

Re: India Launches Geosynchronous Satellite For Educational Services

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In article <c62ede76.0409202243.6c699619@posting.google.com>, nkdata8839@bigmailbox.net (nkdata8839) posted:

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- > http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/3672608.stm
- >
- > *BBC News*
- > *Monday, 20 September, 2004, 12:35 GMT 13:35 UK*
- >
- > *India launches learning satellite*
- >
- > *India has launched its first satellite to be used for expanding the*
- > *country's educational network.*
- >
- > *The Edusat, weighing around 2,000kg, will help train teachers and*
- > *provide primary and secondary education by linking classrooms across*
- > *India.*
- >
- > *It is hoped the satellite will help revolutionise learning in India by*
- > *taking education to remote classrooms.*
- >
- > *About a third of India's billion-plus population cannot read and only*
- > *13% finish high school.*
- >
- > *'Beautiful bird'*
- >
- > *The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) took nearly three years*
- > *to build the \$17m satellite.*
- >
- > *It was sent into space by India's locally-made geo-synchronous*
- > *satellite launch vehicle from Sriharikota island in southern Andhra*
- > *Pradesh state.*
- >
- > *"We have got a perfect launch. I hope in the next few days we will*
- > *have major operations running," PS Goel, director of the satellite*
- > *centre, told reporters.*
- >

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- > *"It will be another beautiful bird in the sky spreading education."*
- >
- > *A spokesman for Isro told the French news agency AFP that universities*
- > *in three Indian states would be linked through the satellite, which*
- > *has a mission life of seven years.*
- >
- > *The states are Karnataka in the south, Maharashtra in the west and the*
- > *central state of Madhya Pradesh.*
- >
- > *In the second phase, the satellite will link more than 1,000*
- > *classrooms in two more states.*
- >
- > *Isro chairman Madhavan Nair said the satellite would help beam*
- > *lectures by eminent persons to classrooms across the country.*
- >
- > *Launch history*
- >
- > *India launches its own satellites and plans to enter the lucrative*
- > *commercial satellite launch market.*
- >
- > *In September 2002, India successfully launched its first weather*
- > *satellite to help the country predict cyclones and storms more*
- > *accurately.*
- >
- > *In 2001, it successfully tested its first geostationary launch*
- > *vehicle, which is capable of launching bigger satellites into a higher*
- > *orbit.*
- >
- > *India also plans to send a spacecraft to the moon by 2008.*
- >
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- > ==
- > <http://www.hindu.com/2004/09/21/stories/2004092111440100.htm>
- >
- > *The HINDU*
- > *Tuesday, Sep 21, 2004*
- >
- > *EDUSAT placed in orbit*
- >
- > *SRIHARIKOTA, SEPT. 20. India once again demonstrated that it is a*
- > *world leader in space when its Geo-Synchronous Satellite Launch*
- > *Vehicle (GSLV-FO1) raced into the sky from the spaceport at*
- > *Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, at 4.01 p.m. today and put EDUSAT in a*
- > *perfect orbit 17 minutes later.*
- >
- > *This is the third successful flight for the GSLV after the earlier*
- > *successful flights from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota*
- > *in April 2001 and May 2003. For the Indian Space Research Organisation*
- > *(ISRO), this is the 10th successful flight in a row.*
- > *The 1,950-kg EDUSAT is the heaviest satellite launched so far by ISRO.*
- > *EDUSAT is India's first exclusive satellite for educational services.*

>
> *'Excellent mission'*
>
> *This is the first operational flight of the GSLV. The previous two*
> *GSLV flights were developmental missions. G. Madhavan Nair, Chairman,*
> *ISRO, called it an "excellent" mission. "We did not have any hold at*
> *all. The entire launch sequence went on as planned. The trajectory was*
> *unbelievably good."*
>
> *The success was all the more sweeter because heavy rains and thunder*
> *clouds threatened to disrupt the launch. There was lightning too. "We*
> *thought we should postpone the launch," Mr. Nair said. But using a*
> *radar that ISRO had developed and a balloon launch for measuring the*
> *height of the cloud and the wind velocity, and thereby redesigning the*
> *trajectory of the flight, ISRO decided at 8.30 a.m. today to go ahead.*
> *And the countdown proceeded without any hitch.*
>
> *Spectacular*
>
> *The GSLV-FO1 lifted off on the dot at 4.01 p.m., and the giant vehicle*
> *soaring into the sky on top of balls of orange flames. The three*
> *stages of the vehicle ignited on schedule and they jettisoned with*
> *clockwork precision. Seventeen minutes after the lift-off, the third*
> *cryogenic stage injected EDUSAT into orbit at a velocity of 37,000 km*
> *an hour. It went into a perfect geo-synchronous transfer orbit with an*
> *apogee of 35,985 km and a perigee of 180.54 km.*
>
> *EDUSAT would revolutionise distance education. From a television*
> *studio, a teacher can teach any subject, and if schools/colleges have*
> *reception facilities, they can simultaneously listen to him.*
>
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> ==
> *EDUSAT launched successfully*
>
> *Sriharikota, Sept. 20 (PTI): EDUSAT, the world's first and India's*
> *exclusive satellite for educational services, was successfully*
> *launched from the Space Centre here this evening despite murky weather*
> *conditions.*
>
> *The 1950-kg. satellite, the heaviest built by the Indian Space*
> *Research Organisation, and carried by the 49-metre Geosynchronous*
> *Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F-01) was placed in the Geosynchronous*
> *stationary orbit, about 17 minutes after the vehicle's perfect*
> *take-off at 4.01 pm from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre here into the*
> *murky sky.*
>
> *The satellite, which will provide a fillip to distance education in*
> *the country, has a mission life of seven years. It will be co-located*
> *with Kalpana-1 and INSAT-3C satellites already in orbit. This is the*
> *first operational flight of GSLV.*

