

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 468**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2016**

**SATELLITE FOR REGIONAL GROUPING**

**468. SHRI C.S. PUTTA RAJU:**

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

- (a) whether a meeting of experts from South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries was held last year to finalise modalities for developing a satellite exclusively for regional grouping and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (b) the time by which the satellite is likely to be launched and the areas in which it would give information?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):**

- (a) No Madam. The conference on "Satellite for the SAARC region and Space Technology Applications" held on June 22, 2015 at New Delhi was intended to familiarise the representatives from all member countries of SAARC Region about the satellite configuration and its potential utilisation for the benefit of SAARC Region. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is developing a communication satellite for use by South Asian countries. The satellite is now named as Satellite for South Asia.**

**(b) The proposed satellite is planned to be ready for use by South Asian countries by first half of 2017. The satellite will have capability to provide services in the areas of broadcast and telecommunication including Disaster management, Tele-education & Tele-health, Television and Very Small Aperture Terminals.**

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