

PARLIAMENT QUESTION: ISRO-SUPPORTED SPACE TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS IN JAMMU & KASHMIR

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ISRO/DoS has implemented several satellite-based applications and space technology programmes in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir during the last five years. Among the operational communication satellites, 12 satellites have the coverage over the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. This capacity is offered to various service providers to meet and enhance the telecommunication and broadband connectivity.

ISRO/DoS has undertaken the following projects for disaster management, agriculture, water resources, urban planning and environmental monitoring in Jammu & Kashmir:

- Satellite Integrated Landslide Assessment and Alert System (SILAAS) project (under ISRO-DMSP): to map landslides using satellite; and for generation of village-wise landslide alerts.
- Landslide inventory mapping for the 2023 monsoon season, covering all districts of Jammu & Kashmir
- Under the National Hydrology Project, an inventory of glacial lakes has been carried out for Jammu & Kashmir, and Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) hazard and risk maps have been generated for Mundiksar lake in the Indus River basin.
- Monitoring of the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) watersheds using geospatial technologies covering the districts of Anantnag, Bandipora, Baramulla, Budgam, Doda, Ganderbal, Jammu, Kathua, Kishtwar, Kulgam, Kupwara, Poonch, Pulwama, Rajouri, Ramban, Reasi, Samba, Shopian, Srinagar & Udhampur
- Monitoring of the Watershed Development Component- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) 2.0 projects, covering the districts of Anantnag, Bandipora, Baramulla, Budgam, Doda, Ganderbal, Jammu, Kathua, Kishtwar, Kulgam, Kupwara, Poonch, Pulwama, Rajouri, Ramban, Reasi, Samba, Shopian, Srinagar & Udhampur.
- Under the Urban Waterbody Information System (UWaIS) project (AMRUT 2.0), waterbodies have been mapped for Anantnag, Jammu and Srinagar.
- Geo-MGNREGA Project (Phase II) - covering the districts of Anantnag, Bandipora, Baramulla, Budgam, Doda, Ganderbal, Jammu, Kathua, Kishtwar, Kulgam, Kupwara, Poonch, Pulwama, Rajouri, Ramban, Reasi, Samba, Shopian, Srinagar & Udhampur for planning and monitoring the MGNREGA activities.
- National Wetland Inventory and Assessment (NWIA) project (2021-22), with the University of Jammu: wetland inventory and district-wise analysis of wetlands for Jammu & Kashmir.
- Desertification and Land Degradation: Monitoring, Vulnerability Assessment and Combating Plan project (2018-19), with the University of Kashmir, Srinagar: status mapping and vulnerability assessment for Kathua, Budgam and Udhampur districts, along with preparation of an action plan for combating land degradation for a micro-watershed in the region.

- Long Term Ecological Research Stations (LTERS) project (2021-2025): Climate and Ecosystem Response Studies, covering the North-West Himalaya, including Jammu & Kashmir.
- Space Based Information Support for Decentralised Planning - Update (SISDP-U) Project for all districts of Jammu and Kashmir, generating thematic information on land use, settlements, infrastructure and drainage from high-resolution satellite data.
- Satellite-based annual assessment of Land Use/Land Cover at 1:2,50,000 scale has been carried out for 2021-22 to 2024-25, along with a five-yearly assessment at 1:50,000 scale for 2020-21.

The year-wise details of funds sanctioned, released and utilised, along with beneficiary departments/implementing agencies, are as under:

Sl. No.	Project	Year	Funds Sanctioned	Funds Released	Funds Utilized	Beneficiary/Implementing Agency
1	Land Cover Land Use project (1:50,000 scale) – Ongoing	2025-28	Rs. 75.78 lakhs	Rs. 30.31 lakhs	Rs. 30.31 lakhs	Department of Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing, SDA Colony, Bemina, Srinagar
2	SILAAS (ISRO-DMSP budget head) -Ongoing	2023-28	Rs. 50.16 lakhs	Rs. 23.36 lakhs	Rs. 23.36 lakhs	University of Jammu
3	WDC-PMKSY 2.0 Monitoring -Ongoing	2023-29	Rs. 4.95 lakhs	Rs. 3.7 lakhs	Rs. 3.7 lakhs	University of Jammu
4	Space based Information Support for Decentralised Planning - Update (SISDP-U)	2019-24	Rs. 220 lakhs	Rs. 220 lakhs (total)	Rs. 220 lakhs	Directorate of Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing (DEERS), Jammu & Kashmir
5	IWMP Watershed Monitoring	2022-23	Rs. 27.62 lakhs	Rs. 27.62 lakhs	Rs. 27.62 lakhs	University of Jammu
6	National Wetland Inventory and Assessment	2018-22	Rs. 11.43 lakhs	Rs. 5. lakhs	Rs. 5. lakhs	University of Jammu

Sl. No.	Project	Year	Funds Sanctioned	Funds Released	Funds Utilized	Beneficiary/Implementing Agency
7	Desertification and Land Degradation: Monitoring, Vulnerability Assessment and Combating Plan	2017-21	Rs. 5.91 lakhs	Rs. 5.91 lakhs	Rs. 5.91 lakhs	University of Kashmir, Srinagar

ISRO/DoS is working on experimental landslide forecasting covering all districts of the Jammu & Kashmir under the Satellite Integrated Landslide Assessment and Alert System (SILAAS) project. ISRO periodically conducts national and regional workshops and training programmes for State and Central disaster management organisations, including regional training on the National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM), in which participants from Jammu & Kashmir have taken part.

ISRO has established Satish Dhawan Centre for Space Science (SDCSS) at Central University of Jammu, Jammu where faculty/research students are provided access to ISRO facilities to support learning and enhance understanding on space technology.

Tele-education is facilitated through satellites under PM e-Vidya programme. Telemedicine nodes are installed in the Jammu and Kashmir regions under telemedicine programme. In 2024, a High Throughput Satellite (HTS) namely GSAT-N2 is added to enhance the broadband connectivity including Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

This information was given by the Minister of State (Ind. Charge) Science & Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State PMO; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Atomic Energy, Space Dr. Jitendra Singh in a written reply in Rajya Sabha today.

NKR/AK

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