



Another orbit-The GSLV-GSAT launch enhances India's capacity to meet its communication needs

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Why in News?

GSLV-MkIII D2 had successfully carried GSAT 29 into space and ISRO created new milestone in Space industry.

- The Indian Space Research Organisation has marked a big milestone by successfully testing its heavy-lift launcher while launching an advanced communication satellite.
- The Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle MarkIII (GSLV MkIII) launched GSAT29, an advanced communications satellite, into a geosynchronous transfer orbit where the satellite's closest approach to earth would be 190 km and the farthest 35,975 km.
- With a liftoff mass of 640 tonnes, the GSLV MkIII is the heaviest launch vehicle made in India, and GSAT29 is the heaviest satellite to take off from Indian soil.
- The launcher can carry payloads up to 4 tonnes to the geosynchronous transfer orbit and up to 10 tonnes to a low-earth orbit. The multi-band, multi-beam satellite can cater to the communication needs of people in Jammu and Kashmir and the Northeast.
- The present launch marked the second developmental flight of the MkIII. This success sets the stage for trying out variations such as other types of engines, different fuel combinations and higher launch capacity.
- The GSLV MkIII has not just boosted the satellite into its orbit, but also restored morale at ISRO, which had been dented by the GSAT 6A setback.

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