

ISRO to Launch TeLEOS-2 Satellite

Why in News?

The <u>Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)</u> is set to launch Singapore's TeLEOS-2 satellite from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

- The launch will be carried out by the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) of ISRO.
- This is a dedicated commercial mission through <u>NSIL</u> with TeLEOS-2 as primary satellite and Lumelite-4 as a co-passenger satellite.

What is the TeLEOS-2 Satellite?

- About:
 - TeLEOS-2 is a <u>Earth Observation Satellite</u> weighing 741 kg and has synthetic aperture radar capable of providing data in 1-meter resolution.
 - It is equipped with a **high-resolution camera** that can capture images with a ground resolution of up to one meter.
- Objectives:
 - The primary objective of TeLEOS-2 is to provide high-resolution imagery of the Earth's surface for various applications, including urban planning, disaster management, maritime safety, and environmental monitoring.
 - The satellite is also expected to support **Singapore's Smart Nation initiative**, which aims to harness technology to improve the quality of life for citizens.



What is PSLV?

- PSLV is a highly capable third generation launch vehicle developed by ISRO. It is often referred
 to as the "Workhorse of ISRO" due to its consistent performance over the years.
 - The PSLV features four stages:
 - The first stage utilizes a solid rocket motor augmented by six solid strapon boosters.
 - The second stage is powered by an **Earth storable liquid rocket engine called the Vikas engine**, developed by the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre.
 - The third stage is a **solid rocket motor that provides high thrust for the upper stages** after the launch vehicle clears the Earth's atmosphere.
 - Finally, the uppermost stage of the PSLV is **equipped with two Earth-storable liquid engines.**
 - It is the **first Indian launch vehicle** to be equipped with liquid stages.
 - It successfully launched two spacecraft <u>Chandrayaan-1</u> in 2008 and <u>Mars Orbiter</u>
 <u>Spacecraft</u> in 2013 that later travelled to Moon and Mars respectively.

What are the Previous Space Collaborations Between ISRO and Singapore?

- Teleos-2 will be the second satellite launched by ISRO for Singapore, following the successful launch of Teleos-1 in 2015.
 - Teleos-1 is a commercial mission of Singapore. It aims to provide convenient access to high temporal imagery to aid prompt response to time-sensitive events.
 - It is the first commercial Earth observation satellite from Singapore.
- The collaboration between ISRO and ST Engineering has also led to the development of other space-related projects, such as the design and development of a satellite ground station in Singapore.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

Q. With reference to India's satellite launch vehicles, consider the following statements: (2018)

- 1. PSLVs launch the satellites useful for Earth resources monitoring whereas GSLVs are designed mainly to launch communication satellites.
- 2. Satellites launched by PSLV appear to remain permanently fixed in the same position in the sky, as viewed from a particular location on Earth.
- 3. GSLV Mk III is a four-staged launch vehicle with the first and third stages using solid rocket motors; and the second and fourth stages using liquid rocket engines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- **(b)** 2 and 3
- (c) 1 and 2
- (d) 3 only

Ans: (a)

Source: TH

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