GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF SPACE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3908

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024

REGULATING GROUND STATION AS A SERVICE INDUSTRY

3908. DR. D RAVI KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) that detail list of the steps being taken to support access to testing facilities, especially for large antennas and Deep Space Networks, for the nascent Ground Station as a Service (GSaaS) industry;

(b) whether there are any considerations proposals for reducing the royalty fee/ MHz for Earth Observation (EO) satellite data reception station;

(c) the details of the steps being taken to facilitate Transfer-of-Technology (ToT) for Tri-band feed realization from ISRO, and

(d) whether the Government plans to develop a single-window mechanism for GSaaS approvals/licenses?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

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(a) Department of Space (DoS) has successfully established Deep Space Networks and various large antennas to provide ground station segment for various missions. These include systems operating in different frequency bands and established at various locations. They support both ISRO Satellites (including Deep Space/ Interplanetary Missions), External Space Agency missions and Launch Vehicle operations and also operations of Non-Government Entities (NGEs). Access provided to NGE's includes support for Payload Testing, Telemetry and Tele-command Support, In-orbit Validations.

Further, NSIL has been providing support to domestic and international customers through ISRO's tracking facilities involving large antennas and Deep Space Network as part of "Ground Station as a Service" related activity. As a part of this, nearly 17 satellite/ launch vehicle missions have been supported on commercial basis.

(b) Remote Sensing Data of spatial resolution of 5 m is accessible on 'free and open' basis to all. Further, remote sensing data of less than 5 m is made available free of any charges to Government Entities and at a fair and transparent pricing to NGEs.

Earth Observation (EO) satellite data reception services are being offered by NSIL on per pass basis to domestic and international customers.

(c) There has been an emerging need to develop indigenously a Tri-band Data Reception System, that would facilitate cost effective, compact and efficient systems, for future Earth Observation Space Systems. DoS has successfully developed

indigenously a Tri-band system operating in S, S & Ka-Band, capable of tracking & receiving dual Polarization (RHC & LHC) data from Remote Sensing Satellites.

Further in view of the large demand from local/ Indian Industries & global market potential for this Tri-band(S/C/Ka) Antenna & feed System, the technology transfer (ToT) process in initiated and is under approval.

(d) Conceptual discussion on the possible Inter-departmental single window interface for processing authorization/ approvals/ licenses by the respective departments for the common applicants in the space sector is taken up by IN-SPACe.

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