

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:856
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2014
COMMUNICATION SATELLITES
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved the proposal for development of two communication satellitesâ€” GSAT-15 and GSAT-16 to augment transponder capacity of the country;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has provided financial assistance for this purpose;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any time frame has been fixed for the completion and launch of the said satellites; and
- (f) 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) Yes Madam.

(b) GSAT-15 is approved by the Government on July 17, 2013. It will carry 24 Ku-band transponders and a GAGAN (GPS Aided Geo Augmented Navigation) payload. GSAT-15 spacecraft will provide replacement for the Ku-band capacity of INSAT-3A and INSAT-4B spacecrafts to augment and support the existing DTH and VSAT services in the country. The GAGAN payload of GSAT-15 will meet the in-orbit redundancy requirement for Safety of Life (SOL) operations benefiting the civil aviation services in the country.

GSAT-16 is approved by the Government on July 17, 2013. It will carry 48 transponders in C-band, Ku-band and Upper Extended C-bands. GSAT-16 spacecraft will provide replacement for the INSAT-3E spacecraft and will also augment the C and Upper Extended C-band capacity. The spacecraft will be utilized in augmenting and supporting the existing telecommunication, television, VSAT and other satellite based services in the country.

(c) Yes Madam.

(d) The Government has approved a budgetary support of `859.50 Crores including a foreign exchange component of `622.50 Crores for realization of GSAT-15 spacecraft project including launch services and insurance. The Government has approved a budgetary support of `865.50 Crores including a foreign exchange component of `628 Crores for realization of GSAT-16 spacecraft project including launch services and insurance.

(e) Yes Madam.

(f) GSAT-15 is targeted to be launched in mid -2015 and GSAT-16 is scheduled to be launched in 2014-15.