

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5338
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 05.04.2023**

NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL PROGRAMME

**5338. DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:**

Will the Minister of **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is implementing the National Geospatial Programme (NGP) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the aims and objectives of the programme;
- (c) the details of progress made under the programme along with funds allocated so far, state-wise; and
- (d) whether the Government has made any new initiatives for providing Geospatial solutions and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps being taken by the Government to improve the performance of the programme?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)

(a) **Yes. The Government is implementing the National Geospatial Programme since 31.7.2020.**

(b) **The aims and objectives of the programme are as follows:**

Aim: Catalysing the National Geospatial Ecosystem.

Objectives:

- **Promotion of R&D in emerging areas of Geospatial Science and Technology.**
- **Development of geo-spatial solutions for sustainable socio-economic growth in alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and National Developmental Priorities up to panchayat and ward levels.**
- **Build knowledge and adaptation capacity of geospatial technologies at various levels of governance in collaboration with academia and user agencies.**
- **Stimulate the growth of Geospatial technology innovation.**
- **Develop the national capacity for Geospatial science and technology development, acquisition and transfer through International cooperation.**

(c) The details of the progress under the programme in the major sub-schemes are as below:

- **A National Centre for Geodesy (NCG) has been set up at IIT Kanpur (IITK) for promotion of the state-of-the-art research and development activities in Geodesy in the Country. Further, 6 Regional Centers of Geodesy have been also established.**
- **Various projects under ‘National Programme on Assessment of Regional Hydrological Systems using Space Borne Gravity Observations’ were supported. Above multi-institutional, multidisciplinary studies using GRACE data sets supplemented by other data sets have provided the scope to understand the availability and the dynamics of water resources, with a focus on groundwater, in space and time on a regional scale while the new synergic approaches adopted in the present study proved to be promising to downscale the same to sub-basin level with a reasonable accuracy. In addition, as a part of capacity building, a central facility with a repository of soft computing techniques and data on Terrestrial Water Storage (TWS) and other components of hydrological cycle along with an observational network have been also established at National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad.**
- **In order to strengthen the area specific geospatial analytics capabilities of the country during and after the pandemic, R&D projects under the Call on ‘Geospatial Analytics for Revival and Restoring the Economic Growth in Post COVID-19 Scenario’ were supported in the areas such as: Pattern and Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic by Semantics, Social Vulnerability Mapping Impact**

Assessment; and Modelling Geographically varying Relationships of COVID-19 outcomes and Inter-dependency modelling of healthcare etc.

- **In order to promote Geospatial Science, Research, Applications and Training in various Sectors, the division has been supporting an exclusive training programme (21 days & 3 days) for various target groups. A one stop portal (<http://dst-iget.in>) has been set up to facilitate the teaching-learning process. As a new initiative, various Geo-Innovation Challenge of 03 days have been conducted at Pan India level for harnessing ideas and encouraging participation of the youth in geospatial activities.**
- **The Second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) on the theme "Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind" was held successfully in Hyderabad from 10-14 October 2022. The theme was in line with the vision of the Hon'ble PM *Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas* that forms the main focus of the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN. The event brought together stakeholders at the highest level from around the world to address and ensure that geospatial information has its widest and fullest utility in the service of social, economic, and environmental development. This event gave an opportunity for the country to showcase its Geo-Spatial Initiatives and achievements in recent years.**

There is no provision of State wise fund allocation in the programme. However, total financial allocation of Rs. 40.63 Crores has been made for the NGP during FYs 20-21, 21-22 and 22-23.

(d) No.

(e) In order to improve the performance of the programme, the activities of the programme are being aligned with recently approved National Geospatial Policy 2022 and Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) of United Nation (UN).
