ISRO targets four functional launch pads by 2029

ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan announced the expansion plans during a graduation ceremony in Chennai.

An ambitious infrastructure expansion plan by the Indian Space Research Organisation to scale up rocket launch capabilities and private sector participation.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- **ISRO** will have four functional launch pads operational by **2029** to boost launch frequencies.
- The new spaceport facility in **Kulasekarapattinam** will feature advanced infrastructure including integration buildings and rail-track systems.
- The facility will also house critical **telemetry, tracking, and command systems** for mission monitoring.
- ISRO aims to advance lunar exploration and **Gaganyaan** crew module tests as part of this expansion.
- The agency is also expanding **private sector partnerships** in the national space ecosystem.
- **V. Narayanan** serves as the Secretary of the Department of Space and Chairman of ISRO.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

ISRO was established on **August 15, 1969**, with its headquarters located in **Bengaluru**, Karnataka.

Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, located in **Sriharikota**, Andhra Pradesh, is the primary spaceport of India.

Kulasekarapattinam in **Thoothukudi** district is designated as India's second rocket launch port specifically for Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV).

IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre) acts as the single-window nodal agency under Department of Space to promote private space activities.

URSC (U.R. Rao Satellite Centre) in **Bengaluru** is responsible for the design, development, and realization of all ISRO satellites.

Gaganyaan is India's first human spaceflight mission aiming to send astronauts into a **400 km** orbit.

REVISION FLASHCARD

ISRO plans to expand to four functional launch pads by 2029, including the new facility in Kulasekarapattinam.

Syllabus Relevance: Crucial for Unit 1 (General Science - Space missions) and Unit 2 (Current Events - National developments).

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