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SpaceX Falcon 9 Launches Indian Payloads

Indian firms deployed multiple payloads on SpaceX's Transporter-18 mission.

SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket successfully launched various satellites, including those from Indian companies, as part of its rideshare mission.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- SpaceX's **Falcon 9** rocket successfully deployed multiple **Indian payloads** into orbit.
- The launch took place on **October 2, 2026**, from **Vandenberg Space Force Base** in **California, U.S.A.**
- This was the **18th Transporter rideshare mission**, delivering a total of **130 payloads**.
- **Dhruva Space**'s **LEAP-2**, an **Indian payload**, was part of this mission.
- **LEAP-2** hosted **In-Orbit Demonstration (IOD)** missions, including **TAPAS-1** by India-based **Satleo Labs**.
- It also included a **star tracker** developed by **France**-based **Sodern ArianeGroup**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

SpaceX is an **American** aerospace manufacturer and space transport services company founded by **Elon Musk**.

The **Falcon 9** is a **reusable two-stage rocket** designed and manufactured by **SpaceX**.

India's private space sector has seen significant growth, supported by policies like the establishment of **IN-SPACe**.

Rideshare missions allow **multiple small satellites** from different customers to be launched together, reducing costs.

Dhruva Space is an **Indian private space technology company** specializing in satellite and launch solutions.

Satleo Labs is an **India-based company** focused on satellite technology and solutions.

ISRO (**Indian Space Research Organisation**) is India's primary **national space agency**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

SpaceX Falcon 9 launched Indian payloads in Transporter-18 mission on October 2, 2026.

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