

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1805
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2014
FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME BY ISRO
Thota Shri Narasimham

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation has set-up a fellowship programme at an American University;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the fellowship programme would start; and
- (d) the other developments that reflect the growing ties between India and US in the space sector?

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) The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has setup an endowed fellowship programme at the Graduate Aerospace Laboratories of the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), California, USA. This fellowship programme is established in honour of Dr. Satish Dhawan, who was the former Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation.

The fellowship provides an opportunity every year to one meritorious graduating student from the Aerospace Department of the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram to be sponsored by the Department of Space, to pursue Masters in Aerospace Engineering at Caltech.

(c) The fellowship programme has started in the winter session of the academic year 2013-14 and one student has availed this fellowship and already completed his Masters degree at Caltech.

(d) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) are working together to realize a Dual frequency (L& S band) Synthetic Aperture Radar mission for Earth observation. Both agencies have established a 'ISRO-NASA Mars Working Group' to explore the possibilities of enhancing the cooperation in Mars exploration.