

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1742**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 09, 2015**

**ASTROSAT**

**1742. SHRI NANA PATOLE:**

**SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:**

**SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:**

**SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:**

**SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:**

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

- (a) whether Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched space observatory ASTROSAT for the study of astronomical objects;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is similar to the Hubble Space Telescope of NASA;**
- (d) whether ISRO has also launched Satellites of other countries along with this mission, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether it will be used to understand the universe and to study the astronomical phenomenas, if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) Yes Madam.**

**(b) ASTROSAT was successfully launched onboard Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-C30 on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2015 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota into a 650 km near-equatorial orbit with 6 degree orbital inclination. ASTROSAT carries five payloads to study the stars and galaxies in ultraviolet, optical and X-ray wavelength bands to enhance our understanding of the universe.**

**(c) No Madam. The Hubble Space Telescope is a large space telescope with 230 cm diameter mirror and was launched in a 600 km nearly circular orbit. Hubble's four main instruments observe in the near ultraviolet, visible and near infrared spectra.**

**Whereas, ASTROSAT has an Ultraviolet telescope with 38 cm diameter mirror and was launched in a 650 km near-equatorial orbit. It carries five astronomy payloads, which carry out imaging, timing and spectral studies in far ultraviolet, near ultraviolet, visible and X-ray wavelengths.**

**(d) Yes Madam. Along with ASTROSAT, six satellites from other countries viz., LAPAN-A2 (Indonesia), NLS-14 (Canada) and four identical LEMUR satellites (USA) were launched under the commercial agreement with Antrix Corporation Limited – the commercial arm of ISRO.**

**(e) Yes Madam. ASTROSAT will be used to understand the universe and study the astronomical phenomena.**

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