

With human space flight, India to push frontiers

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<u>Highlights</u>

- Gaganyaan, the human space flight programme green-flagged and set for 2022 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is highly doable, Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation K. Sivan said soon after it was announced on Wednesday.
- The mission is estimated at Rs.9,000 crore. Most of the critical technologies and hardware required for the project are ready or have been demonstrated by its centres.
- ISRO would now stitch them up into a complete project and present a comprehensive project report to get a formal approval of the government
- When it achieves the mission, India would be the fourth nation to circle Earth after the Soviets, the Americans and the Chinese.

In 1984, India's first astronaut Wing Commander (retd.) Rakesh Sharma orbited Earth as part of a Soviet mission.

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