



# **‘Big bird’ to take Internet to villages**

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## **‘Big bird’ to take Internet to villages-GSAT-11, launched from Guiana, will take satellite-based Internet to remote areas**

- India’s first six-tonne-class ‘big bird’ in space, advanced communication satellite GSAT-11, the heaviest ever to be built by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) was put into orbit from the European spaceport in Guiana in South America.
- Its mission is to enable high-speed satellite-based Internet services to users in rural and remote areas and to businesses down home over the next 15 years.
- Dr. Sivan ISRO chairman said, Big Bird will meet most of the requirements of providing broadband connectivity to rural and inaccessible village panchayats under Bharat Net, which is part of the Digital India initiative.
- Launched in October 2011, Bharat Net (earlier called the National Optical Fibre Network) aims to provide 2.5 lakh village panchayats with e-banking, e-education, e-health and e-governance, among others, through reliable broadband connectivity.

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