

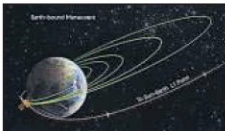


# Hindustan Times

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[ MY INDIA ] ISRO'S ADITYA-L1

## 'Final manoeuvres to be carried out in Jan'



After a final set of complicated manoeuvres that will be executed in the next 30 days, India's first Sun observatory - Aditya-L1 - is set to be deployed at its final intended destination 1.5 million kilometres from the Earth in the second week of January, scientists at the Isro confirmed on Thursday. "We are in the final leg of the journey with Aditya-L1. We are hoping that the final set of manoeuvres will be completed around mid-January," a senior Isro official, who did not wish to be identified, said. Isro officials confirmed that the agency is hoping to conclude the final round of manoeuvres between January 7-14, which will place the craft around its intended destination - Lagrange Point 1. After this a series of tests will be conducted before the spacecraft begins to send in the first set of observations from the L1 point, officials said. HT

## Aditya-L1 to be deployed at final destination within a month: Isro

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**NEW DELHI:** After a final set of complicated manoeuvres that will be executed in the next 30 days, India's first Sun observatory - Aditya-L1 - is set to be deployed at its final intended destination 1.5 million kilometres from the Earth in the second week of January, top scientists at the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) confirmed on Thursday.

"We are in the final leg of the journey with Aditya-L1. We are hoping that the final set of manoeuvres will be completed around mid-January," a senior Isro official, who did not wish to be identified, said.

Isro officials confirmed that the space agency is hoping to conclude the final round of manoeuvres between January 7 and 14, which will place the craft around its intended destination - Lagrange Point 1. After this a series of tests will be conducted before the spacecraft begins to send in the first set of observations from the L1 point, officials

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said. On September 2, the Indian space agency launched the Aditya-L1 spacecraft - the country's maiden mission to study the Sun - from the spaceport in Sriharikota. After the launch, a series of Earth-bound manoeuvres were also performed to ensure that the craft gathers enough momentum to be launched into its 125-day journey.

The Earth-Sun L1 point is located about 1.5 million kilometres from Earth and it was picked as the parking destination for India's first space-based solar observatory as it balances the gravitational forces of the Earth and Sun as felt by the spacecraft,

thus requiring very little fuel to stay in orbit. The spacecraft will be in a halo orbit around L1.

This point will give the craft the advantage of continuous observations without any occultation or eclipses, providing uninterrupted data to study the Sun's corona, its photon release and its environment.

From L1, it will start at least a five-year study to understand various aspects of the Sun.

The mission will allow India's scientists to unlock new insights about the centre of our solar system, by ensuring uninterrupted observations of the Sun.

While still enroute, the payloads onboard Aditya-L1 has already started releasing some crucial data. Last week, the Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT) - one of the payloads onboard the Aditya-L1 spacecraft

- successfully captured the first full-disk images of the Sun in the 200-400 nm wavelength range. SUIT was designed to capture images of the Sun's photosphere and chromosphere in this wavelength range using various scientific filters.