- >
- > *Scores of scientists, including the ISRO Chairman, Madhavan Nair, and*
- > *his predecessor, Dr Kasturi Rangan, witnessed the "perfect" launch.*
- >
- > *Though in his immediate reaction, Nair said India had once again*
- > *proved that it can undertake satellite projects with "perfection and*
- > *thoroughness" to meet any global standards, at a press briefing later,*
- > *he said the launch took place against "many odds" as the scientists*
- > *were worried over atmospheric conditions.*
- > *"Yesterday, there was heavy downpour and lightning. We virtually*
- > *thought of postponing the launch," Nair said adding "scientists, using*
- > *radar systems, looked at meteorological parameters and by 9.30 am*
- > *today, we took a decision to go ahead with the final countdown."*
- >
- > *"This is one of the finest missions ISRO has had. The launch went off*
- > *well without any deviation and on dot," Nair said.*
- >
- > *The main motor, and various stages including the cryogenic stage*
- > *supplied by Russia, and all on-board computers performed well as*
- > *planned.*
- > *The scope of the Edusat programmes would be realised in three phases.*
- > *In the first phase, Visvesvariah Technological University in*
- > *Karnataka, Y B Chavan State University in Maharashtra and Rajiv Gandhi*
- > *Technical university in Madhya Pradesh would be covered.*
- >
- > *The second phase would see inclusion of two more States and a national*
- > *institution and in the third and final phase, Edusat network would*
- > *become fully operational.*
- >
- > *Nair said there was heavy shortage of quality teachers in various*
- > *fields. "There is also need to reach the remote parts of the country*
- > *and providing adult literacy programme. All these are planned to be*
- > *fulfilled by distant connectivity which can be achieved by Edusat."*
- >
- > *"We will be able to link various institutions at higher education*
- > *levels, primary schools, secondary schools and also the villages,"*
- > *Nair said adding "we have already linked the Visvesvariah University*
- > *with 100 engineering colleges and the programmes are being conducted*
- > *on a regular basis."*
- >
- > *"We have already signed an MOU with IGNOU and will soon be signing*
- > *with All India Council for Technical Education. In the next three*
- > *months, we will sign with 20 major educational institutions in the*
- > *country and discussions are already on with various agencies."*
- >
- > *The Edusat has specially been configured for the audio-visual*
- > *medium, employing digital interactive classrooms and multi-media and*
- > *multi-centric systems.*
- >
- > *The satellite will have multiple regional beams covering different*
- > *parts of India -- five Ku-band transponders with spot beams covering,*

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- > northern, north-eastern, eastern, southern and western regions, a
- > Ku-band transponder with its 'footprint' covering the mainland and six
- > other C-band transponders with their 'footprints' covering entire
- > country.
- >
- > The concept of beaming educational programmes through satellites was
- > effectively demonstrated for the first time in India in 1975-76
- > through Satellite Instructional Television Experiment (SITE),
- > conducted using the American Application Technology Satellite.
- >
- > Later, with the commissioning of INSAT system in 1983, a variety of
- > educational programmes were telecast. With the success of the
- > INSAT-based educational services, a need was felt to launch a
- > satellite dedicated exclusively for educational services and the ISRO
- > conceived the Edusat project in October 2002.
- > The cost of the satellite was Rs. 90 crores and that of the launch
- > vehicle around Rs.160 crores.

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Good show!

Jai Maharaj
<http://www.mantra.com/jai>
Om Shanti