

XRS-PS and P6

*472. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(c) whether it is a fact that IRS-P5 and IRS-P6 are presently under fabrication;

(d) what are the- main objects of these two Satellites; and

(e) by when they are likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. IRS-P5 (Cartosat-1) and IRS-P6 (Resourcesat-1) are presently under fabrication.

(a) Cartosat-1 is an advanced state-of-the-art satellite which will provide high resolution images with stereo capability—thus enabling cartographic and large scale thematic mapping applications of upto 1:10,000 scales. Resourcesat-1 is a successor to the present IRS-1C/1D series and will enable natural resources management applications—mapping and monitoring crops, vegetation, urban, coastal areas forests, water resources and landuse.

(b) Resourcesat-1 is scheduled for launch in 2001 and Cartosat-1 is scheduled for launch in 2002.

Denial of permission to Sikh pilgrims from going to Pakistan

*473. SHRI SOUPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 2500 Sikh pilgrims with valid visa papers for going to Pakistan were not allowed to travel from Attari railway station in Amritsar district;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;