

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:132
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2003
PLANETARY MISSION
RAM JEEVAN SINGH;SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether ISRO has formulated an ambitious planetary mission including landing of robots on the moon;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the planetary mission is likely to be launched;
- (d) the number of planetary missions proposed to be launched by ISRO in near future;
- (e) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on each of these missions; and
- (f) the main benefits likely to be derived by these missions?

Answer

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (ADDITIONAL CHARGE) (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE):

(a)-(f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 132 REGARDING PLANETARY MISSION BY SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH AND SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI FOR ANSWER ON DECEMBER 10, 2003

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) ISRO has already an approved project for a Mission to Moon called Chandrayaan-1. The main objective of the mission is to launch a lunar probe in a polar orbit of about 100 km altitude around the moon using indigenous launch vehicle from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. Chandrayaan-1 is the first Indian mission to moon devoted to high resolution remote sensing of the lunar surface features and mineral composition in visible, near infrared, low and high energy X-ray regions. This will provide an opportunity to Indian Scientists to study scientific aspects such as origin, features and composition of lunar surface. The mission is planned to be realized in 5 years.

(d) Follow-up planetary missions may be decided based on the progress and outcome of Chandrayaan-1

(e) The expenditure approved for Chandrayaan-1 is Rs.386.00 crores.

(f) The benefits likely to be derived for the country from the said Mission are mainly to expand the horizon of our scientific knowledge. For accomplishing such a deep space mission, we will be upgrading our technological capability, in travelling distances of the order of 3.5 lakh km with precision navigation and guidance systems, which will be another gain in the long run. The Mission would also throw up a challenge to the imagination and vision of growing younger generation of the country, which when nurtured further, would provide immense benefits to the society at large over a long period of time.