



## ISRO's Third Launch Pad

[Source: PIB](#)

The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of the **Third Launch Pad (TLP)** at the [Satish Dhawan Space Centre \(SDSC\)](#), India's 1<sup>st</sup> launchport (2<sup>nd</sup> launchport - [Kulasekarapattinam](#)), in [Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh](#).

- The third launch pad will have the capacity to handle spacecraft weighing up to **30,000 tonnes** in [low Earth orbit](#).
  - Designed to support [NGLV](#), [LVM3 vehicles with semi cryogenic stages](#), and **scaled-up NGLV** configurations.
- Currently, ISRO uses two launch pads i.e., the **First Launch Pad (FLP)** and the **Second Launch Pad (SLP)**.
  - FLP was implemented for the [PSLV](#) and continues to support launches for both **PSLV and SSLV**.
  - SLP was primarily set up for [GSLV](#) and [LVM3](#), while also serving as a **backup for PSLV**.
    - It successfully launched the [Chandrayaan-3 mission](#) and is preparing for the upcoming [Gaganyaan missions](#).
- **Future Vision:** India's vision includes a [Crewed Lunar Landing by 2040](#) and the [Bharatiya Antariksh Station \(BAS\) by 2035](#), necessitating heavier launch vehicles that cannot be accommodated by existing pads.
- In 2024, foundation stone for [ISRO's 2<sup>nd</sup> rocket launchport](#) was laid in [Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu](#) for **commercial, on-demand, and small satellite (SSLVs) launches** and to avoid [dogleg manoeuvre](#) over [Srilanka](#).

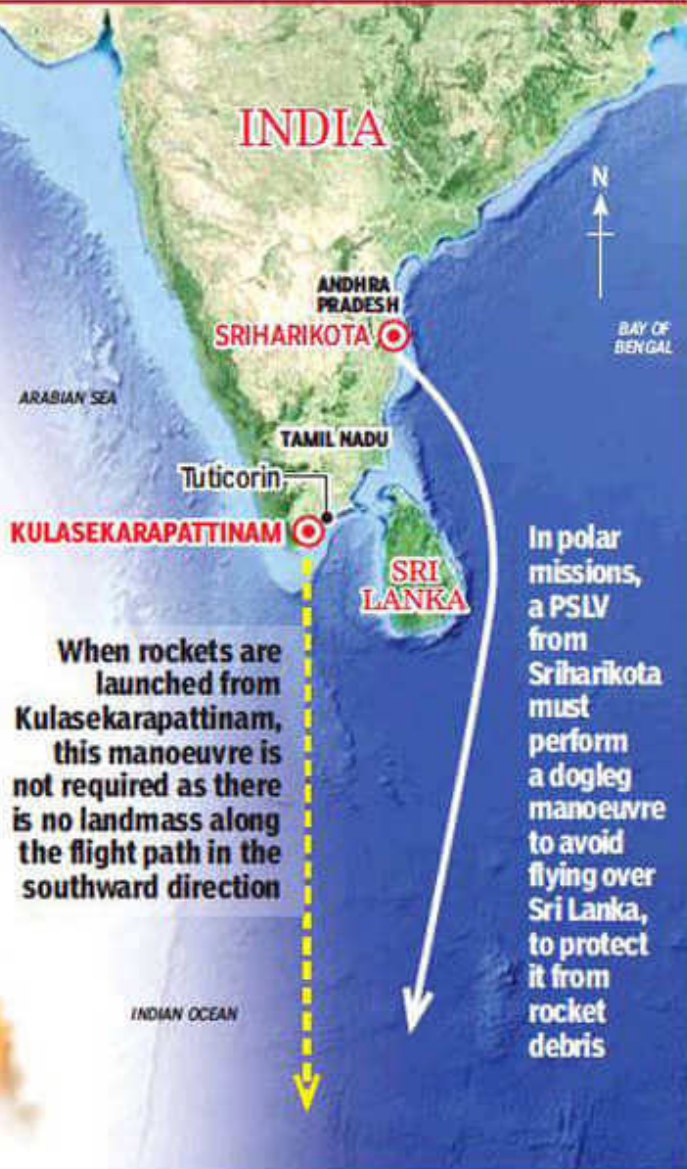
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## ON A MORE DIRECT ROUTE

Second spaceport will be used for smaller rockets

### WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE

- > Dogleg manoeuvre is a sharp turn that causes the rocket to deviate from a straight flight path
- > This manoeuvre requires more fuel in the rocket which eats into the payload capacity of the launcher



When rockets are launched from Kulasekarapattinam, this manoeuvre is not required as there is no landmass along the flight path in the southward direction

In polar missions, a PSLV from Sriharikota must perform a dogleg manoeuvre to avoid flying over Sri Lanka, to protect it from rocket debris

Read More: [New Rocket Launchport in Tamilnadu](#)

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