

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

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Wednesday, March 5, 1986/  
Phalguna 14, 1907 (SAKA)

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri H. M. Patel.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : That is a good question.

MR. SPEAKER : I think that is why he is absent !

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If you can replace one Chief Minister by another Chief Minister, I can put the question !

MR. SPEAKER : You did not give me that power.

#### Development of new units under VSSC

\*144. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop new units under the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS, OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to develop new units under the

Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre. However, to meet functional requirements, the process of needed organisational restructuring, establishment of appropriate project teams and consolidation of R & D activities to meet the programme requirements, will continue.

SHRI T. BASHEER : I am very much disappointed by the answer given by the hon. Minister that there is no proposal to develop new units under the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre. VSSC is a national centre for research and development in launcher development and related areas of space technology. It is a well-known fact that our country is very much in an advanced stage regarding the space science and space technology. So there should be development in the space units of our country.

To my information, ISRO Authority has proposed to set up some new Units in Kerala namely Geo-Stationary Launch Vehicle Station and Liquid Fuel Development Unit at Valiyamala near Trivandrum where Pollar Satellite Launching Vehicle is now working. It is in my Constituency. It is a part of VSSC Unit.

Now recently I came to understand that ISRO Authority has changed the location of this new Unit proposed at Valiyamala to some other State in the country and it is reported in the press also.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the ISRO Authorities have taken any decision in this regard. If they wanted to change the location, what is the reason therefor ?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : The hon. Member need not be sorry. We are strengthening the existing units.

MR. SPEAKER : He is only worried !

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : And not establishing Units.

Secondly, the statement made by a Minister on the floor of the House is more reliable than the statement that appears in the newspaper.

In view of the fact that we are strengthening our Units, it has not been necessary for us to establish new Units.

As far as the Liquid Propellant System is concerned, we are trying to do it at Valiyamalai, by strengthening that Unit and other Units also are being strengthened for other purposes.

**SHRI T. BASHEER :** My second supplementary is, to my information, the ISRO Authorities have prepared a project report for the development of the ISRO Units in the country and submitted it to the Government.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Government have approved it and, if so, what are the details regarding that ?

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL :** I am talking about the decision taken by the Government. If some study is instituted and if some reports are received, that is a different matter. But, as things stand today, we have not taken any decision to establish any new unit in Kerala nor are we shifting any unit from Kerala to any other State. On the contrary, we are strengthening the existing units over there.

**SHRI SURESH KURUP :** I want to know and I want to get a specific answer. I want to know whether the ISRO does consider Kerala as not at all a suitable place for establishing further satellite launching stations and if so, the reasons therefor.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** It is the other way.

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL :** The entire space activity as far as the launching is concerned and satellite making and liquid propulsion schemes are concerned, they are all situated in Kerala State. So we do not think that Kerala is not a suitable place.

As far as launching facility is concerned we are launching some rockets from the Trivandrum launching pad also. But as far as other launching facilities are concerned, there are other sites also like Sri Harikota and other places and we are launching the satellites from there. Government does not think that Kerala is not a suitable place for space technology development.

**MR. SPEAKER :** It is one of the suitable places.

**SHRI SURESH KURUP :** It is one of the most suitable places.

**DR. CHINTA MOHAN :** Is it a fact that the HISTRAC unit of the Space Research Centre at Sriharikota of Andhra Pradesh is being shifted to Karnataka and if so, what are the reasons for that ?

**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL :** We are not shifting. This is the problem. Restructuring of the Department is treated as shifting. No facilities which are available at Sriharikota are shifted to Bangalore or any other place. On the contrary we are strengthening the facilities which are already available there. We have launched the SLV from there and other vehicles also are going to be launched from there.

#### **Diversión of Funds Allocated for Specific Schemes**

\*146. **SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States which have diverted the funds allocated for hill development, agriculture and rural development and anti-poverty programmes and if so, for what purpose these funds are being utilised; and

(b) the details of plans reported to have been worked out by the Planning Commission for penalising the States which divert central funds earmarked for specific purpose in the Five Year Plan ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :** (a) and (b) A statement is given below.