

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2746
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
CLIMATE OBSERVATION SATELLITE
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated long term programme to study specific processes related to earth;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the role of ISRO therein;
- (c) whether the Government propose to commission climate observation satellite in the near future;
- (d) if so, the details and objectives thereof; and
- (e) the manner in which it is likely to be helpful to mankind?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The programmes commissioned involve extensive use of space borne platforms and the ground based observations. One of the major programmes of ISRO is the remote sensing of the environment and the earth using space borne platforms, addressing processes related to earth with direct relevance to applications in land resources, hydrology, meteorology, oceanography and atmosphere. Long term studies of the specific processes taking place on earth are being carried out under the Geosphere-Biosphere programme and climate research studies such as Extended Range Monsoon Prediction.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is planned to :

- (i) launch METSAT and INSAT-3A satellite missions, which will provide continuous meteorological data over our region and help in tracking cyclones
- (ii) INSAT-3D mission to have a vertical humidity sounder and a VHRR for providing data for climate modelling
- (iii) A joint study with the French Space Agency, CNES, to have a satellite mission known as Megha-Tropiques, towards studying the convective systems that influence the tropical climate and weather.

(e) These will enable better understanding of the climate and weather, specific to the tropical region in which India is located.