

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF SPACE

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2528**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022

**MANAGING SPACE DEBRIS**

2528. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government has taken any steps to manage space debris;
- (b) Whether it is a fact that after unlocking of the space sector for private players, innovative startups are coming up in a big way to explore the untapped potential of this sector; and
- (c) If so, the steps that are being taken to encourage private sector in this area?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PG &

PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

- (a) Yes, Sir. ISRO has setup a Directorate (Directorate of Space Situational Awareness and Management) at ISRO HQ to deal with Space Debris related issues. A dedicated SSA Control Centre is set up in Bengaluru to coordinate all space debris related activities in ISRO and to safeguard Indian operational space assets from collision threats. The collision threats to Indian space assets are analysed and estimated daily, and in case of critical collision threats, collision avoidance manoeuvres are designed and executed to mitigate the collision threats and hence safeguarding Indian Space Assets. ISRO is also planning to have its own observational facilities to track and catalogue the space objects.

(b) & (c)

Yes, Sir. The unlocking of space sector for private players has seen an enthusiastic response from start-ups, several of which are coming up to carry out end-to-end activities in the sector. In order to handhold, promote and authorize their activities, a national level nodal agency – Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACE) has been created, which shall also enable sharing of technical facilities and expertise from ISRO.

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