

### Indian Space Technologies

36. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote the development and export of Indian Space Technologies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation has also taken any steps in this regard; and

(d) the funds earmarked in the Eighth Plan for the Purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER OFFICE (SHRI BHUVANESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Recognising the potential that has been developed both within Department of Space (DOS) and the Indian Industries towards reliable, operational systems such as Indian Remote Sensing Satellites-IRS-1A and IRS-1B, the Indian National Satellite-2 (INSAT-2) satellites, the ground systems for telecom, remote sensing data reception and processing, etc., that compare very well with most international systems, the Government has recently decided to actively participate in the international market through the establishment of the Antrix Corporation Limited, a fully Government-owned company, under the control of DOS. Antrix Corporation will coordinate with DOS and other industries, in trying to market the space products and services that have been developed in India.

(c) The setting up of Antrix Corporation has been at the initiative of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and DOS. Mechanisms for coordination between Antrix Corporation and ISRO have been es-

tablised. Studies are underway to identify products and services that can be readily marketed and also to develop necessary publicity material.

(d) An amount of Rs.21.00 crores has been proposed for indigenisation, production and corporate funding in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

### Prices of Fertilizers

37. SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an abnormal increase in the prices of various fertilizers in the country during January, 1993 as compared to July, 1991;

(b) if so, the prices of various fertilizers in the country during July, 1991 and January, 1993;

(c) whether the use of fertilizers has decreased due to this price rise; and

(d) if so, the estimated demand of the various fertilizers during 1991-92 and 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The prices of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers registered an increase subsequent to their decontrol on 25.8.1992. The price of Urea was brought down by 10% from 25.8.1992.

(b) table below gives the prices of major fertilizers payable by farmers in January, 1993 as compared to 25.7.1991: