

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3205
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012
GEO STATIONARY SATELLITES
Tandon Annu

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has launched geo-stationary satellites to provide services similar to the American GPS and Russia's Glonass and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to involve private players in the construction and launch of communication satellites and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to make available real-time satellite images and analysis to various civilian stakeholders, especially the farming community;
- (d) whether the Government is considering setting up rural information and communication centres, especially in remote areas, using direct satellite links; 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) No, Madam. Currently, India is building its constellation of navigation satellites called Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS).
- (b) The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is planning to enhance the level of participation of Indian industry in the Space Programme. Currently, the feasibility of producing some of the communication satellites in phased manner through the Indian Industry is being assessed, especially the tasks of repetitive nature. However, as on date, there is no plan to involve private players in launching of communication satellites.
- (c) ISRO has established a state-of-the-art data processing facility, IMGEOs (Integrated Multi-mission Ground segment for Earth Observation Satellites) at National Remote Sensing Centre, Shadnagar for near real time processing of the satellite images after acquisition. The processed images will be available, on request, to the users including civilian stakeholders and farming community.
- (d) & (e) No, Madam. As on date, there is no plan to set up rural information and communication centres in remote areas using direct satellite links. However, to demonstrate the potential of satellite technology for development of rural areas, ISRO has set up few Village Resource Centres (VRCs), on a pilot scale. These VRCs provide various services to rural community, which include Tele-medicine, Tele-Education, advisory services in agriculture, fisheries, skill development etc.