

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2826
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2012
LAUNCH OF SATELLITES
Ramasubbu Shri S.

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether India is moving ahead in the select group of nations which have reached the advanced stage in the launching of satellites, missiles and defence preparedness;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) In the area of launching of satellites for civilian applications, India has developed Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) capable of launching satellites weighing 1850 kgs to low earth orbits and Geo Synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicles (GSLV) capable of launching 2000 kg class satellites to Geo Synchronous transfer orbit. India is currently developing next generation launch vehicle GSLV Mark III capable of launching 4 ton satellites to Geo Synchronous transfer orbit.

In the area of missiles and defence preparedness, Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has developed and is developing various missile systems as per the requirement of our Armed Forces based on the threat perception. The status of missile development programme is as under:-

- i. Agni series of missiles have been inducted/under induction into Services.
- ii. Prithvi series of missiles including Dhanush (Naval version of Prithvi) have been inducted into the Services.
- iii. BrahMos missile systems have been inducted/ under induction into the Services.
- iv. Akash missile system is under production and induction into the Services.
- v. Design and development of Nag third Generation Anti Tank missiles is completed. Trials with ruggedized automated system and launcher are in progress.

Other missiles, like Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LRSAM), Medium range Surface-to-Air Missile (MRSAM), Air-to-Air Missile (ASTRA) and Helicopter Launch Third Generation Anti Tank missile (HELINA) are under various stages of development.

Agni series of missiles and Prithvi series of missile falls under the category of strategic system. No further information can be disclosed on the Floor of the house in the interest of National Security.

(c) Does not arise.