

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1246

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2018

PLACEMENT OF SATELLITES THROUGH A SINGLE LAUNCH

1246. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether ISRO has placed thirty nano satellites and an earth observation satellite Cartosat-2 in a single launch PSLVC-38 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether majority of satellites belonged to foreign countries and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the foreign exchange earned there-from;
- (d) whether ISRO has taken steps to protect these satellites from space debris once they are made functional; and
- (e) 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) & (b)

Yes, Sir. In the PSLV-C38 mission that took place during June 2017, along with Cartosat-2, a total of 30 nano satellites were launched as co-passengers. Out of this, 29 satellites belonged to foreign countries viz. Austria, Belgium, Chile, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, UK and USA. These 29 foreign satellites were launched under commercial arrangements between Antrix Corporation Limited (Antrix), the commercial arm of ISRO and the foreign customer.

(c) The revenue earned through launching of these 29 foreign satellites amounts to approx. 6 Million Euros.

(d) Yes, Sir.

- (e) ISRO does conjunction assessment risk analysis studies before every rocket launch that identify time intervals for launch with the least debris collision probability. ISRO ensures the safety of the customer satellites from liftoff till satellite injection, after which the onus lies with the customer. For Indian satellites, ISRO does conjunction assessment and collision avoidance manoeuvres throughout satellite mission life.
