

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1733**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2018

**THIRD LAUNCH PAD FOR GAGANYAAN PROGRAMME**

1733. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that ISRO is setting up a third launch pad to undertake Gaganyaan manned space flight programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that ISRO is searching for a location on the western sea coast near Gujarat to set up another launch pad for small satellite launch vehicles; and
- (d) 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)

No, Sir. It is proposed to utilise the existing launch pad with augmentation for carrying out the initial flights under the Gaganyaan manned space flight programme.

(c) & (d)

No, Sir. The criteria for selection of a new launch site are desired payload capability, azimuth corridor for launch vehicle flight path, impact points of spent stages beyond the exclusive economic zone of other countries and large safety zone to carry out various hazardous operations. A study has been carried out to identify suitable locations for establishment of a launch pad for the small satellite launch vehicle. It was found that the locations in the western sea coast near Gujarat did not meet some of the criteria for establishing the launch pad.

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