

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2867
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010
FAILURE OF SATELLITES
Antony Shri Anto

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Space mission is facing recurring failure of satellites due to power supply glitches;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the Indian satellites that have been abandoned due to the above problem during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS,
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS , MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The power supply glitches have not resulted in total failure of satellites, except for one satellite, namely, INSAT-2D in 1997. This failure of INSAT-2D was attributed to a phenomena called 'Arc tracking' in the power harness, with Teflon insulation initiated by ElectroStatic Discharges.

The Chandrayaan-1 satellite had suffered partial failure of certain components related to power supply, eventually leading to termination of the mission on August 29, 2009, after 312 days in orbit.

On July 07, 2010, the INSAT-4B satellite suffered an anomaly in its power supply from one of the two solar arrays, leading to switching off of about 50% of the transponders on the satellite.

(c) No Indian satellite has been abandoned due to the above problem during the last three years.