SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 28 September 2026

SpaceX's Starship Rocket Achieves First Orbital Flight Success

SpaceX successfully launched its Starship rocket into orbit for the first time before splashing down in the Pacific Ocean.

Starship is SpaceX's next-generation, fully reusable heavy-lift launch vehicle designed for deep space missions including NASA's Artemis program.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- Starship reached **Earth orbit** for the first time after lifting off from **Texas**, USA.
- The launch vehicle carried **26** advanced **Starlink satellites** into orbit during this flight.
- The mission concluded with a splashdown in the **Pacific Ocean**, north of Hawaii, **three hours** after liftoff.
- The mission forms a critical component in testing readiness for **NASA**'s **Artemis** moon exploration program.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

SpaceX is an American private aerospace manufacturer founded by **Elon Musk** in **2002**.

NASA's **Artemis Program** aims to land the first woman and first person of color on the Moon.

Starship is designed to be fully reusable, capable of carrying up to **100 to 150 tonnes** of payload to Low Earth Orbit (LEO).

India's ISRO conducts its satellite launches primarily from the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre** (SDSC) in **Sriharikota**, Andhra Pradesh.

ISRO's **LVM3** (Launch Vehicle Mark-3) is India's heaviest rocket, with a payload capacity of around **4 tonnes** to Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).

Kulasekarapattinam in **Tuticorin** district, Tamil Nadu, is being developed as ISRO's second spaceport for launching Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLVs).

REVISION FLASHCARD

SpaceX's Starship rocket achieved its first orbital flight, supporting future NASA Artemis lunar missions.

Syllabus Relevance: High relevance for Unit 1 General Science (Space Science) and Unit 2 Current Events in Group 1/2/4.

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