

Allocation of Satellite Capacity for DTH Services

1351. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has favoured TATA and Sun Group in allocation of satellite capacity for Direct-to-Home (DTH) services over Doordarshan;

(b) whether preferential treatment for allocation of DTH service to private players have resulted in a loss of revenue to the exchequer;

(c) if so, the estimated loss incurred for showing favours to private players; and

(d) the action Government has taken or proposes to take against private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No Sir. However, Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in its report No. 22 of 2014 on "Management of satellite capacity for DTH services by Department of Space" has pointed out that Tata Sky was granted precedence over Doordarshan and allocated capacity on INSAT-4A satellite.

While furnishing reply to the Audit, Department of Space has clarified that no favour extended to TATA Sky over Doordarshan in allocation of satellite capacity for Direct-to-Home (DTH) services.

(b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

India's Second Moon Mission

1352. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether the time for India's second moon mission have been finalized, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): Yes Sir. Chandrayaan-2, India's second mission to the Moon, has Orbiter, Lander and Rover configuration. It is planned to be launched during 2017- 2018 timeframe by Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.

New Methodology of GDP Calculation

1353. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware of the media reports regarding the fact that

several senior economists and even International Monetary Fund (IMF) has termed the new methodology of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) calculation and recently revised GDP growth data of India as "puzzling" and prima facie one with "discrepancies".;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government has plans to report the old GDP with the new series for next few years for a smooth transition to the new series of national income statistics; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION [GENERAL (Retd.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) While most users of GDP data have appreciated compilation in the new series being compliant with the latest United Nation's guidelines in System of National Accounts, 2008, some users are puzzled by the difficulty in reconciling the new series estimates with the estimates of the old series and conventionally used indicators.

(b) The new series represents a structural break from the old series, mainly due to two reasons:

- (i) Availability of new source of information for the corporate sector
- (ii) Better estimates for the unorganised sector due to incorporation of recent estimates from the 2010-11 National Sample Survey on unincorporated enterprises and data on sales and service taxes.

In order to clarify the doubts of the users, the Ministry released a publication on changes in methodology and datasets in the new series of national accounts, which is available on the website of the Ministry. Necessary clarifications have been provided in various fora. Frequently asked questions on new series alongwith replies have been placed in the public domain. A Data Users' Conference on new series of national accounts was also organized in the month of April 2015 to give the data users an opportunity to interact with the officers associated with compilation of national accounts.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The base year revision exercises are undertaken to capture the changing structure of economy. This ensures capturing latest information and hence accurately reflects the current economic situation in the country. GDP based on old series would not reflect correct economic situation. Therefore, internationally accepted practice is to release GDP based on only the new series after the base year is revised.