

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.527**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2019**

**CONSTELLATION OF REMOTE SENSING SATELLITES**

**527. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:**

**MS. PRATIMA BHOUMIK:**

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

- (a) whether any progress has been made in technical discussions to realize a virtual constellation of remote sensing satellites provided by space agencies as part of the BRICS Programme;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the purposes for which such a network can be utilized?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):**

- (a) Yes Sir.**
- (b) The space agencies of BRICS nations have been negotiating a Framework Agreement to formalize the cooperation on building a 'virtual constellation of remote sensing satellites', made up of satellites contributed by BRICS space agencies. Technical aspects with respect to identifying the satellites and the ground stations for the initial virtual constellation were discussed by the Space Agencies.**

**(c) The purpose of the proposed virtual constellation is to get access to satellite remote sensing data, which could be used by the individual BRICS nations for various applications including natural resources management and disaster management.**

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