

NEWSLETTER

INDIAN SPACE ASSOCIATION



STRENGTHENING INDIA'S DEFENCE AND SPACE INDUSTRY SYNERGY

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MESSAGE FROM DG-ISpA

The month of April 2026 follows the continuum in India's space journey, reflecting steady progress across scientific advancement, strategic capability and industry-led innovation. Key milestones achieved by **ISRO** including the **successful Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-02) for the Gaganyaan mission**, the release of the **Indian Space Situational Awareness Report (ISSAR-2025)** and the signing of the **ISRO-TIFR MoU** underscore India's growing strength in both foundational research and mission readiness.

The momentum within the private sector continues to be equally encouraging. **Pixxel, in collaboration with Cosmoserve Space**, advanced efforts in orbital debris removal, highlighting India's role in in-space sustainability. **SatLeo Labs secured seed funding** to expand its thermal Earth observation capabilities, while **SkyServe was selected under the IndiaAI Global Acceleration Programme**, reinforcing its strength in AI-enabled satellite intelligence. **LuminASIC achieved a key milestone with the development of India's first 32×32 SPAD Flash LiDAR chip** with event-based readout, advancing indigenous 3D sensing capabilities. In the geospatial domain, **SatSure signed a strategic MoU with Rodic Digital & Advisory** to strengthen the use of Earth Observation intelligence for public sector applications.

At the policy and institutional level, **IN-SPACE** continued to drive ecosystem development through key initiatives, including facilitating **technology transfers to industry** and expanding access to advanced ISRO technologies. It also advanced **capacity-building efforts through the Indo-African programme** on space technologies and strengthened quality frameworks with the launch of the **Gunvatta Yatra in collaboration with QCI**. Additionally, international engagements such as the **India-Republic of Korea Space Industry Day** and industry interactions in Bengaluru highlighted growing global collaboration and industry participation in India's space sector.

A major highlight of the month was the successful conduct of the **Indian DefSpace Symposium (IDS) 2026**, which brought together senior military leadership, policymakers, industry and global stakeholders to deliberate on the evolving role of space in national security. The symposium clearly demonstrated how commercial space capabilities are becoming integral to modern defence operations, spanning areas such as ISR, satellite communications, navigation and missioncritical intelligence. **The vital presence of CDS, and in person presence of Chairman DRDO, two former Air Chiefs and Galaxy of Senior Armed forces officers** as well a strong participation from both Indian and international industry, along with focused discussions on policy, procurement and technological readiness, underscored the growing convergence between Defense and commercial space. IDS 2026 reaffirmed that a robust and self-reliant defense space ecosystem will be central to India's strategic preparedness in the years ahead.

As we look ahead, it is evident that the future of India's space sector will be shaped by sustained collaboration between government, industry, academia and international partners. The progress witnessed this month reflects not just isolated achievements, but the emergence of a cohesive and forward-moving ecosystem.

ISpA remains committed to supporting this momentum, enabling dialogue, fostering partnerships and contributing to the development of a globally competitive and self-reliant Indian space industry.

Lt Gen A K Bhatt

PVSM UYSM AVSM SM VSM (Retd)
Director General,
Indian Space Association (ISpA)
(Former DGMO, MS & GOC 15 Corps)



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

- [ISRO CONDUCTS SECOND INTEGRATED AIR DROP TEST \(IADT-02\) FOR GAGANYAAN](#)
- [MISSION MITRA BY ISRO: MAPPING OF INTEROPERABLE TRAITS AND RESPONSE ASSESSMENT \(MITRA\)](#)
- [ISRO RELEASES INDIAN SPACE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS REPORT \(ISSAR\) FOR 2025](#)
- [ISRO AND TIFR SIGN MOU FOR COLLABORATION IN SPACE SCIENCE AND RELATED TECHNOLOGIES](#)
- [PIXXEL PARTNERS WITH COSMOSERVE SPACE FOR ORBITAL DEBRIS REMOVAL MISSION](#)
- [SATLEO LABS HAS RAISED \\$2.2 MILLION IN SEED FUNDING LED BY UNICORN INDIA VENTURES](#)
- [SKYSERVE SELECTED FOR INDIAN AI GLOBAL ACCELERATION PROGRAMME](#)
- [LUMINASIC HAS ANNOUNCED A FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND 32×32 SPAD FLASH LIDAR CHIP](#)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

- **IN-SPACE OPENS ACCESS TO ADVANCED SPACE TECHNOLOGIES FOR INDUSTRY**
- **IN-SPACE & QCI LAUNCH GUNVATTA YATRA FOR SPACE START-UPS AND MSMES**
- **IN-SPACE LAUNCHES INDO-AFRICAN CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME ON SPACE TECHNOLOGIES**
- **TRAI RELEASES CONSULTATION PAPER ON SATELLITE COMMUNICATION NETWORK FRAMEWORK**
- **SMOPS-2026 ADVANCES GLOBAL DIALOGUE ON SMART SPACE MISSION OPERATIONS**
- **INDIA STRENGTHENS INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION THROUGH INDIA-AUSTRALIA SPACE ROUNDTABLE**
- **INDIAN DEFSPACE SYMPOSIUM 2026 SHOWCASES INDIA'S EXPANDING DEFENCE SPACE CAPABILITIES**

MEMBERS BULLETIN



AVANTEL

Avantel Limited has received a purchase order worth ₹11.59 crore from NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) for the supply, installation and commissioning of MSS Terminals (Xponders). Scheduled for execution by October 2026, the order strengthens Avantel's role in India's satellite communication infrastructure and growing space ecosystem.

The engagement reinforces Avantel's contribution to delivering high-reliability, indigenously developed communication solutions aligned with national priorities such as Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat, supporting greater self-reliance in critical space technologies.



BAE SYSTEMS

BAE Systems has been awarded an \$11.8 million contract by the U.S. Space Force to demonstrate satellite-to-satellite communications using Link-182, a radio-frequency data link standard for the planned MILNET relay network supporting the Golden Dome missile defence architecture.

The demonstration will validate direct inter-satellite communications designed to reduce reliance on ground stations and enable faster, more resilient data sharing across space-based missile tracking and response systems. Scheduled for completion by April 2027, the programme strengthens BAE Systems' role in next-generation secure space communications.



LUMINASIC

LuminASIC has announced a first-of-its-kind milestone in India with the development of a 32×32 SPAD Flash LiDAR chip with event-based readout, marking a significant step toward an indigenous 3D sensing stack for defence, aerospace, autonomous systems and space applications.

The chip has successfully demonstrated photon counting, TDC/ToF operation, event-based readout and 1 ns time resolution, validating its potential for high-speed and precise spatial sensing. With the next phase focused on EO characterisation and generation of its first 3D point cloud, LuminASIC is advancing India's capabilities in next-generation sensing technologies.

MEMBERS BULLETIN



PIXXEL

Pixxel has entered into a strategic partnership with Cosmoserve Space to develop a technology demonstration mission focused on orbital debris removal. Under the collaboration, Pixxel will provide the satellite platform, while Cosmoserve Space will integrate its proprietary debris capture and removal system for in-orbit validation.

The mission will demonstrate scalable debris removal capabilities, supporting safer and more sustainable space operations. The collaboration builds on Pixxel's expanding momentum in satellite innovation, including its Firefly constellation, electric propulsion integration and the development of its Earth observation constellation for India.



SATLEO LABS

SatLeo Labs has raised \$2.2 million in seed funding led by Unicorn India Ventures, with participation from Merak Ventures, Java Capital, IIMA-CIIE and angel investors, taking its total funding to \$5.5 million. The IN-SPACE incubated startup is building a multi-spectral satellite constellation for high-resolution, continuous Earth observation across climate monitoring, defence, agriculture and disaster response.

The fresh capital will support SatLeo's flagship low Earth orbit thermal satellite mission and accelerate development of its AI-led thermal intelligence platform. The company has already demonstrated its first experimental thermal payload, TAPAS-1, at TRL-8 and has begun commercial pilots in urban heat and air pollution monitoring, reinforcing its growing role in India's Earth observation ecosystem.

