

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:100

ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009

CHANDRAYAAN-I MISSION

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Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the objectives of India's maiden moon mission Chandrayaan-I has been achieved;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the mission has discovered water on the moon;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Chandrayaan-I has been finally called off before its expected life span; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor including the total cost of the mission and its adverse impact on future missions?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) The mission objectives achieved are in terms of launching Chandrayaan-I spacecraft using India's own Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and making the spacecraft precisely reach and orbit around the Moon, establishment of an indigenous state-of-the-art Deep Space Network and Science Data Centre, dropping the Moon Impact Probe along with the Indian tri colour on the Moon and obtaining image around 95% of Moon's surface at high resolution. In addition, Chandrayaan-I is also an example of cooperation with different countries and achieving the complex technological and scientific task in a coordinated manner.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The data obtained from the instrument onboard Chandrayaan-I mission clearly indicated the presence of Hydroxyl (OH), a molecule consisting of oxygen and hydrogen atoms and water molecules (H₂O) on the lunar surface.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The Chandrayaan-I mission has been called off on 29th August, 2009, after 312 days in orbit, due to the failure of certain critical components. The total cost of the Chandrayaan-I project is Rs.386.00 crores, including the cost of establishment of ground infrastructure. There is no adverse impact on future missions.