

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1053
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007
SPACE CAPSULE RECOVERY EXPERIMENT
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has become a member of the exclusive space club by launching successfully Space Capsule Recovery Experiment vehicle; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of the Space programme envisaged by ISRO in future?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir. With the successful launch of Space capsule Recovery Experiment (SRE-1) into orbit and its safe recovery, India has joined the exclusive group of countries such as USA, Russia and China having capability to launch and recover a spacecraft from orbit.

(b) SRE-1 was launched into 635 km high polar sun-synchronous orbit by India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-C7, on January 10, 2007 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota. SRE-1 was in orbit for 12 days, during which two micro-gravity experiments were conducted. On January 22, 2007, SRE-1 was successfully de-boosted by firing its rocket motors and after a series of complex manoeuvres, it was made to re-enter the earth's atmosphere and descend over the Bay of Bengal, about 140 km East of Sriharikota. It was then successfully recovered. The future plans under the Indian space programme include development of advanced space transportation systems like reusable launch vehicles; space communications for developmental needs like education, health-care, rural development and disaster management support; enhanced imaging systems for natural resource management and front ranking research related to astronomy and planetary exploration.