

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF SPACE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2542

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2024

PRIVATE COMPANIES WORKING WITH ISRO

2542. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the detailed list of private companies (domestic / international) which have partnered with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for space exploration and technology projects in the country along with their scope, duration and purpose of collaborations during the last five years;**
- (b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to encourage and incentivise private sector participation in space exploration and technology development in the Country during the last five years; and**
- (c) the details of the total number of inventions and patents registered by private companies associated/working with ISRO in regard to space exploration and technology in the country during the last five years?**

ANSWER

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

(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) The industry participation has been the back bone for the Indian Space Programme since its inception. Indian Industry has reached a matured level of self-sufficiency to produce materials, components and sub-systems for both launch vehicle and satellites. However, there is no specific partnered space exploration/ technology projects between ISRO and private companies.

Supports from industries are also being harnessed through mechanism like Purchase Order including technology developmental orders for various space systems of ISRO, Contract, Memorandum of Understanding and Technology Transfer. Many products are successfully developed and realized through industries for the Indian Space Programme. Considering the future DOS programmes and advanced space missions in anvil, ISRO always strives to increase the participation of industry in all the programmes by leveraging their strengths in focus areas of interest.

(b) The Indian government has taken the following measures to encourage and incentivise private sector participation in space exploration and technology development in India:

- i. The space sector has been liberalised and private sector allowed to carry out end to end space activities.**
- ii. Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) was created in Department of Space for promoting, authorising and overseeing the activities of non-government entities (NGEs) in Space Sector.**
- iii. The Indian Space Policy – 2023 has been formulated by the Government to provide regulatory certainty to space activities by various stakeholders, in order to create a thriving space ecosystem.**

- iv. Various schemes to encourage and hand hold private sector also announced and implemented by IN-SPACe, i.e., Seed fund Scheme, Pricing Support Policy, Mentorship support, Technical Centre, Design Lab for NGEs, Skill Development in Space Sector, ISRO facility utilisation support, Technology Transfer to NGEs, creation of IN-SPACe Digital Platform to connect with all the stakeholders of space ecosystem etc.**
- v. The number of Space Start-Ups have gone up, from just 1 in 2014 to around 266 as on date.**
- vi. IN-SPACe has signed around 71 MoUs with Non-Government Entities (NGEs) to provide necessary support for realization of space systems and applications envisaged by such NGEs, which is expected to increase the industry participation in manufacturing of launch vehicles and satellites.**
- vii. In order to ease access to foreign capital by Indian NGEs, the Central Government has brought out revised FDI policy for Space Sector.**
- viii. Decadal vision and strategy for Indian space economy is also announced by IN-SPACe, which shall increase the share of India in overall space economy.**
- ix. The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of a Rs.1,000 crore Venture Capital (VC) Fund dedicated to supporting India's space sector.**
- x. IN-SPACe has initiated Establishment of Earth Observation (EO) System under Public Private Partnership (PPP). The Expression of Interest (EOI) is invited from Non-Government Entities (NGEs).**

- xi. Technology Transfer of Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) to Indian entities is under process and response to RFP is invited from shortlisted bidders.**
 - xii. Announcement of Opportunity is made by IN-SPACe for making available Indian orbital resources to the NGEs. Bid is under consideration and one Indian entity is selected.**
- (c) Patents originated from ISRO are filed and the patenting process is managed by ISRO. Details of the inventions and patents registered by private companies are not available with ISRO/DOS. Also, ISRO does not own any patent with private companies as of now.**
