

Space Based Surveillance (SBS) Mission

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Recently, the <u>Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)</u> has approved **phase 3 of the <u>Space Based</u>** <u>Surveillance (SBS) mission.</u>

- It will help in better land and maritime domain awareness for civilian and military applications.
- It will involve the launch of at least 52 satellites in <u>low earth orbit</u> and <u>geostationary orbit</u> for surveillance.
 - 21 satellites will be built by <u>ISRO</u> and the remaining 31 by private companies.
- The SBS mission is being handled by the <u>National Security Council Secretariat</u> and <u>Defence</u>

 Space Agency under the Ministry of Defence.
 - The three armed forces will have dedicated satellites for their land, sea or air-based missions
- SBS 1 was launched in 2001, and involved the launch of four satellites e.g., Risat 2 while SBS 2 came in 2013 with the launch of six satellites e.g., Risat 2A.
- The SBS 3 mission will be supported by India's acquisition of 31 Predator drones from the US, joint construction of military satellites with France and anti-satellite missile capabilities.
- India aims to acquire capabilities to detect enemy submarines in the Indo-Pacific and monitor infrastructure construction by adversaries along its land and sea borders.

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