

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2206

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025

ISRO'S COLLABORATION WITH OTHER SPACE AGENCIES

2206. SHRI K C VENUGOPAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of ISRO's collaboration with other space agencies and countries;**
- (b) whether the Government plans to partner with foreign space research organisations for any upcoming missions and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken any initiatives to encourage private investment and participation in space-related activities and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the vision of ISRO in terms of international collaboration contributing to the advancement of space exploration and technology?**

ANSWER

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

(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

- (a) Currently, space cooperative documents have been signed with 61 countries and five multilateral bodies. The major areas of cooperation are satellite remote sensing, satellite navigation, satellite communication, space science and planetary exploration and capacity building.**
- (b) Yes. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is already working with the space agency of USA (NASA) for realising a joint satellite mission, named 'NISAR (NASA ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar)' which is in the advanced stages of realisation. ISRO is working with CNES (French National Space Agency) for realising a joint satellite mission named 'TRISHNA (Thermal Infrared Imaging Satellite for High Resolution Natural Resource Assessment)', which is in the initial stages. ISRO and JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) have carried out a feasibility study to realise a joint lunar polar exploration mission.**
- (c) The following steps are taken by the Government to further private sector investment, their participation and the growth of Space Sector 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. 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.**
- VI. The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of a ₹1,000 crore Venture Capital (VC) Fund dedicated to supporting India's space sector.**
- VII. IN-SPACe has signed around 78 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.**
- VIII. In order to ease access to foreign capital by Indian NGEs, IN-SPACe along with Department of Space and DPIIT has brought out revised FDI policy for Space Sector.**
- IX. IN-SPACe has initiated Establishment of Earth Observation (EO) System under Public Private**

Partnership (PPP). The Expression of Interest (EOI) was invited from Non-Government Entities (NGEs). RFP is floated.

X. Technology Transfer of Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) to Indian entities is under process and response to RFP is invited from shortlisted bidders.

XI. Announcement of Opportunity is made by IN-SPACe for making available Indian orbital resources to the NGEs. One Indian entity is selected.

(d) ISRO pursues international collaboration with the objectives of enhancing the capacity of the Indian space programme for advancing programmatic priorities, augmenting space science and earth observation data base, widening ground station networks, improving products and services through joint experiments and creating platforms for inflow of expertise.
