backward as they could not compete with already progressed families of similar castes; and

(c) whether there is any Government policy to address this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) There are as on date 2494 entries in the Central List of Other Backward Classes (OBCs). An 'entry' for this purpose includes caste, its synonyms and sub-castes.

(b) and (c) The reservation orders for OBCs cover all castes/communities included in the Central List of OBCs to the extent admissible to non-Creamy Layer OBCs.

Tests for moon landing of Chandrayaan-2

921. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has started a series of ground and aerial tests linked to the critical moon landing of Chandrayaan-2;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Chandrayaan-2 is tentatively set for late 2017 or early 2018 and includes soft landing on moon and moving a rover on its surface; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has started a series of ground tests for testing the performance of sensors and actuators for soft landing of the Lander on the lunar surface.

(b) Special tests for new systems in Lander have been identified and a Lander Sensors Performance Test over artificial craters created in Chitradurga district in Karnataka, has been conducted. Lunar Terrain Test facility is ready for Lander drop test and Rover mobility tests.

(c) and (d) ISRO is working towards the launch of Chandrayaan-2 during the first quarter of 2018. The Chandrayaan-2 comprises of indigenous Orbiter, Lander and Rover. After reaching the 100 km. lunar orbit, the Lander housing the Rover will separate from the Orbiter. After a controlled descent, the Lander will soft land on the lunar surface at a specified site and deploy a Rover. The instruments on the rover will collect data for analysis of the lunar soil.