



INDIA  
भारत

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STATEMENT BY  
MR. S. SRINIVAS PRASAD,  
MINISTER  
ON  
AGENDA ITEM 49:  
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL  
USES OF OUTER SPACE  
AT THE  
SPECIAL POLITICAL & DECOLONIZATION  
[FOURTH] COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
69<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK

OCTOBER 17, 2014

**Mr. Chairman**

At the outset, I would like to congratulate H .E. Durga Prasad Bhattarai of Nepal on his election as the Chairman of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee to the 69<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, as also the other members of the Bureau. We wish you the best and assure you of our delegation have continued cooperation and support. I also take the opportunity to congratulate the former chairman Ambassador Carlos Garcia Gonzales of El Salvador, for doing an admirable job in conducting this Committee during the 68<sup>th</sup> session of General Assembly.

**Mr. Chairman**

The Indian delegation acknowledges that UNCOPUOS continues to be a unique platform for international space cooperation and for the utilization of outer space for peaceful purposes under the mandate of General Assembly. The Indian delegation expresses its satisfaction over the deliberations of the 57<sup>th</sup> session of UNCOPUOS under the chairmanship of Mr. Azzedine Oussedik of Algeria and the work carried out by the Scientific & Technical and Legal sub-committees of UNCOPUOS.

**Mr. Chairman**

While acknowledging the significant achievements of various member states in space endeavors during the last one year, the Indian delegation desires to brief the Assembly on the important achievements of India in the field of space since the last session.

The Indian delegation is happy to announce that India successfully placed its first inter-planetary probe, the Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) in the Martian orbit on September 24, 2014. Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C25), in its twenty fourth successive successful flight injected the Mars orbiter spacecraft into an elliptical earth orbit on November 5, 2013. After a set of carefully planned critical maneuvers, the spacecraft was successfully placed into the Mars Transfer trajectory, out of Earth's sphere of influence on December 1, 2013. Subsequently the spacecraft was successfully maneuvered to enter the Martian Orbit on September 24, 2014. The spacecraft is performing satisfactorily and is sending interesting images. The Mars Orbiter Mission carries 5 scientific

instruments to study Martian surface and atmospheric characteristics. The Indian delegation would like to mention that ground stations in USA, Spain, Australia, Brazil, South Africa, Indonesia, Brunei, Mauritius and the transportable terminal near Fiji have been used for tracking the launch, cruise and the orbit insertion phase.

**Mr. Chairman**

In another significant achievement, India's indigenous Cryogenic upper stage was successfully flight-tested onboard GSLV-D5 launch vehicle on January 05, 2014. Through this flight, a communication satellite, GSAT-14 was very precisely placed to its intended Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.

On April 4, 2014, PSLV-C24 precisely placed the second satellite of Indian Regional navigational satellite system (IRNSS) constellation- IRNSS-1B into its intended orbit. IRNSS is seven-satellite constellation designed for providing position, navigation and timing services over Indian region.

On June 30, 2014, PSLV-C23 in its twenty-sixth consecutively successful mission placed French Earth Observation Satellite, SPOT-7 and four piggy-back satellites from Germany, Canada and Singapore in their intended orbit.

India is working on the ASTROSAT satellite, the first Indian space based observatory for multi-wavelength observations of the celestial bodies and cosmic sources.

**Mr. Chairman**

The Indian space programme continues to integrate the advances in space technology and applications with national developmental goals. India places considerable importance on International Cooperation for peaceful use of outer space. Currently, formal instruments of cooperation are in place with 34 countries and three international organisations.

Under the cooperation framework with Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), it is proposed to establish a ground station to receive process and use data from Indian satellites for a variety of applications including disaster management support, by all the ten ASEAN member countries. A network of weather stations is also being established in SAARC countries to support severe thunderstorm predictions.

**Mr. Chairman**

India participates in international disaster management efforts, of International charter on Space and Major Disasters, Sentinel Asia of APRSAF, UNESCAP and UN SPIDER. India, as a member of the international COSPAS-SARSAT program, provides search and rescue support to India and seven neighboring countries, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Tanzania.

India participated in the plenary session of Coordination Group on Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) held in China in May 2014 and hosted the third meeting of 'CEOS Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy' at Dehra Dun in April 2014 and 'International Science and Application Meet on Altimetry' at Ahmadabad in April 2014.

**Mr. Chairman**

India continues to provide expertise and services for supporting developing countries in the application of Space technology through capacity building. The Center for Space Science and Technology Education for Asia and the Pacific Region, affiliated to UN and operating from India, has so far benefited more than 1340 scholars from 53 countries.

In conclusion, the Indian delegation greatly acknowledges the potential of space technology and the efforts of UNCOPUOS to maintain outer space for peaceful purposes.

**Thank you Mr. Chairman**