MEMBERS BULLETIN



SATSURE

SatSure has signed an MoU with Rodic Digital & Advisory to expand the use of Earth Observation intelligence across India's public sector. The partnership will strengthen the use of satellite, drone and ground data for informed governance, infrastructure planning and data-driven decision-making across sectors including infrastructure, energy, water, agriculture, mining and forestry.

Alongside this, SatSure continues to advance satellite-powered decision intelligence for agri supply chains through its Pulpwood Intelligence platform, enabling plot-level visibility, harvest readiness assessment, species classification and automated EUDR compliance at scale. Together, these initiatives reflect SatSure's growing role in delivering scalable geospatial intelligence for both public-sector and enterprise applications.



SKYSERVE

SkyServe (Hyspace Technologies Pvt. Ltd.) has been selected among 10 cutting-edge Indian AI startups for Cohort II of the IndiaAI Startups Global Acceleration Programme under the IndiaAI Mission, led by MeitY in partnership with Station F and HEC Paris.

The recognition highlights SkyServe's growing role in AI-enabled space technologies, particularly in real-time edge intelligence for satellite and sensor data across land, sea, air and space. By enabling faster, mission-critical decision-making for defence, disaster response and strategic operations, SkyServe continues to strengthen India's capabilities in AI-driven space applications.

MEMBERS BULLETIN



VANTOR

Vantor announced a strategic partnership with Windward to integrate its space-based Sentry™ persistent monitoring system with Windward's Maritime AI™ platform, enabling continuous detection and tracking of maritime activity at global scale. The integration strengthens maritime domain awareness through persistent monitoring, AI-powered vessel fingerprinting and multi-sensor intelligence for defence, intelligence and commercial users.

In parallel, Vantor also announced a major expansion of its satellite constellation with Vantage™ and Pulse™, a next-generation architecture combining high-resolution imaging with real-time global monitoring. The expanded constellation will significantly improve revisit rates and intelligence delivery, reinforcing Vantor's capabilities in persistent surveillance, tactical operations and real-time spatial intelligence.

MEMBERS BULLETIN

POWERING GROWTH TOGETHER
A strategic collaboration for intelligence-led infrastructure

SATSURE x **Rodic**

LUMINASIC
sensing light

32x32 SPAD Chip
Flash LIDAR Receiver

SPAD Chip Design & Layout:
(a) Packaged Chip, (b) Chip Layout, (c) Pixel Layout

Acquired Video raw Data in Action:
(a) Photon Counting Mode, (b) TDC Counting Mode, (c) Flood Illumination

SATSURE

Key metrics displayed:
- Price: ₹5.00/kg
- Quantity: 40.0Kt
- Value: ₹20.00 Cr
- Status: +280 ha

pixel x **Cosmoserve**

INDIAi STATION F HEC

Taking India's AI innovation to the global stage

Shortlisted Startups

- AI Health Highway India Pvt. Ltd.
- Awiros
- Climateforce Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
- Cognecto
- Flaunt
- Infihel Healthtech Pvt. Ltd.
- InLustro Learning Pvt. Ltd.
- PredCo
- SkyServe (Hyspace Technologies Pvt. Ltd.)
- TestAing Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

THE DEFENSE WATCH

Vantor
+
WINDWARD

Nothing stays dark.

INDIAi HEC

SkyServe

satle

IspA ACTIVITIES

INDIAN DEFSPACE SYMPOSIUM 2026

Day 1: Commercial Space - Navigating Threats and Military Employment

The opening day of the **4th Indian DefSpace Symposium 2026 (IDS'26)**, organised by IspA in collaboration with DRDO, set the strategic tone for discussions on the growing role of commercial space in military operations. Held under the theme "**Commercial Space: Navigating Threats and Military Employment,**" Day 1 brought together senior military leadership, policymakers and industry to examine how commercial space capabilities are increasingly shaping modern warfare and national security.

The symposium commenced with an inaugural session featuring addresses by **Lt General A.K. Bhatt PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM (Retd), Director General, IspA; Rahul Vatts, Chief Regulatory Officer, Bharti Airtel and Vice Chairman, IspA; Lt General Zubin A. Minwalla, UYSM, AVSM, YSM, Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (Operations); Air Chief Marshal R.K.S. Bhadauria PVSM, AVSM, VM (Retd), Former Chief of the Air Staff; and Dr Samir V. Kamat, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman, DRDO.** The inaugural address by **General Anil Chauhan PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, Chief of Defence Staff** underscored the critical role of space in future military preparedness and strategic deterrence. The session also saw the release of key publications, including the **OrbitAid-IspA Concept Paper, the SatSure-IspA Joint Publication and the technical report on IISC 2025.**

A key strategic discussion on Day 1 was **Space as a Decisive Enabler in Modern Conflicts**, led by **Lt General Dushyant Singh PVSM, AVSM (Retd), Director General, CLAWS.** The session analysed recent conflicts across West Asia, Russia-Ukraine and India's own operational context to assess how space-enabled ISR, communications, PNT and commercial satellite services have become indispensable to modern warfare. Speakers including **Colonel (Dr) Kaushik Ray (Retd), Group Captain Chandan Sharda VM (Retd), Wing Commander Vikas Menon and Zayed Mohammed, Sales Engineer, Digantara** highlighted the increasing operational reliance on commercial space infrastructure and the need for stronger industry integration into India's defence planning.

The session on **Strategic Communications through Space and Network Centricity for Multi-Domain Operations** focused on secure and resilient satellite communications as the backbone of modern military connectivity. Moderated by **Air Vice Marshal Pawan Kumar VM (Retd), Former Director General, Defence Space Agency,** the session brought together **Group Captain Manish Mishra, Jitender Ahuja, Head - Product & Solutions, NELCO Ltd, Vikram Rathore (Bharti Airtel), Nishtha Kapoor (Eutelsat OneWeb), Shivaji Chatterjee (Hughes Communications India) and Niladri Kundu (Kymeta)** to discuss the role of hybrid GEO-LEO networks, secure SATCOM and resilient communications architecture in supporting network-centric warfare across remote and contested operational theatres.

ISpA ACTIVITIES

INDIAN DEFSPACE SYMPOSIUM 2026

Another major discussion on Day 1 centred on **Space-Based ISR and Decision Superiority in Contested Environments**, chaired by **Air Vice Marshal Sanjay Bhatnagar VM(G), VSM (Retd)**. With participation from **Brigadier Aman Bains, Colonel Yaser Khan, Vincent Kessler, CEO and Board Director, Synspective SG, Prakhar Doshi, VP - Business Development, Galaxeye, Lt Colonel Rakesh Verma (Retd) and Siddhesh Ravindra Naik, Co-Founder and CEO, ULOOK**, the session explored the growing role of commercial ISR in delivering persistent surveillance, rapid revisit and actionable battlefield intelligence. Discussions focused on shortening the ISR cycle, improving imagery access and integrating optical, SAR and hyperspectral data for tactical and strategic decision superiority.

A dedicated parallel **Industry Roundtable led by Planet** focused on the integration of commercial Earth observation into defence workflows. The discussion highlighted how high-frequency imagery, rapid revisit rates and near real-time geospatial intelligence are increasingly enabling operational planning, border monitoring and dynamic ISR support for defence users. The roundtable reinforced the strategic value of commercial Earth observation in strengthening defence decision-making pipelines.

A second parallel **Industry Roundtable, steered by Synspective**, examined the strategic utility of commercial SAR constellations for defence applications. Discussions focused on the growing role of SAR in enabling all-weather, day-night ISR, monitoring denied areas and supporting tactical intelligence in contested environments. The session also highlighted the increasing operational value of combining SAR with optical data to deliver persistent and mission-ready ISR capabilities.

Day 1 also featured focused industry interventions from **Eutelsat OneWeb, Pixxel, Virat Group and Synspective**, each highlighting emerging private-sector capabilities across **SATCOM, Earth observation, geospatial intelligence and ISR**. These sessions reinforced the growing role of industry in enabling mission-critical defence space capabilities and underscored the increasing maturity of the commercial space ecosystem in supporting military requirements.

