

Title: Regarding successful launch of PSL Vehicle carrying two Satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota.

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

Successful launch of PSL vehicle carrying two Satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I take great pride to inform the House that the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C6 carrying the two Satellites, namely, CARTOSAT-I and HAMSAT, have been successfully launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh at 1020 hours this morning. This is the first time that two satellites have been launched simultaneously. It is also for the first time that a satellite as heavy as CARTOSAT-I, which weighs approximately 1,500 kilograms, has been launched by India.

HAMSAT is a small satellite in comparison, and weighs only 42.5 kilograms. The PSLV has been launched from the new launching pad, which was dedicated to the nation yesterday by the hon. President, Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam.

CARTOSAT-I is 11th in the series of Remote Sensing Satellites launched by India, and it is primarily meant to map the country.

The HAMSAT, on the other hand, is the gift of ISRO to the community of amateur radio-operators. It has got two transponders, which will help the Ham radio-operators in communicating about floods, earthquakes, etc. quickly, and at low cost.

The launching of the two satellites has once again demonstrated the strength of Indian science made possible by the ceaseless efforts of our dedicated scientists in yet another frontier area of space technology.

I am sure the House will join me in complimenting our scientists on these achievements.