

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2785
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014
MARS MISSION
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Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of objectives and the total cost involved in the Mars Mission;
- (b) the time by which the satellite is likely to reach its destination; and
- (c) the details of benefits likely to be derived from the said Mission?

Answer

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

(a) Mars Orbiter Mission is India's first interplanetary mission. The objectives of the Mars Mission include:

Realization of a Mars Orbiter spacecraft of 1350 kg mass.

Launching the Mars Orbiter spacecraft by India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-XL.

Placing the spacecraft in an elliptical orbit of 366 km X 80,000 km around Mars by September 2014 after a voyage of 300 days from the Earth's orbit.

Studying Mars surface features, morphology, mineralogy and Martian atmosphere, using scientific instruments onboard the spacecraft, during the orbital life of the spacecraft around Mars.

The total cost involved in the Mars Mission is ` 450 Crores, which includes cost towards Mars Orbiter Spacecraft, Launch Vehicle and the Ground Segment.

(b) Presently, the Mars Orbiter spacecraft is now on its course towards Mars. The spacecraft is likely to reach its destination on 24th September 2014.

(c) The Mars Orbiter Mission would enable technological up-gradation for the country. It would provide excellent opportunities in planetary research for the scientific community of the country. It would also generate national pride and excitement in the young minds.