

3.2±0.5mm/year that is about 60% higher than the best estimate of 2.0mm/year by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), 2007 assessment report. However, the estimated sea level rise by the tide gauge records (of over 200) for the period 1993-2009 is found to be about 2.8±0.8mm/year.

(b) Sea level rise is a very slow phenomenon and is manifested globally with pockets of sea level rise/fall trends. However, the trends of sea level rise as estimated by tide gauge data is found to be 13mm/decade. The corresponding satellite derived estimates over the Indian Ocean are found to be in the range of 3.0mm/year with pockets of higher rise along the east of Malaya peninsula, south Indian Ocean between Madagascar and Australia.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Setting up of AWSs and ARGs**

2231. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted any Committee for preparation of guidelines for setting up Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs) and Automatic Rain Gauges (ARGs) across the country;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its draft report to Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has accepted the recommendations/suggestions made by the Committee;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation under the Ministry of Agriculture has constituted the committee for preparation of guidelines for setting up Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs) and Automatic Rain Gauge (ARGs) across the country where DGM, Earth System Science Organization - India Meteorological Department (ESSO - IMD) is also a member. The draft report submitted by the Committee is circulated for widely for comments and suggestions that dealt with following aspects:

- i) AWS equipment standards
- ii) AWS installation standards & maintenance standards and
- iii) 3rd party accreditation and data certification services
- (d) Not yet Sir as the envisaged wider consultation is still continuing.
- (e) Does not arise.

(f) A Brainstorming meeting was held in Pune on 03rd September, 2012 by the (ESSO -IMD) to develop a national consortium involving all the concerned organizations to integrate the existing AWS/ARG networks and install new ones with the required sensors, maintenance, reception of quality controlled and uninterrupted data, data sharing mechanism, etc. as per the common standards. Based on the suggestions of this meeting and based on the on-going consultations, another brainstorming meeting is planned to be organized in June 2013 to finalize the said report.

#### **Advertisements to newspapers and magazines**

2232. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Chairman of Press Council of India has recently alleged that the Central and State Governments are stopping advertisements to the newspapers and magazines that have published news articles critical to them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of Government with regard to the allegation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (b) Hon'ble Chairman, Press Council of India has issued a Press Note on the issue on 4.2.2013 which is enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

- (c) DAVP issues Print advertisements keeping in view the target audience, client requirement, budget available etc. within the framework of the Print Media Policy of the Government, which is available at DAVP's website, [www.davp.nic.in](http://www.davp.nic.in)