

ISRO'S HEAVIEST ROCKET WITH 36 SATELLITES ON BOARD LIFTS OFF

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ISRO's heaviest rocket lifting off from the second launchpad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota. B. Jothi Ramalingam

The heaviest rocket of the Indian Space Research Organisation, the LVM3-M2/OneWeb India-1, with 36 satellites on board took off from the second launch pad (SLP) of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SHAR) at Sriharikota at 12.07 a.m. on Sunday.

LVM3-M2 is the dedicated commercial satellite mission of NewSpace India Ltd. (NSIL), a Central public sector enterprise under the Department of Space.

With this launch, LVM3 is making its entry into the "global commercial launch service market". This mission is being undertaken as part of the commercial arrangement entered into between NSIL and Network Access Associates Limited (m/s OneWeb Ltd), a U.K.-based company.

As part of this mission 36 OneWeb Gen-1 satellites, meant for global connectivity needs, will be launched into circular low earth orbit of 601 km altitude.

This mission is the fifth flight of LVM3. And this is the first Indian rocket with a six tonne payload.

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