

#### **Termination of Chandrayan-I**

843. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's first major venture into outer space, the "Chandrayan-I" moon mission has been formally declared terminated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the data collection targets set and achievements made; and

(d) the highlights of the important information, the mission could gather?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Chandrayaan-I mission has been terminated on 29th August, 2009, after completion of 312 days in orbit, due to the failure of certain critical components.

(c) The data collection targets set and achievements made by the Chandrayaan-I mission include chemical and mineralogical mapping of the lunar surface, mapping of lunar craters etc.

(d) The highlights of the important information the Chandrayaan-I mission could gather include detection of the presence of Hydroxyl (OH), a molecule on the lunar surface; presence of minerals such as Magnesium, Aluminium, Silicon and Calcium; and identification of numerous lunar craters.

#### **Tourism projects in Kerala**

844. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Center has cut down funds for certain tourism projects in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED): (a) and (b) Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations on the basis of projects proposals received from them every year under various schemes. Execution and implementation of projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism is the responsibility of the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration.

The Ministry of Tourism monitors the progress of implementation through site visits and review meetings from time to time which is a routine exercise. The project components which cannot be started or implemented due to various unavoidable reasons are dropped. Accordingly, such exercise was undertaken by the Ministry in respect of projects sanctioned for the State of Kerala and such components which cannot be implemented were dropped.