

INDIA In Space

India has an amazing history of exploring space through its space agency, **ISRO** (Indian Space Research Organisation).

Humble Beginnings

- **Bicycle transport:** ISRO transported its very first rocket on a bicycle in 1963.
- **Bullock carts:** Scientists used bullock carts to carry India's first satellite for testing.
- **Aryabhata launch:** India built its first satellite, Aryabhata, in 1975.
- **Soviet help:** Russia launched India's first satellite into space.
- **Thumba station:** India's first launch pad was in a small fishing village.

Moon and Mars Wonders

- **Water discovery:** India's Chandrayaan-1 first discovered water molecules on the Moon.
- **First attempt success:** India reached Mars on its very first try.
- **Super budget:** The Mars mission cost less than the Hollywood movie *Interstellar*.
- **Lunar South Pole:** Chandrayaan-3 was the first to land near the Moon's south pole.
- **Shiva Shakti:** India named the Chandrayaan-3 landing site "Shiva Shakti Point".

Astronauts and Records

- **Rakesh Sharma:** He was the first Indian to travel into space in 1984.
- **Saare Jahan Se Achha:** Rakesh used these famous words to describe India from space.
- **World record:** ISRO launched 104 satellites at once in 2017.
- **Homegrown GPS:** India built its own navigation system called NavIC.
- **Gaganaut training:** Indian astronauts training for future missions are called Gaganauts.

Future and Sun Missions

- **Sun study:** Aditya-L1 is India's first mission to study the Sun.
- **Special parking:** Aditya-L1 sits in a special space spot called Lagrange Point 1.
- **Gaganyaan mission:** India is preparing to send its own humans into space soon.
- **Space robot:** A female robot named Vyommitra will fly in early test missions.
- **Self-reliant:** India builds almost all its rockets using tracking systems made at home.