

Agenda item - 16**Geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications****Mr. Chairman and Distinguished delegates,**

Electronic communication has become part and parcel of one's day to day life. The convergence and synergy of terrestrial, cellular, OFC and SatCom technologies is bringing connectivity solutions for reaching out to different geographical regions. India is one of the growing digital economy. More and more applications are coming up and demand for bandwidth is increasing with time. The Geostationary Orbit finds an immense utilization to place communication satellites. These have played a significant role in meeting country's requirements in various sectors such as communication, broadcasting, Meteorology, Disaster warning and Search & Rescue data services.

Mr. Chairman,

India has a fleet of communication satellites operating over the region with communication transponders in C-band, Extended C-band, Ku-band, Ka/Ku band and S-band. Presently, the 18 satellites in orbit provide 317 operational transponders and 25 Gbps high throughput satellite (HTS) capacity. The flagship Digital India programme and BharatNet which are focussed to enhance the digital connectivity to village level, are also well supported by the ISRO satellites.

Mr. Chairman,

ISRO has launched exclusive satellites for Meteorology applications. Currently 2 of these satellites namely INSAT-3D and INSAT-3DR are in operation providing the meteorological data in different bands. During the year 2022, tropical cyclones like Asani, Sitrang and Mandous were monitored with INSAT 3D and 3DR.

Mr. Chairman,

Government of India has taken measures to further enhance the GSO based Space technology and applications in the various activities of Central Ministries/ Departments and State Governments. The societal programmes like Telemedicine, Tele-education and Disaster Management Support (DMS) Programmes which are solely for national development with an aim to address specific requirements at different strata of the society.

Mr. Chairman,

As a gift to the neighbouring countries, India has built and launched ‘South Asia Satellite’ in 2017 to provide satellite communication services to South Asian nations and also across the region. Bhutan, The Maldives and Bangladesh are getting benefit of South Asia Satellite and other Nations are working out their plans to utilize it effectively.

Mr. Chairman,

India is a member of the international COSPAS-SARSAT programme for providing distress alert and position location service satellite system. Satellite aided Search and Rescue payload is carried on 3 of our GSO satellites, INSAT-3D (82°E), INSAT-3DR (74°E) and GSAT-17 (93.5°E) operating in 406 MHz band. During 2022, Indian Mission Control Centre (INMCC) provided search and rescue support to 12 real distress incidents in Indian service area which contributed in saving 56 human lives.

Mr. Chairman,

The MSS Service through GSO satellite provides the communication to the portable and hand-held devices. ISRO has also developed a unique application to send emergency messages to fishermen at sea, alerting them about the on-set of natural disasters such as cyclone, tsunami, etc. Using MSS service an indigenous solution has been developed and implemented for tracking the Trains on real-time namely “Real-time Train Information System (RTIS)”. This would enhance the safety and operations of the Train services particularly in strategic segments. So far 2700 trains are provided with tracking the position of locomotives and another 6000 are getting added in the near future.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, the Indian delegation would like to convey this esteemed gathering that India has developed the necessary expertise to take the benefits of satellites and their applications to the grass root level. India is committed to share her experience with all the member nations.

Thank You Mr. Chairman and Distinguished delegates.