ISpA ACTIVITIES

DAY - 1 GLIMPSES



ISpA ACTIVITIES

INDIAN DEFSPACE SYMPOSIUM 2026

Day 2: Empowering the Space Industry to Enhance Defence Operational Readiness

The second day of IDS'26 shifted focus toward institutional preparedness, industrial enablement and the long-term strategic architecture required to strengthen India's defence space ecosystem. Held under the theme "**Empowering the Space Industry to Enhance Defence Operational Readiness,**" Day 2 examined how policy, innovation and public-private collaboration must evolve to support sovereign and mission-ready defence space capabilities.

The day opened with a plenary session featuring strategic perspectives from **Dr Anupam Sharma, Director, Directorate of Systems Planning, DRDO; Air Vice Marshal Manu Midha AVSM, VM, Director General, Defence Space Agency; Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh PVSM, AVSM, NM, PhD (Retd), Director General, United Service Institution of India; Lt General Vikas Rohella AVSM, SM, Engineer-in-Chief, Indian Army; Lt General R.S. Raman PVSM, AVSM, YSM, Director General of Military Intelligence; and Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari PVSM, AVSM, VM (Retd), Former Chief of the Air Staff.** The plenary reaffirmed the urgency of integrating space capabilities into India's operational and strategic defence architecture.

A major highlight of Day 2 was the felicitation of **Indian astronauts Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair, Kirti Chakra and Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, Ashoka Chakra,** followed by a fireside conversation on astronaut experiences, future missions and India's human spaceflight trajectory. **Moderated by Devika Diwan, Senior News Editor, NewsX,** the session explored astronaut training, operational readiness, Gaganyaan and the expanding opportunities for Indian industry in crew systems, life support technologies, mission operations and human spaceflight infrastructure.

The fireside chat **From Vision to Vigilance: India's Military Space Trajectory - Hits and Misses** offered a candid review of India's defence space evolution and the path to Defence Vision 2047. Featuring **Air Marshal S.P. Dharkar PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM (Retd) and Dr Sudheer Kumar N., Vice President - Manufacturing, Supply Chain and Global Strategy, XDLinx Spacelabs. Anchored by Chethan Kumar, Senior Assistant Editor - Space & Science, The Times of India,** the discussion examined India's progress in military space, institutional gaps, capability shortfalls and the structural reforms needed to build a credible, sovereign and mission-ready military space architecture.

ISpA ACTIVITIES

INDIAN DEFSPACE SYMPOSIUM 2026

In Mission DefSpace: Updates and Way Forward, speakers reviewed the progress of India's defence space innovation ecosystem and the transition from challenge statements to deployable capability. **Moderated by Air Marshal B.R. Krishna PVSM, AVSM, SC (Retd)**, the session featured **Commander D. Nautiyal (Retd)**, **Group Captain H.N. Prasanna**, **Wing Commander Sahil Deep**, **Colonel R. Jithendra (Retd)**, **Bharath Simha Reddy Pappula (Azista Space)** and **Captain Vishal Kanwar (Retd)**, **PwC India**. Discussions focused on accelerating procurement, improving operational induction and strengthening pathways for scaling indigenous defence space technologies.

The session **From Policy to Payload: Enabling Defence Space Industrial Base**, chaired by **Dr Vinod Kumar, Director, Promotion Directorate, IN-SPACe**, examined the policy, financial and industrial reforms needed to build a globally competitive defence space industrial base. Speakers including **Surbhi Dalmia (Novaspace)**, **Keyur Gandhi (Dhruva Space)**, **Noel Ballot (Safran Space)**, **Sandro Panagini (Leonardo Space Division)**, **Takehiro Sanoh (Synspective Inc.)** and **B.M. Raghavendra (L&T Precision Engineering & Systems)** discussed regulatory certainty, manufacturing readiness, finance, insurance, export competitiveness and supply chain resilience as critical enablers for India's long-term defence space growth.

The final thematic session, **Assured Navigation in Denied Environments: PNT, NavIC and Mission Continuity**, focused on resilient positioning, navigation and timing (PNT) architectures for contested operational environments. **Chaired by Air Vice Marshal Rahul Gupta, Assistant Chief of Air Staff (Operations - Space)**, the session brought together **P. Sajith (ISRO)**, **Colonel Vivek Gopal (NSCS)**, **Anurag Garg (Thales Group)**, **Ankit Kankane (Safran Navigation & Timing)**, **Vibhor Jain (VyomIC)**, **Akhileshwar Reddy (Sanyark Space Technologies)** and **Roberto Simonetti (ELT Group)** to discuss NavIC adoption, anti-jamming resilience, hybrid PNT systems and sovereign navigation frameworks for mission continuity in GPS-denied environments.

Day 2 also featured dedicated **industry sessions by Walchandnagar Industries and VyomIC**, spotlighting private-sector contributions in manufacturing, navigation technologies and mission-critical subsystems. The symposium concluded with **closing remarks by Arun T. Ramchandani, Chairman, ISpA**, followed by a legal and policy review by **Dr Ranjana Kaul, Partner, Dua Associates and Vice President, International Institute of Space Law**, a special address by **Dr W. Selvamurthy, President, Amity Science, Technology and Innovation Foundation** and the closing address by **Vice Admiral S.N. Ghormade PVSM, AVSM, NM, ADC (Retd)**, **Former Vice Chief of Naval Staff**. The closing session reinforced the need for stronger legal, institutional and industrial foundations to secure India's long-term defence space ambitions.

ISpA ACTIVITIES

DAY - 2 GLIMPSES



ISpA ACTIVITIES

EXHIBITORS

The Indian DefSpace Symposium (IDS) 2026 exhibition brought together a strong cohort of Indian and global exhibitors showcasing cutting-edge capabilities across defence-space technologies, satellite systems, AI, geospatial intelligence and secure communications. The exhibition floor highlighted the growing depth of India's strategic space ecosystem, with participation from leading startups, established industry players and international partners spanning the full defence-space value chain.

Featured Exhibitors:

- Azista Space
- Cyran AI Solutions
- Digantara
- GalaxEye
- Geospatial World
- Infinipoint Technologies
- Larsen & Toubro
- Pixxel
- Siddhi Group
- Synspective
- ULOOK
- Vantor
- Virat
- Vyomic
- XDLINX Space Labs

These exhibitors represented a dynamic mix of Indian and global players contributing to the strategic evolution of the defence-space sector, each bringing specialised capabilities in remote sensing, AI-driven analytics, satellite intelligence, secure mission systems and advanced manufacturing.

By enabling direct engagement with innovators and solution providers, the IDS 2026 exhibition reinforced the growing role of industry in building India's defence-space capabilities and highlighted the increasing convergence of national security, advanced technologies and commercial space innovation.

ISpA ACTIVITIES

EXHIBITORS



ISpA ACTIVITIES

PUBLICATIONS

Also, in its efforts to bring awareness on the topical industry subjects, ISpA launched key publications at the Indian DefSpace Symposium 2026:

OrbitAid-ISpA Concept Paper :
ADVANCING ISAM: BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR ON-ORBIT SERVICING & REFUELLING

A forward-looking publication examining how in-space servicing, assembly and manufacturing (ISAM) can redefine satellite lifecycles, orbital sustainability and next-generation space infrastructure.

SATSURE-ISpA Joint Publication:
Geospatial Foundation Models as an Enabler of Earth Observation Impact at Scale

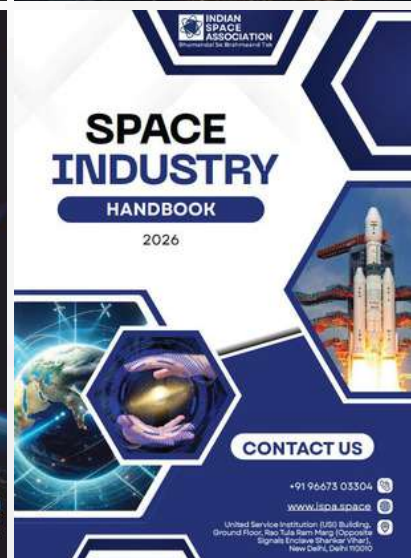
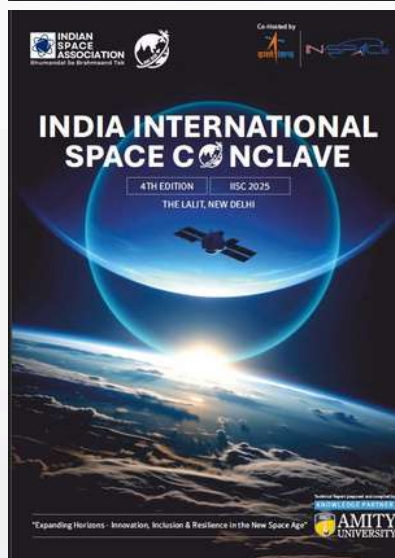
This publication explores how Geospatial Foundation Models (GFM) are transforming Earth Observation by enabling scalable, reusable and AI-driven geospatial intelligence.

