

customer requirement. The remaining 5 transponders were allocated to TV broadcasting and digital news gathering services on commercial basis.

Satish Dhawan Space Centre

437. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Space Research Organisation is drawing up plans to develop the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota into a centre for assembling satellites and rockets in future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this would happen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota (SDSC-SHAR) has already been developed as space port of India and as a major ISRO Centre for assembly, integration and launching of rockets. However, augmentation of the integration and launch facilities for rockets are contemplated, in association with Indian Industries, in and around Sriharikota to meet the future demand. The assembly of satellites is carried out at the ISRO Satellite Centre at Bangalore and there are no plans to develop SDSC-SHAR for assembly of satellites.

(c) Does not arise.

Launching of high capacity satellite

†438. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to launch a high penetration capability satellite to keep constant monitoring of the large area of Indian borders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said satellites are likely to transmit uninterrupted pictures continuously;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the said system would be helpful in controlling plane crashes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.