

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2338**

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2018

LAUNCH OF HEAVY SATELLITES

2338. SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:

SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:

SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:

SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has not been able to launch heavy satellites so far;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the same;**
- (c) the number of heavy satellites that have been launched from foreign destinations so far;**
- (d) whether ISRO is working on any programme for launching heavy satellites in the country; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be materialised?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PG &
PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):**

(a) & (b)

The Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III (GSLV Mk-III) of ISRO is capable of launching 4 tonne class of

satellites to Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO). The GSAT-29 communication satellite, weighing 3423 kg, is the heaviest satellite launched from Indian soil by GSLV Mk-III recently on 14.11.2018. The heaviest satellite built by ISRO so far i.e. GSAT-11, weighing 5854 kg, was launched on 05.12.2018 by Ariane 5 rocket from French Guiana.

- (c) Till now, fourteen heavy satellites (weighing more than 2200 kg) were launched from foreign destinations.**
- (d) Yes, Madam.**
- (e) ISRO has taken up the development of a Semi-Cryogenic stage and uprated Cryogenic engine & stage, which is expected to be completed by 2020-21. Induction of these stages in GSLV Mk-III will enhance the GTO payload capability to 5 tonne class.**
