

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4558
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
HIRING OF TRANSPONDERS
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has set to acquire 500 transponders by 2012;
- (b) if so, the number of transponders available with ISRO as on date and the manner in which the additional requirement is going to be met; and
- (c) the sectors in which the country is likely to benefit from the launch of the state-of-the-art communications satellite GSAT-12?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY PERSONNEL, PG & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a)&(b) Department of Space/Indian Space Research Organisation (DOS/ISRO) is working towards building communication satellites to increase the transponder capacity to around 500 within the next three years. As on date, a total of 275.3 transponders are allotted to various users. This includes 187 transponders from 9 operational INSAT/GSAT satellites and 88.3 transponders leased through foreign satellites.

Additional requirement of Transponders is going to be met through leasing of transponders from foreign satellites, on short-term basis, and building and launching of new satellites.

(c) With the launch of GSAT-12 satellite, the main sectors that are likely to be benefited are Education (Tele-education), Healthcare (Tele-medicine), Rural Development (Village Resource Centres) and Disaster Management Support.