



ISRO to launch military satellite tonight

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Microsat-R put together by a handful of DRDO laboratories; PSLV-C44 will lift off from Sriharikota

- Indian Space Research Organisation's first mission of 2019 will put into space a 130-kg military imaging satellite, Microsat-R.
- According to information obtained from different sources Microsat-R and its payload come assembled from a handful of laboratories of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and is meant for military use.
- The satellite was “assembled outside and ISRO only interfaced it” with its own systems and the launch vehicle, just as it treats any customer satellite.
- For the third time in ISRO’s recent history, the mission team is slated to cut off and restart the PS4 engine twice over a flight lasting around 100 minutes.
- The other experiment with the launcher PSLV-C44 vehicle will be a new third variant having two strap-on boosters.
- Called the PSLV-DL, D standing for demonstration, it ranges between the older two variants.

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