

(c) and (d) Two satellites *viz.* GSAT-6 and GSAT-6A, being built by ISRO, are state-of-the-art national satellites meant for introduction of satellite digital multimedia broadcast services, for demonstration of mobile satellite applications to strategic and social sectors, and for advancing the frontiers of satellite technology in the country.

#### **Launching of SLV**

427. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Satellite Launch Vehicle was launched recently;
- (b) if so, the number of vehicles that were launched and were successful/failed; and
- (c) the achievements made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Sir. On December 25, 2010, launch of Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F06) took place from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota. The launch was unsuccessful.

(b) So far, a total of seven launches of Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) has taken place from SDSC, Sriharikota. Out of this, four launches of GSLV have been successful and three have been failure.

Also, there have been 17 launches of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) that have taken place from SDSC, Sriharikota. Of this, 16 launches of PSLV have been successful and one has been failure.

(c) The successful launches of PSLV and GSLV have made possible placing in orbit several earth observation, communication and scientific satellites that are meeting the societal needs of the country.

#### **Mid-air GSLV explosion**

428. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether GSLV launched recently exploded in mid air few minutes after its launch;
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether this failure would adversely affect India's programme to launch a manned mission to moon; and
- (d) the corrective steps proposed to be taken up by ISRO to ensure successful launch in future?