

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:111
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2005
SPACE PROGRAMMES
Ganesan Shri L.

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has drawn up any space programmes for the next decade including moon-landing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these programmes will be a joint venture with any of the space club countries; and
- (d) if so, the details of the countries with which India has signed MoU or yet to sign MoU in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a),(b),(c)&(d) 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) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 111 REGARDING 'SPACE PROGRAMMES' ASKED BY SHRI L. GANESAN FOR ANSWER ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2005.

(a) The Department of Space has drawn up a long-term plan for the space research programme identifying the goals, programme directions and technology requirements. An instrumented unmanned moon mission Chandrayaan-1 has already been approved as a part of Tenth Five Year Plan programmes. Moon-landing mission is not a part of programmes approved up to 2010.

(b) The overall thrust of the space programme during the next decade will be to sustain and strengthen the space based services in a self-reliant manner towards fulfilling the communications and socio-economic needs of the country and further upgrade and enhance the space technological capabilities in the areas of satellites, launch vehicles and associated ground segments. The programme envisages development of advanced launch vehicle systems; developing capabilities in space communications towards meeting the development and disaster management support; maintain the leadership in earth observation systems with enhanced imaging capabilities for natural resource management applications and disaster management support; and undertake front ranking research in the areas of space science, astronomy and planetary exploration.

(c)&(d) No, Sir. India's space programme is self-reliant. However, as a part of international cooperation, India has signed MoUs with 24 countries including France, Germany, Italy, Russia and USA and two international space agencies viz., European Space Agency (ESA) and European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT), covering the areas of space science research, environment and climate.