

**Use of space technology in the United Nations system****Mr. Chair and distinguished delegates,**

India acknowledges and continues to support the efforts under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. India is submitting reports to United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD) to prioritise areas needing immediate action to combat land degradation and achieve land degradation neutrality status by 2030. India is also contributing to United Nations Framework on Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) Green House Gas inventory protocol at national level using EO & geospatial technology.

As part of India's commitment to support International Disaster Management, Indian satellite data is provided under International Charter and Sentinel Asia. ISRO takes up the Lead Role of "International Charter Space and Major Disasters" for six months from April 2025 to coordinate the global disaster response efforts of the Charter using space-based assets.

India is also contributing to promote operational utilization of space technology towards achieving the SDGs through Regional Plan of Action (POA) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP).

**Mr. Chair,**

India actively supports capacity building in space technology applications through hosting United Nations affiliated Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific (CSSTEAP), located in India. The Centre, in 29 years, has benefitted more than 4187 officials from 64 countries. Apart from the regular courses, it partnered with GISTDA to organize off campus course in Thailand in 2024 April, involving 83 participants.

Further, under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs (GOI), Indian Institute of Remote Sensing also conducts regular certificate course for professionals from developing countries. So far, 1109 participants from 115 countries have benefitted from the program.

India is also contributing actively to various training programs under UN-SPIDER.

**Mr. Chair,**

India is pleased to inform about its initiative to provide satellite data and geospatial services to the Pacific Island Countries in the form of portal with satellite data and derived thematic layers.

With the on-going programme on space applications for societal benefits, India will be happy to assist in capacity building and necessary technical support.

**Thank you Mr. Chair and distinguished delegates, for your kind attention.**