

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SPACE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3051  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012  
TRANSPONDERS OF SATELLITES  
Natarajan Shri P.R.

**Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of transponders available with Indian Satellites as on date;
- (b) whether there is a requirement for more transponders and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number and details of Communication Satellites reaching the end of their service life and the action taken to provide them with sufficient number of transponders to extend their life;
- (d) whether sufficient slots are available in the space for positioning Indian Satellites; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a) As on date, there are 196 Transponders (C-Band: 79, Ext C-Band: 40, Ku-Band: 74 and S-Band: 3) available on Indian communication satellites.
- (b) Yes, Madam. Firm requests have been received for nearly 150 additional transponders in various frequency bands for services such as Digital Satellite News Gathering (DSNG), TV Broadcasting, Direct to Home (DTH), Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) communication etc.
- (c) Presently, there are Nine (9) operational INSAT/GSAT Communication Satellites providing various services. Following three satellites would be reaching their end of life during 12th Five Year Plan.

SNo. Satellite (No. of Transponders) Launched on Expected End of Life

- 1. INSAT-3A (22 Transponders) 10.04.2003 December 2015
- 2. INSAT-3C (33 Transponders) 24.01.2002 December 2016
- 3. INSAT-3E (25 Transponders) 28.09.2003 November 2015

It is not feasible to extend the life of satellites which are already in orbit. However, additional satellites are planned to provide continuity of service for these satellites.

(d) & (e) For 13 Indian communication satellites planned to be launched during 12th Five Year Plan period, sufficient orbital slots are available. However, for one high throughput communication Satellite in Ka band, proposed to be launched by the end of the 12th Five Year Plan period, actions are underway to coordinate with the International Agency concerned, for an appropriate orbital slot. Further, ISRO has plans to coordinate additional slots to meet future demand.