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Dr Rajagopal the present head of NCMRWF has over 30 years of experience in numerical modelling of weather and climate. He has played a pivotal role in the model implementations at NCMRWF. Currently actively involved in Unified Model (UM) upgradations, he also manages the UM based Analysis-Forecast Suite at NCMRWF. His research interests include modelling of atmospheric convection, land surface processes and planetary boundary layer for weather prediction. He has been awarded the Certificate of Merit for outstanding contributions in Atmospheric Science for the year 2007 by Ministry of Earth Science, Govt. of India and has about 100 publications in peer reviewed national and international journals.