GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEPARTMENT OF SPACE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3358 TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 09, 2023

ENCOURAGING THE GROWTH OF STARTUPS

3358. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken necessary steps to make India's space agency more business friendly by encouraging the growth of startups;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of the fact that the country's success rate in recent years of about 70% compares poorly to rates in the 90s for rockets from the US, Europe, Russia or China; and
- (d) if so, the details of the remedial steps that are proposed to be taken by the Government keeping in mind that the value of India's satellite launch services?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b)

Yes, Sir. With the reforms in the space sector undertaken in 2020 and the recently released Indian Space Policy – 2023, Government has taken several steps to enable Non-Government Entities (NGEs), including Start-ups, to take up end-to-end activities in space domain.

Necessary support in this regard is being extended through the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe), which has been created as a single window agency to promote, handhold and authorize space activities of NGEs. In this regard, necessary technical support, usage of dedicated facilities and mentorship is being extended through the National Space Agency, ISRO,

The initiatives taken by IN-SPACe for encouragement of Startups include:

- IN-SPACe seed fund scheme
- Price support for utilization of ISRO facilities
- Technical support for NGEs in terms of handholding, transfer of technology, etc.

- Establishment of software design lab
- Frequent meets/roundtable with national and international industries for potential business opportunities.

(c) & (d)

Country's success rate in recent years (between 2017-2022) for rocket launches is nearly 90% which is comparable with success rate of other space faring nations during the same period i.e. Europe (90%), USA (97%), Russia (98%), China (94%) and Japan (91%).

During last ten years (2013-2022), India has conducted 52 launches of which only 3 were failures that corresponds to a success rate of 94.3%.

In order to enhance India's share in the launch service market, Government, through NSIL (Public Sector Enterprise under DOS) offers commercial launch services through ISRO's launch vehicles viz. PSLV and LVM3.

NSIL, has also executed contract with private consortium for realization of PSLV through Indian Industry. Further, INSPACE has also recently released Expression of Interest (EOI) for Technology Transfer of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) for interested Indian Industries, to provide commercial launch services, thus catering to the small satellite market.
