

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3461
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2015
SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY
Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is on par with international counterparts in satellite technology and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the satellite technology used in India is completely indigenously developed;
- (c) if so, the investments made in developing the satellite technology in India; and
- (d) whether the Government has become an international player in satellite- building and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PG & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) Space agencies across the world pursue their respective national space programmes with different priorities and accordingly develop satellite technology. Since the inception of Indian space programme, India's focus has been on peaceful uses of outer space and harnessing space technology for national development. India is recognized as a role model in application of space technology for socio-economic development. Towards this, India has already developed satellite technology and operationalised its services in the areas of earth observation, communication and meteorology. Towards operationalisation of satellite based navigation services, three IRNSS satellite namely IRNSS-1A, IRNSS-1B and IRNSS-1C have already been placed in the orbit. Thus, in this context, comparison with international counterparts in satellite technology is not appropriate.

(b)&(c) The satellite technology used in India is completely developed indigenously. A few space qualified components and materials are sourced from foreign countries, which include high reliability electronic parts, solar cells, thermal control materials, specialized alloys, optical materials and test and measuring equipments. These components are imported as it is not economically viable to produce in the country. However, the development of many of such components and materials has already been indigenized and efforts are continuing to develop more in phased manner.

The investment made in developing satellite technology in India in the area of earth observation, communication, meteorology, space sciences and navigation is ` 22,017.25 Crore during the period 1974-75 to 2013-14.

(d) Besides building satellites to meet the domestic demand, India has built two state of the art communication satellites viz., W2M and HYLAS for European customers.