

of which, ₹ 488.74 crore has been released to States/UTs upto 31.12.2017 under SCA to SCSP.

Indigenous launching of satellites

2048. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the success of GSLV Mark-III has paved way for indigenously launching of our own communication satellites in the future without any foreign help;

(b) whether it would be a step ahead in the direction towards launching of satellites of other countries on commercial basis; and

(c) whether the funds generated through such commercial launches would help ISRO in funding and furthering its ongoing and future projects, if so, the details thereof and list of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The success of the first developmental flight of GSLV Mark III will enable indigenous launching up to 4 tonne class of communication satellites in the future.

(b) Yes, Sir. ISRO has been providing commercial launch services for earth observation satellites and small satellites onboard the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) through Antrix Corporation Limited since 1999. The successful launch of GSLV Mark III is a step ahead in building credibility in launching.

(c) ISRO has just completed one launch of GSLV-MK III. Next developmental launch is in first half of 2018. Some more launches of GSLV-MK III will be needed before GSLV MK III gets recognised internationally as a vehicle for transportation to space.

Milestone achieved by space technology

2049. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of milestone achieved by Indian space technology during recent years;

(b) whether there is any aim to achieve which is Internationally not achieved by the Indian Spacecraft;

(c) the status of Spacecraft for mars and whether it would reach at the schedule time to Mars; and