

PM Unveils Three Space Facilities and Presents Astronaut Wings

Source: PIB

Recently, the Prime Minister of India inaugurated three significant <u>space infrastructure</u> **projects: SLV Integration Facility (PIF)** at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, **Semi-cryogenics Integrated Engine and Stage Test (SIEST) facility** at ISRO Propulsion Complex, Mahendragiri and **Trisonic Wind Tunnel** at Vikram Sarabhai Space Center, Thiruvananthapuram.

- They will enhance India's technical capabilities in the space sector and support its vision for space exploration.
 - The PIF will ramp up <u>PSLV launches</u> **from 6 to 15 annually** and support <u>SSLV</u> and other small launch vehicles.
 - The SIEST facility will develop **semi-cryogenic engines**, enhancing payload capacity, with capabilities to test engines up to 200 tons of thrust.
 - The Trisonic Wind Tunnel marks a milestone in **aerodynamic testing** for rockets and aircraft.
 - These facilities are also crucial for the Gaganyaan Mission.
- Also, the Prime Minister announced the names of four pilots chosen for Gaganyaan mission and presented 'Astronaut Wings' to them.
 - The designated pilots for the Gaganyaan mission are Group Captain P Balakrishnan Nair, Group Captain Ajit Krishnan, Group Captain Angad Pratap, and Wing Commander S Shukla.

Read more: Gaganyaan Mission

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