

Date: 16.07.2015

**Answer to the provisional admitted question for the Rajya Sabha Question Dy. No. S763 raised by Shri Anil Desai regarding "Contingency plan to deal with El Nino factor"**

.....

**a) Whether the outlook for this year's rainy season has turned bleaker with Meteorological Department releasing its El Nino prediction, if so, the details thereof;**

India Meteorological Department in its long range weather forecast update for 2015 southwest monsoon rainfall dated 2 June, has stated that monsoon season rainfall for the country as a whole is likely to be 88% of the long period average. Though the country received 16 per cent excess rainfall in June, the El Nino conditions still persists. The recent El Nino update from Bureau of Meteorology, Australia state that El Niño is likely to strengthen in the coming weeks, largely due to recent tropical cyclone activity. This may impact southwest monsoon.

**b) what contingency plans Government has put in place to deal with El Nino factor ?**

Yes. All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology (AICRPAM) under ICAR has been issuing weekly National Agromet Advisory Bulletins in collaboration with IMD, Pune. Further, daily progress of southwest monsoon during 2015 is monitored and communicated to the ICAR head quarters and different stake holders. In addition to this, districts where weekly rainfall is more than fifty percent deficit are identified for prioritizing the actions.