Amity - ISpA: Technical report on India International Space Conclave 2025

A comprehensive report capturing key discussions, strategic insights and policy recommendations from the 4th India International Space Conclave, held in New Delhi.

ISpA Space Industry Handbook 2026

The First Edition of ISpA Space Industry Handbook offers a comprehensive overview of India's rapidly evolving space ecosystem, highlighting key industry players, emerging capabilities and sectoral opportunities.

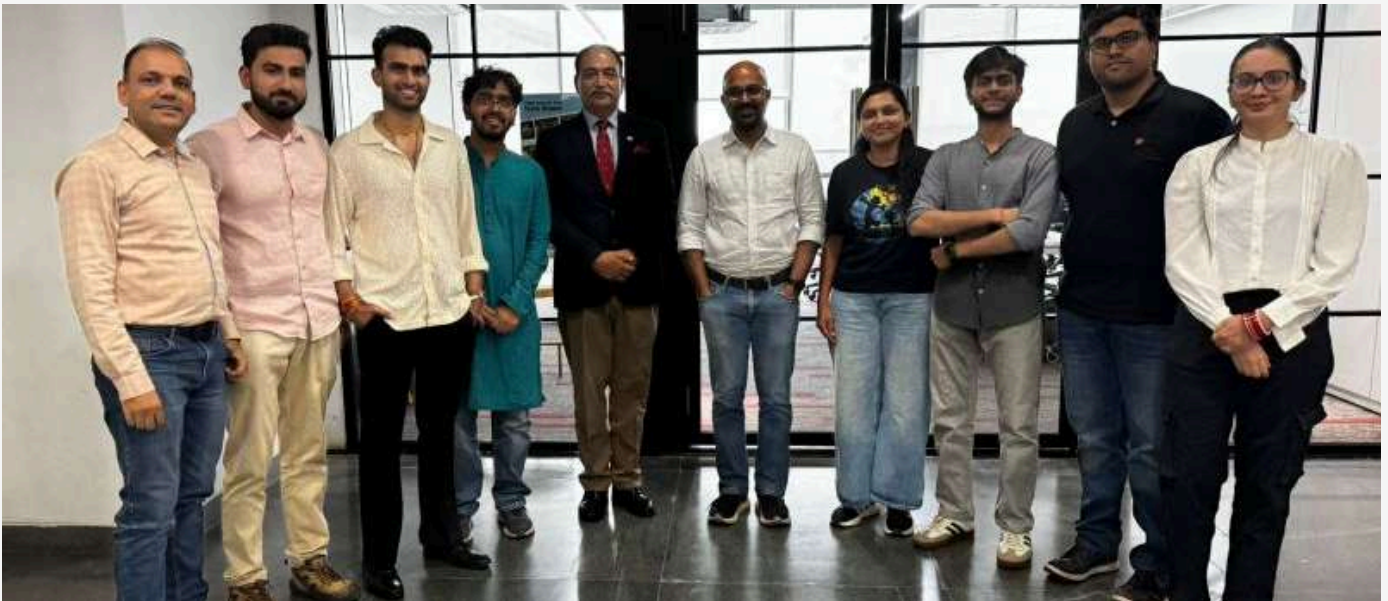


ISpA ACTIVITIES

DG ISpA VISITS KaleidEO's BENGALURU OFFICE

Lt Gen Anil Kumar Bhatt (Retd.), Director General, ISpA, recently visited KaleidEO's new office in Bengaluru, where he interacted with the team and reviewed the company's products, technological capabilities and ongoing work in the space sector.

The visit reflects ISpA's continued engagement with member organisations to better understand industry progress, strengthen collaboration and support the growth of a robust and globally competitive space ecosystem in India.



ISpA ACTIVITIES

ISpA SUPPORTS INDIA-AUSTRALIA ROUNDTABLE ON SPACE & GEOSPATIAL INNOVATION

ISpA- Indian Space Association was proud to be the Ecosystem Partner, alongside the Geospatial World Chamber of Commerce (GWCC), for the India-Australia Roundtable on Space & Geospatial Innovation held on April 9th, 2026, in Bengaluru. Hosted by Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce, the roundtable brought together stakeholders from both countries to strengthen cooperation across the Indo-Pacific space and geospatial ecosystem.

Lt Gen Anil Kumar Bhatt (retd), DG, ISpA, delivered a comprehensive Special Address, providing an overview of the evolving landscape, he emphasized that the Indian space sector is in a state of "permanent forward motion." He further highlighted that strategic collaboration with Australia is now a necessity for building a resilient Indo-Pacific supply chain.

The discussion focused on accelerating commercial adoption, scaling satellite data applications, enabling cross-border market access and strengthening investment flows into space and geospatial innovation. The roundtable reinforced growing India-Australia alignment in advancing technology partnerships, industry collaboration and long-term strategic engagement across the space sector.





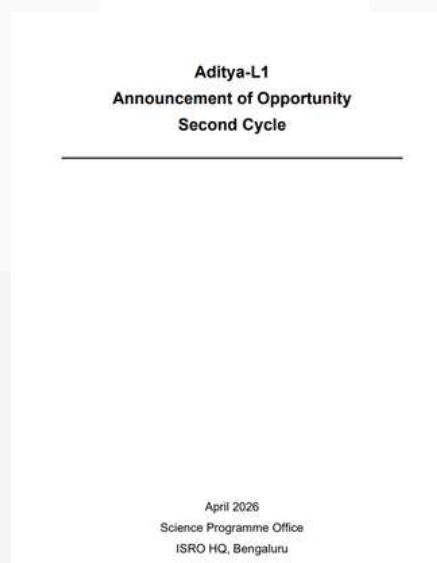
ISRO

INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION

ADITYA-L1 MISSION: ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPPORTUNITY (AO) SOLICITING PROPOSALS FOR THE SECOND AO CYCLE OBSERVATIONS | APRIL 02, 2026

The Aditya-L1 Mission marks a major milestone in India's space science programme, enabling continuous and comprehensive observations of the Sun from the Sun-Earth L1 point. Scientific data from the mission are regularly released in public domain for global scientific utilization. At present there are more than 27 TB data in public domain and several important scientific results have been published in International peer reviewed journals. To further maximize the scientific return from this unique mission, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has released the second Announcement of Opportunity (AO) inviting proposals from the Indian solar physics community for Aditya-L1 observation time. The below document outlines the eligibility criteria, proposal submission process and observation schedule for proposal submission. Researchers are encouraged to go through the complete AO details and submit high-quality proposals that advance our understanding of solar and heliospheric science.

[Click here](#) to open the full Aditya-L1 Announcement of Opportunity for second AO cycle





ISRO

INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION

MISSION MITRA BY ISRO

MAPPING OF INTEROPERABLE TRAITS AND RESPONSE ASSESSMENT (MITRA) | APRIL 03, 2026

The Crew safety & performance are the most critical elements of all Human Spaceflight Missions. Ability of Crew to communicate effectively, adapt to stress, maintain psychological resilience and support one another determines the success and safety of any mission. Analog missions conducted under controlled yet realistic conditions are utilized to understand how Crew perform under challenging conditions.

Towards above, ISRO has undertaken mission MITRA in Leh, Union Territory of Ladakh, from April 02 to 09, 2026. The high altitude of approximately 3,500 meters at Leh having the environmental conditions of hypoxia, low temperature and isolation as a natural analog for spaceflight operations.



Mission MITRA is a first-of-its-kind team behavioral study designed by ISRO & IAF-Institute of Aerospace Medicine to examine the physiological, psychological and operational dynamics of Crew and ground teams functioning in a high-altitude environment. This study is targeted to generate vital understanding on the team inter-operability between Crew (Gaganyatris) & ground control teams and effectiveness of decision making under environmental & operational stress.

M/s Protoplanet Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru, an Indian start-up is responsible for facility management and statutory protocols. Mission MITRA was inaugurated on 2nd April 2026 through a virtual address from Bengaluru by Dr. V Narayanan, Chairman, ISRO/Secretary, DOS in presence of Air Commodore Shri N. K. Tripathy, Director, Institute of Aerospace Medicine (IAM), Shri DK Singh, Director Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC), Shri Ganesh M. Pillai, Scientific Secretary, ISRO and Shri Hanamantray Baluragi, Director, Human Space Programme (DHSP), ISRO Headquarters Bengaluru.





ISRO

INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION

NATIONAL LEARNING WEEK - "SADHANA SAPTAH" AT ISRO | APRIL 08, 2026

Mission Karmayogi aims to build the capacity of civil servants across Ministries / Departments through competency driven learning and continuous professional development. To foster a culture of continuous learning, the National Learning Week - Karmayogi Saptah was held during October 2024. In line with, Capacity Building Commission (CBC) had initiated "SADHANA SAPTAH" (Strengthening Adaptive Development and Humane Aptitude for National Advancement) across Ministries / Departments from April 2 - 8, 2026. As part of the Sadhana Saptah programme, ISRO Centres / Units are organising various talks and CBPO, ISRO Head Quarters has organised two insightful talks on 6th April, 2026 which was livestreamed to all ISRO Centres/Units.

Shri Rajeev Ratan Chetwani, Director, DISM, ISRO HQ gave a talk on "AI Usage in DOS/ISRO" followed by "Lessons learned from ISRO missions" by Shri Imtiaz Ali Khan, Director, DSRQ, ISRO HQ.





ISRO

INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION

ISRO CONFERRED AIMA SPECIAL AWARD FOR PUBLIC SERVICE EXCELLENCE - 2025 | APRIL 09, 2026

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has been conferred with the “AIMA Special Award for Public Service Excellence for 2025” by the All India Management Association (AIMA). The award was presented during the AIMA Platinum Jubilee (70th) National Leadership Conclave held at New Delhi.

At the ceremony, the award was presented by Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Hon'ble Union Minister, Government of India, to Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and on behalf of Chairman, ISRO / Secretary DoS, the award was received by Shri Dinesh Kumar Singh, Distinguished Scientist and Director of the Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC), ISRO



On the occasion, AIMA acknowledged ISRO's sustained efforts in establishing and operationalising space-based systems and applications in support of national development. ISRO's programmes have enabled services across key sectors including agriculture, forestry, communication, tele-education and telemedicine. The Organisation's contributions in regional navigation through NAVIC and its support to disaster management mechanisms were also acknowledged.

The award further recognises ISRO's role in strengthening the national space ecosystem through the transfer of launch vehicle and satellite technologies to industry, as well as the dissemination of technical expertise to academic institutions, which has facilitated the development of multiple student satellites.

AIMA highlighted that, since its establishment in 1969, ISRO has developed robust capabilities in launch vehicle and satellite technologies, having completed over 100 launch vehicle missions and placed more than 430 satellites in orbit. ISRO's achievements in planetary exploration, including missions to the Moon and Mars, along with ongoing initiatives such as human spaceflight, the development of the Bharatiya Antariksh Station and scientific missions like Aditya-L1 and XPoSat, were acknowledged as part of this recognition.

ISRO continues to pursue advancements in space-based applications and research, aligned with national priorities, while contributing to the growth of space science and technology.



ISRO

INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION

ISRO CONDUCTS SECOND INTEGRATED AIR DROP TEST (IADT-02) FOR GAGANYAAN | APRIL 10, 2026

The second Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-02) for Gaganyaan mission was successfully conducted at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota on April 10, 2026. In this test, a simulated Crew Module, weighing about 5.7 tonnes, that is equivalent to the mass of the Crew Module in the first uncrewed Gaganyaan mission (G1), was lifted by an Indian Air Force Chinook helicopter to an altitude of about 3km and released over a designated drop zone in sea, near to Sriharikota coast.

Ten parachutes of four types were deployed in a precise sequence during the descent of the Crew Module, gradually reducing the velocity for safe touchdown. Subsequently, the simulated Crew Module was successfully recovered in coordination with Indian Navy. The IADT-02 test validated the parachute-based deceleration systems in the Crew Module.

This test marks another significant step towards the readiness for the Gaganyaan G1 Mission, with active support and participation from the Indian Air Force, Indian Navy and Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).





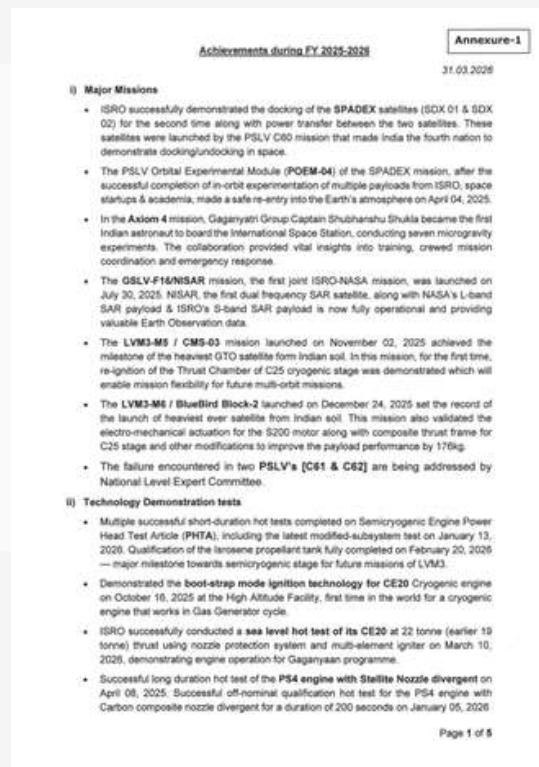
ISRO

INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION

ISRO'S ACHIEVEMENTS DURING FY 2025-2026 | APRIL 10, 2026

The Indian Space Programme achieved several milestones during the financial year 2025-26 including challenging missions, ground tests for validating new technologies and a host of other milestones. The Department took several efforts towards outreach and skill development in space technology across the nation along with handholding of private sector in space activities enabling a thriving space ecosystem.

[Click here](#) Details : Annexure - Achievements during FY 2025-2026





ISRO

INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SPACECRAFT MISSION OPERATIONS - SMOPS-2026 | APRIL 20, 2026

The second edition of the International Conference on Spacecraft Mission Operations (SMOPS-2026), themed “Innovative Operations for Smart and Sustainable Space Mission Management - Next Generation,” was held from 8-10 April 2026 in Bengaluru. Jointly organised by ISRO, the Astronautical Society of India (ASI) and the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), the conference brought together experts from global space agencies, industry, academia and start-ups to deliberate on the future of mission operations across both upstream and downstream segments.

Key themes discussed at SMOPS-2026 included:

- Mission operations management and advanced mission design
- Automation, AI and robotics in spacecraft operations
- Large constellation management and ground segment operations
- Human spaceflight, interplanetary missions and astronaut training
- Space domain awareness, cybersecurity and future mission architectures

The conference featured over 120 oral presentations and 88 poster presentations, along with participation from leading global institutions including ESA, CNES, DLR, NASA, JAXA, EUMETSAT, Eutelsat and others. An exclusive workshop for students and young professionals was also held on the final day, focusing on robotic mission operations, space applications and human spaceflight. SMOPS-2026 served as a significant platform for dialogue on the growing complexity of spacecraft mission operations, highlighting the role of AI/ML, automation and international collaboration in enabling safe, sustainable and efficient space mission management for the future.





ISRO

INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION

ISRO AND TIFR SIGN MOU FOR COLLABORATION IN SPACE SCIENCE AND RELATED TECHNOLOGIES |

APRIL 20, 2026

In a significant step for India's space exploration programme, ISRO and the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 20 April 2026 at ISRO Headquarters, Bengaluru, to strengthen scientific collaboration in space science, technology and exploration. The signing ceremony was presided over by Dr. V. Narayanan, Chairman, ISRO / Secretary, DoS. The MoU was signed by Shri M. Ganesh Pillai, Scientific Secretary, ISRO and Prof. Jayaram Chengalur, Director, TIFR.

The MoU establishes a formal framework for long-term collaboration between ISRO and TIFR, two institutions that have shared deep scientific ties for decades, from India's early balloon experiments to mission partnerships such as AstroSat. This structured collaboration will support joint efforts in both ground- and space-based scientific exploration.

Speaking at the event, Dr. V. Narayanan noted that the partnership fills a critical gap in India's scientific collaboration framework and will support the nation's ambitions in advanced space science, including exoplanetary studies and future scientific missions. The agreement is expected to strengthen India's space science ecosystem by linking academic research with national space infrastructure and enabling greater indigenous capability in fundamental space science.





ISRO

INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION

WORKSHOP ON INDIGENISATION OF IT APPLICATIONS | APRIL 21, 2026

ISRO organized a workshop on “Indigenisation of IT Applications” on April 15, 2026, at ISRO Headquarters, aimed at creating an interactive platform for engagement between ISRO's IT experts and a select group of six startups operating in the IT domain. The workshop witnessed participation from the Associate Scientific Secretary, Director (Promotion Directorate), Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center (IN-SPACE), Directors of various programme offices and domain experts from across ISRO centres.

The programme commenced with pitch presentations by the six identified startups, who showcased their technological capabilities and presented customized proposals aligned with ISRO's requirements. This was followed by an insightful talk by the Director, Promotion Directorate, IN-SPACE, providing an overview of Department of Space startup support programmes and the enabling ecosystem for industry participation. Subsequently, the Director, DISM, ISRO Headquarters, delivered a talk highlighting key opportunities for indigenization in critical IT domains.

The workshop concluded with an interactive session that facilitated open dialogue and networking, wherein queries from the participating startups were comprehensively addressed by officials from ISRO and IN-SPACE, paving the way for potential collaborations and future engagements.





IN-SPACE

INDIAN NATIONAL SPACE
PROMOTION AND
AUTHORIZATION CENTRE

IN-SPACE OPENS ACCESS TO ADVANCED SPACE TECHNOLOGIES FOR INDUSTRY

IN-SPACE is pleased to announce that NGEs can now apply for transfer of technology including spacecraft buses (I-1K , I-2K, I-3K, I-4K and I-6K Bus), Space-Grade Travelling Wave Tubes (TWTs) and the copper plating procedure for Tungsten-Rhenium helices used in TWTAs.

This builds on a broader and consistent effort by IN-SPACE to open up **ISRO - Indian Space Research Organization** technologies to non-government entities (NGEs), enabling deeper participation from the private sector in India's space journey.

The latest additions further expand the scope of available technologies, making it easier for industry players to access critical components and processes that were earlier limited to institutional use.

In addition, a comprehensive and evolving list of technology transfer opportunities is available for NGEs to explore and apply. Interested organisations can access the full list and submit applications online here:

<https://lnkd.in/gqhCFxgp>



IN-SPACE

INDIAN NATIONAL SPACE
PROMOTION AND
AUTHORIZATION CENTRE

IN-SPACE LAUNCHES INDO-AFRICAN CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME ON SPACE TECHNOLOGIES

IN-SPACE inaugurated a capacity building course in collaboration with ITEC, Ministry of External Affairs, on “Space Technologies for the Benefit of Mankind: Indo-African Perspective” at the Indian Aviation Academy, New Delhi. The programme brought together participants from across Africa to strengthen cooperation in the application of space technologies for sustainable development and shared growth.

The inaugural session highlighted the role of space technologies in addressing challenges across the Global South, with a focus on climate resilience, resource management and inclusive development. During the session, IN-SPACE outlined its ongoing efforts to expand private sector participation, strengthen academic engagement and build a more inclusive space ecosystem.

The programme also underscored India’s commitment to capacity building and South-South cooperation by sharing its growing “space stack” and enabling partner nations to build indigenous capabilities in space applications. The release of the Compendium of Abstracts marked another step in fostering deeper international collaboration and knowledge exchange in support of peaceful and development-oriented uses of space.





IN-SPACE

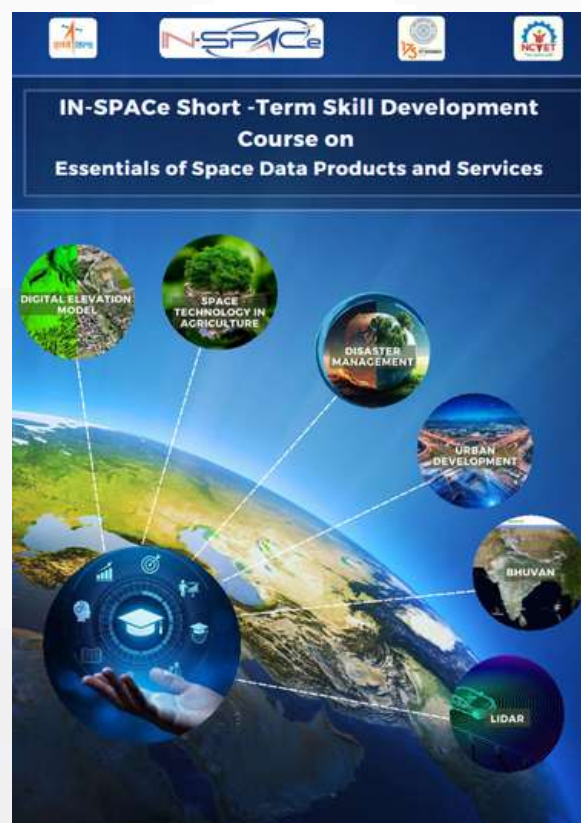
INDIAN NATIONAL SPACE
PROMOTION AND
AUTHORIZATION CENTRE

IN-SPACE LAUNCHES 18TH SKILL DEVELOPMENT COURSE ON SPACE DATA PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

IN-SPACE inaugurated its 18th Short-Term Skill Development Course on “Space Data Products and Services” at the IIT Roorkee Greater Noida Centre (GNEC), in collaboration with ISRO and IIT Roorkee. The programme is designed to strengthen technical capabilities in the rapidly growing domain of space-based data applications and services.

The course brings together participants with experts from ISRO, former space scientists and leaders from industry and academia to provide practical insights into the evolving space data economy. The curriculum focuses on key areas such as remote sensing, GIS applications and the development of high-impact space-enabled services.

By combining technical training with real-world application, the programme aims to build a skilled talent base capable of contributing to India's expanding space economy and the growing commercial use of satellite data.





IN-SPACE

INDIAN NATIONAL SPACE
PROMOTION AND
AUTHORIZATION CENTRE

IN-SPACE HOSTS INDIA-REPUBLIC OF KOREA SPACE DAY IN BENGALURU

IN-SPACE hosted the India-Republic of Korea Space Day in Bengaluru, bringing together key stakeholders from both countries to strengthen bilateral cooperation across the space sector. Held during the visit of the President of the Republic of Korea to India, the event served as an important platform for policy dialogue, industry engagement and commercial collaboration.

The Korean delegation included representatives from KASA, KARI, KASI and nine non-government entities, while the Indian side was led by IN-SPACE with participation from ISRO and around 50 Indian non-government entities. Nine Indian companies also presented their capabilities across the space value chain.

The engagement reflected growing momentum in India-Republic of Korea space cooperation, progressing from policy and programme discussions to industry presentations and nearly 60 one-on-one B2B meetings aimed at exploring future partnerships.





IN-SPACE

INDIAN NATIONAL SPACE
PROMOTION AND
AUTHORIZATION CENTRE

IN-SPACE AND QCI ORGANISE GUNVATTA YATRA FOR SPACE START-UPS AND MSMEs

IN-SPACE, in collaboration with the Quality Council of India (QCI), organised the first Gunvatta Yatra for India's space sector in Bengaluru to engage with space start-ups, MSMEs and industry stakeholders on strengthening quality systems across the evolving space ecosystem.

The initiative focused on the growing need for robust quality frameworks as India's space sector expands with increased participation from non-government entities. The session highlighted the importance of manufacturing excellence, reliability and quality-driven processes in building globally competitive and sustainable space technologies.

Participants were introduced to the Government of India's ZED Certification Scheme, which promotes structured quality management practices among MSMEs to improve efficiency, strengthen compliance and enhance competitiveness. The programme also provided practical guidance on certification processes and support mechanisms, with several start-ups registering for the ZED scheme during the event.



ISpA IN NEWS

Artemis II Signals Shift From Space Race To Global Collaboration, Says Lt Gen Bhatt

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Industry-led skill building key as India expands space and satellite economy: Experts

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Artemis II mission: In lunar glow, India's space supply chain may take off

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India hosts space industry leaders to map future of mission operations

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Lt Gen AK Bhatt (Retd) says, "The strength of our Indian space is that ISRO has made its capabilities very good in India in the last 50 years.

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ISpA IN NEWS



Delhi: Lt Gen AK Bhatt (Retd) says, "The strength of our Indian space is that ISRO has made its capabilities very good in India in the last 50 years. We have it for satellite communication, satellite navigation and ISR. But yes, this new battle shows that we need to work harder to increase the capability in space..."



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Space industry leaders to map future of mission operations

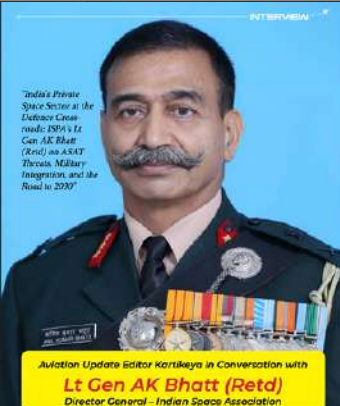
India to conduct the first uncrewed test of its human spaceflight program in 2030

Space industry leaders gathered in Bengaluru for the SMOPS-2026 (Space Mission Operations Symposium 2026) to discuss the future of mission operations. The event, organized by the Indian Space Association (ISA), brought together experts from ISRO, private space companies, and international organizations. The symposium focused on the challenges and opportunities of space mission operations, particularly in the context of India's upcoming human spaceflight program. Key topics discussed included the development of advanced mission management systems, the integration of commercial space services, and the need for robust communication and navigation infrastructure. The symposium also highlighted the importance of international collaboration in space exploration and the role of India in the global space economy.

In lunar glow, India's space supply chain may take off

The biggest Artemis II mission suppliers are deepening their presence in the country

As global reports in October last year revealed, India is set to become a major supplier of critical components for the Artemis II mission. This development is seen as a significant boost for India's space supply chain. The mission, led by NASA, is set to launch in late 2025 and will be the first crewed mission to the Moon. India's role as a supplier is primarily due to its expertise in manufacturing high-precision optical components, which are essential for the mission's navigation and communication systems. This partnership is expected to open up new opportunities for Indian space companies and engineers, and may lead to further collaborations in the future. The success of the Artemis II mission is seen as a testament to India's growing capabilities in space technology and its increasing influence in the global space industry.



Aviation Update Editor Kartikeya in Conversation with Lt Gen AK Bhatt (Retd) Director General - Indian Space Association



Chandrayaan-3 lunar lander and rover on the surface of the Moon.



Orion spacecraft being mated to the SLS rocket on the launch pad.

Around the moon in 10 days

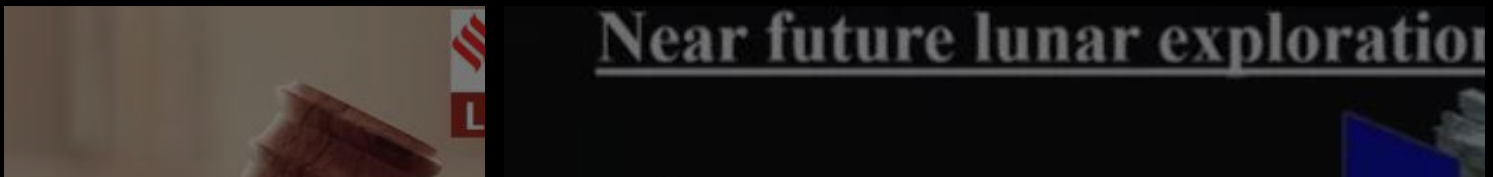
Artemis II lifts off to take humans to satellite vicinity after 50 years; mission to open door for \$127 billion lunar economy by 2050

The Artemis II mission is set to launch in late 2025, marking a significant milestone in human space exploration. The mission will take four astronauts on a 10-day journey around the Moon, the first crewed mission since Apollo 17 in 1970. This mission is part of NASA's broader Artemis program, which aims to establish a sustainable human presence on the Moon by 2030. The Artemis II mission is expected to generate a large amount of data and experience, which will be used to plan future lunar landings and the development of a lunar base. The mission is also seen as a catalyst for the growth of the lunar economy, which is projected to reach \$127 billion by 2050. This economic activity is expected to be driven by the demand for lunar resources, such as rare earth minerals and water, and the development of lunar-based industries.



Orion spacecraft being mated to the SLS rocket on the launch pad.

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Near future lunar exploration

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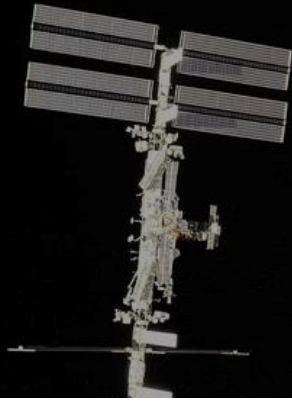
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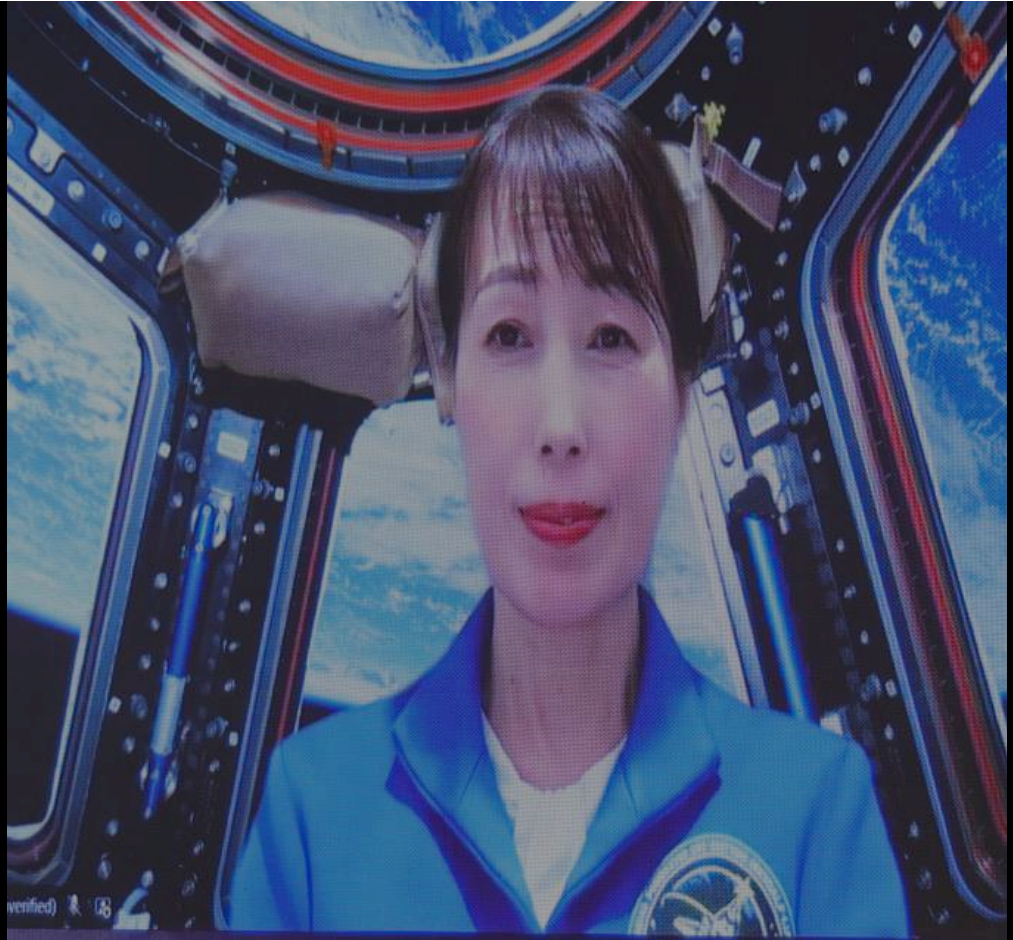
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- [SpaceX IPO yet to come, but here's how investors can cash in on Space right now](#)
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- [SpaceX says it has option to acquire startup Cursor for \\$60 billion](#)
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- [At SpaceX, AI is burning the cash that Starlink earns](#)
- [Meta partners with space startup Overview Energy to secure solar power for data centers](#)
- [SpaceX ties Musk compensation to Mars colonization goal](#)
- [Astrobotic tests advanced rocket engine](#)
- [Amazon to buy satellite firm Globalstar in \\$11.57 billion deal to take on Musk's Starlink](#)
- [A new dawn for Moon exploration](#)
- [Artemis 3 has been pushed to late 2027. Can NASA still land astronauts on the moon in 2028?](#)
- [US Space Force wants space-based missile interceptors for Golden Dome ready by 2028](#)
- [Space Force taps K2 satellites to test laser communications for missile-defense](#)
- [Space Force awards BAE Systems \\$11.8 million to demo satellite communications for Golden Dome](#)
- [Space Force awards up to \\$3.2 billion for Golden Dome interceptor prototypes](#)
- [Falcon 9 launches final GPS 3 satellite into orbit for U.S. Space Force](#)
- [NASA reserves science payload space for Mars telecommunications mission](#)
- [AST SpaceMobile Gets FCC Green Light for Direct-to-Device Service After Launch Setback](#)
- [NASA sets early September launch date for Roman Space Telescope](#)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CHINA

- [Test cargo craft advances China's space station resupply](#)
- [China launches Lijian-1 Y12 rocket to send 8 satellites into space](#)
- [The evolving China-Pakistan space cooperation](#)
- [New satellite aims to enhance precise monitoring of extreme weather events](#)
- [China launches PRSC-EO3 for Pakistan, lofts internet test and environment monitoring satellites](#)
- [China backs orbital data center startup with \\$8.4 billion in credit lines](#)
- [China ramps up satellite production capacity amid constellation ambitions](#)
- [Shenzhou-21 astronauts complete third spacewalk, mission extended by a month](#)
- [Qingzhou prototype cargo spacecraft completes rendezvous tests in orbit](#)
- [Novaspace and OGC Unveil the China Space Industry Intelligence Catalog](#)
- [Jielong-3 launches internet test satellite, Kinetica-1 lofts 8 remote sensing sats](#)
- [Fueling test suggests imminent debut of China's reusable Long March 10B rocket](#)
- [China's Chang'e-7 arrives at spaceport for lunar south pole exploration mission](#)
- [China conducts pair of Long March launches for Thousand Sails and Guowang megaconstellations](#)
- [China's commercial Tianlong-3 rocket fails on debut launch](#)
- [Chinese startup tests flexible robotic arm in space for on-orbit servicing](#)
- [Spacety raises \\$190 million to scale satellite manufacturing, plans IPO](#)
- [China's Tiangong space station to double in size as Nasa phases out ISS](#)
- [China's space station crew to 'maximise opportunities' with extra month in orbit](#)
- [China reveals military capabilities in new space solar power plant design](#)
- [China's Qingzhou robotic craft tests space debris capture and clean-up](#)
- [China's Tiangong space station to double in size as Nasa phases out ISS](#)
- [China launches heavyweight rocket to challenge SpaceX's Falcon 9. It fails](#)
- [Cosmoleap secures \\$73 million for reusable rocket with tower catch recovery](#)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

OTHER NATIONS

- [China and Europe launch rare joint space mission](#)
- [Satellite broadband global subscriptions set to exceed 43 million by 2035](#)
- [Conducted key SARS virus test in space during Covid time; mentored Indian astronauts for Gaganyaan op: Cosmonaut Denis Matveev](#)
- [Bermuda Triangle of Space: The hidden radiation zone causing satellite failures](#)
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- [Canadian Space Agency cancels Spire satellite contract](#)
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- [Russia launches 3 tons of cargo to the International Space Station from Kazakhstan \(video\).](#)
- [Japan's audacious sample-return mission to the Mars moon Phobos has made it to the launch pad](#)
- [Rocket Lab launches Japanese 'origami' satellite, 7 other spacecraft to orbit \(photos\).](#)
- [Private Japanese spacecraft will inspect 2 dead satellites in 2027](#)
- [Kepler to lead interoperability tests for ESA's HydRON optical relay network](#)
- [Astroscale passes key design milestone for UK military space-tracking cubesats](#)

GOVERNMENT POLICIES/ CONSULTATIONS/ RECOMMENDATIONS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRAI Releases Consultation Paper on the Framework for Satellite Communication Network Authorisation and Assignment of Spectrum to Satellite Communication Network Providers

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released a Consultation Paper on the Framework for Satellite Communication Network Authorisation and Assignment of Spectrum to Satellite Communication Network Providers, inviting stakeholder comments on the future regulatory architecture for satellite communications in India. Issued on 8 April 2026, the paper examines the proposed authorisation framework for Satellite Communication Network (SCN) providers, including conditions for network establishment, operation, spectrum assignment and associated financial obligations.

The consultation is a significant step in shaping India's next-generation satcom regime under the Telecommunications Act, 2023. It addresses key issues such as feeder-link and user-link spectrum assignment, gateway and service authorisation structures and regulatory provisions for enabling both GEO and NGSO satellite operators in India's evolving digital communications landscape. Written comments have been invited by 6 May 2026, followed by counter-comments by 20 May 2026.

IspA UPCOMING EVENTS

INDIA INTERNATIONAL SPACE CONCLAVE 2026

The **5th edition** of the **India International Space Conclave (IISC)** will be held this November, bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, start-ups, investors and global stakeholders to shape the next phase of India's space economy. As a leading platform for strategic dialogue and collaboration, IISC 2026 will focus on policy, innovation, investment and international partnerships across the space sector.



Founding Members

- Alpha Design Technologies
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- Broadcast Engineering Consultants India
- Capella Space
- ESRI India
- HAL - Hindustan Aerospace Division
- Hexcel Composites LLP
- ICEYE
- LeoLabs
- Nibe Space
- Northstar Earth
- Planet Labs
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- Bellatrix Aerospace
- BES Space
- Big Bang Boom Solutions
- BQP Technologies
- Caliche
- CI-Metrics
- Cosmoserve Space India
- CYRAN AI Solutions
- Codimaths
- Dhruva Space
- Digantara Research
- Elena Geo Systems
- GalaxEye Space
- Geo Solutions India
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- Gritly Analytics
- Ice Aero Pvt Ltd
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- Kawa Space
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- Kristellar Aerospace
- LuminASIC Pvt Ltd
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- Manastu Space
- Micronet Solutions
- NAV Wireless Technologies
- OmSpace Rocket & Exploration
- OnEarth Space TS
- Omnipresent Robot Tech
- OrbitAID Aerospace
- Orbitt Space
- Orbix Global
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- Pixxel
- Robinsons Cargo & Logistics
- Saankhya Labs
- Samkalpa Systems
- Sanyark
- SatLeo Labs
- SISIR Radar
- Siliconia Technologies
- Skymap Global India
- Skyroot Aerospace
- SkyServe
- Spacefields
- Space Machines Co.
- Suhora Technologies
- TheSpaceLabs
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