

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2978**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023**

**PRIVATE PLAYERS IN SPACE**

**2978. SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:**

**SHRI SATYADEV PACHAURI:**

**SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:**

**SHRIMATI RANJANBEN DHANANJAY BHATT:**

**DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA:**

**Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether opening the space to private players has heralded a new era in Indian space sector, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has taken any initiative for greater participation of private industries in the space sector;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the number of registered startups in this sector;**
- (d) the efforts that are being taken by the Government in reaching out to the academic community as well as young startups through hand-holding, ecosystem support and funding in the country's backward areas; and**

**(e) the details of the contribution of space sector to the economy in the last five years and the projected contribution in the coming years?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE**

**(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):**

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**(a), (b) and (c)**

**Yes sir, the government has announced the Indian Space Policy 2023, which enables end to end participation of NGEs in all domain of space activities. Due to incentives and reform in the space sector, following are the developments and impact:**

- The number of Space Start-Ups have gone up, from just 1 in 2014 to 189 in 2023 as per DPIIT Start-Up India Portal.**
- The investment in Indian Space Start-Ups has increased to \$ 124.7 Million in 2023.**
- Some NGEs launched their own satellites. Many other Space Industries and Start-Ups are also building their own Satellites & constellations. These satellites shall contribute to applications in agriculture, disaster management, environmental monitoring, etc.**
- One NGE launched their sub-orbital launch vehicle.**

- **A private launchpad and mission control centre established within the ISRO campus for the first time by an NGE. Sub-orbital launch by that NGE is scheduled shortly.**
  - **Private companies are exploring satellite-based communication solutions. Private players are increasingly participating in space-based applications and services.**
  - **Satellite integration and testing facilities are coming up in private sector.**
  - **The local manufacturing of the satellite subsystems and Ground systems are being taken up by private sector.**
  - **Indian private space companies are increasingly entering into collaborations and partnerships with international space organizations and companies.**
- (d) Efforts that are being taken in reaching out to the academic community as well as young startups through handholding, ecosystem support and funding in the country's backward areas are as follow:**
- 1. A national committee for adoption of space technology education in India is formed by IN-SPACE, with an aim to facilitate and promote the integration of space technology education across academic institutions in India, fostering awareness, skill development and research.**
  - 2. List of retired ISRO subject experts is published on IN-SPACE Digital Platform (IDP). NGEs can approach these mentors directly for expert advice etc.**

- 3. Periodically invite willingness from the technocrats having experience in space sector as mentors and connect them to NGEs.**
  - 4. To encourage Students/Academic Institutions to carry out space activities, a committee has been constituted which will evaluate their proposal and provide necessary guidance.**
  - 5. In order to develop quality manpower in the space sector, IN-SPACe is periodically organising skill development short term courses in association with ISRO along with Seed Fund Scheme.**
- (e) The current size of the Indian Space Economy is estimated around \$8.4 billion (around 2-3% of global space economy) and it is expected that with the implementation of the strategy \$ 44 billion Indian space economy can be achieved by the year 2033. The role of the private sector will be prime to achieve the expected economy figure. It is expected that private sector will take up independently end to end solution in satellite manufacturing, launch vehicle manufacturing, provide satellite services, and manufacture ground systems.**

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