

**Activities in Space**

2474. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government propose to take in furthering the activities in Space; and

(b) when will India be able to do its entire space activities on its own ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The steps being taken to further the activities in Space are those which are contained in the Space Profile for the decade 1980-90. The major objectives of the Space Programme for the decade 1980-90 as approved by Government are :

- (i) to develop an Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) Satellite for the effective utilisation of remote sensing technology and promote the establishment of a national resources survey and management system;
- (ii) to improve the capabilities of the SLV-3 Launch Vehicle, develop its variants for enhanced payloads and to conduct their launches. A concomitant of this is the development of launch vehicles capable of placing remote sensing satellites in polar sunsynchronous missions from ranges within the country;
- (iii) to acquire launch capability of geosynchronous missions in communications, meteorology and other space applications for national needs;
- (iv) to enhance the capabilities and utilisation of the ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Telecommand Network (ISTRAC) as well as the national test and launching ranges;
- (v) to accelerate the indigenisation of the spacecraft of the INSAT (Indian National Satellite) System,

so as to replace the imported first generation space segment by Indian built satellites; and

(vi) to strengthen and develop industrial infrastructure in the country for taking up space-related tasks.

(b) The Indian Space Programme is directed towards the goal of self-reliant use of space technology for national development, its main thrusts being (i) satellite communication for various national uses; (ii) satellite remote sensing for resources survey and management, environmental monitoring and meteorological services and (iii) development and operationalisation of indigenous satellites and launch vehicles for providing these space services. The above goal is expected to be achieved with the accomplishment of the projects and programmes included in the Space Profile for 1980-90. However, there would be elements where import of material, equipments, etc., cannot be totally avoided.

**Effect of Mathura Refinery on Taj Mahal**

2475. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the condition of Taj Mahal, Agra at present;

(b) whether on account of Mathura Refinery the condition of the beautiful monument has started decaying; and

(c) steps Government propose to take to save this World's greatest monument ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) :

(a) Taj Mahal is in a good state of preservation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Archaeological Survey of India is continuously monitoring the air pollution and for this purpose has set up sensitive monitoring instruments to measure the ambient air and a field laboratory to analyse particulate matter. Specific steps like closing down the two thermal

plants, replacing steam locomotives with diesel engines in the Railway marshalling yard etc. have been undertaken by the concerned agencies. Besides, a green belt is being developed between Mathura and Agra. An Export Committee has also been constituted in June, 1984 to go into all aspects such as structural preservation, chemical conservation and aesthetic and tourist requirements of Taj Mahal and to recommend measures to keep it in a good state of preservation.

**Air India Flights for Haj Pilgrimage  
from Bombay, Delhi, Madras and  
Trivandrum**

2476. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of flights chartered every year for Haj pilgrimage through Air India from Bombay and Delhi to Mecca;

(b) whether Government are thinking of chartering flights from Madras and Trivandrum for the convenience of local pilgrims; and

(c) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) The number of flights charter operated during the last six years for Haj pilgrimage by Air India from Bombay/Delhi to Jeddah is as under :

Year	No. of flights
1979	14
1980	21
1981	19
1982	28
1983	29
1984	53

(b) Due to operational constraints, Air India have presently no plan to operate flights either from Madras or Trivandrum for the 1985 Haj season.

(c) Does not arise.

**Construction of Five Star Hotels**

2477. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of five star hotels which have so far been constructed and are to be constructed in the Seventh Five Year Plan, detailing the purpose thereof; and

(b) the amount so far invested and to be invested in the construction of the remaining five star hotels ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) There are at present 53 functioning hotels in the 5-star (including 5-star Deluxe) category on the approved list of the Government. The number of hotels approved for construction in this category so far is 22. These hotels have been approved from the point of view of their suitability for foreign tourists.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Amount Invested for Removal of Poverty  
in the Country**

2478. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the amount so far invested for alleviation of poverty from the country;

(b) to what extent the poverty has so far been removed from the rural areas in the country; and

(c) the amount to be invested further in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) (a) The major poverty

alleviation programmes in the Sixth Plan were; Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP). The Sixth Plan