As of now, no regulatory framework exists over such agencies.**
