

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:70
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2004
LAUNCHING OF SATELLITE ON EDUCATION
Chaudhary Shri Pankaj

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has launched its first satellite devoted to education recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the results and benefits of the satellite so launched?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ` EDUSAT ` Satellite was launched on 20th September 2004. The satellite carries five Ku-band high power regional transponders, one Ku- band national transponder and six extended-C band national beam transponders.

(c) EDUSAT is dedicated exclusively for educational services. It is specially configured to meet the growing demand for an interactive satellite based distance education system for the country through audio-visual medium. There has been considerable interest from educational institutions throughout the country regarding utilisation of the facilities provided by EDUSAT. ISRO has taken up several initiatives on a pilot basis to ensure utilisation of EDUSAT. Three Pilot schemes have been initiated in partnership with Visveswaraiah Technical University, Belgaum, Karnataka; Yeshvantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University, Nashik, Maharashtra and Rajiv Gandhi Technical University, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. All the stake-holders are being consulted in the field of primary, secondary and higher education and a conference of Vice Chancellors has also been conducted to realise the full potential of EDUSAT.