

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2090
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016**

Rule for weather forecasting by private organisations

2090. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some private organisations are also doing weather forecasting, if so, whether it is permissible under existing rules, and if not, how are they doing it;**
- (b) what action Government takes if there is difference in forecast by India Meteorological Department and private organisations; and**
- (c) whether there is a need for regulation for this?**

ANSWER

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

- (a-b) Yes Sir. The private agencies are issuing seasonal rainfall forecast for the period June-September since 2015 based on the globally available public domain information but definitely not based on their modeling frameworks. Hence, such forecasts lack credibility and more so could not capture the below normal rainfall signatures during 2015 that was captured by the official long range forecast issued by India Meteorological Department (IMD). All actions of various government agencies are interfaced with the assessments of IMD. The forecast of private agencies have no bearing at all what so ever for any official follow-up actions by various government agencies (central and state level).**
- (c) At present there is no regulatory mechanism. All the developments in the field of forecasting by private agencies are closely monitored. As and when need arises, appropriate mechanism can be considered.**
