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FIRST GAGANYAAN MISSION LAUNCH BY DEC: ISRO CHIEF

SRIHARIKOTA (ANDHRA PRADESH): Isro is targeting to launch the first mission of the ambitious Gaganyaan project by December, chairman S Somanath said on Friday.

Currently, some of the rocket hardware for the human space programme has reached the Satish Dhawan Space Centre here and the integration of the crew module was going on at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Trivandrum, Somanath said.

"Today, we are working on the first mission of the Gaganyaan called G1. The first unmanned mission. The status today is the rocket, the S200 stage, the L1, C32 stage are all at Satish Dhawan Space Centre," he said.

He said the Crew Module integration was going on at VSSC Trivandrum while Crew Escape hardware was also ready.

"So, we have to complete with full wiring and testing should be done. Our target is by November the whole system will reach here, possibly by December launch will happen," he said.

He was talking to reporters after successfully launching the third and final developmental flight of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle that placed the Earth Observation Satellite into orbit earlier in the day. **PI**

Isro successfully launches Earth observation satellite

Press Trust of India

SRIHARIKOTA (ANDHRA PRADESH): Isro on Friday successfully launched an Earth observation satellite on board a small satellite launch vehicle, giving a boost to India's space programme.

The third developmental flight carrying Earth Observation Satellite (EOS-08) along with a passenger satellite SR-0 DEMOSAT was successfully placed into the intended orbit as planned.

"The third developmental flight SSLV-D3 with EOS-08 satellite has been successfully accomplished. The rocket has placed the spacecraft in the very precise orbit as planned and there are no deviations in the injection of satellites," ISRO Chairman S Somanath said, addressing the gathering from the Mission Control Centre at this spaceport here.

He said the launch parameters of the satellite indicate that everything (mission launch) is perfect and the Earth Observation Satellite and the passenger satellite SR-0 DEMOSAT have been injected after the manoeuvres.

"Congratulations now to the SSLV-D3 project team and with this the third developmental flight of SSLV has been completed," he



Isro launched the third and final developmental flight of the SSLV-D3/EOS-08 mission, in Sriharikota on Friday. **ISRO-X**

said. "We are in the process of transferring SSLV technologies to industries and so it is a very good beginning for the SSLV and the launch vehicle," he said.

The payload carried by the rocket has been designed and realised by the ISRO team, he said.

"It is 100 per cent successful and the satellite has been placed into its intended orbit," Somanath said. "As I am aware, solar panels (of the rocket) have already been deployed, further, we are looking for certain activities in the VTM stage and all that will be com-

pleted in due course of time. So congratulations once again for the entire team who worked behind the scene to develop this SSLV rocket and its culmination of developmental programme. Let us give a big round of applause to the entire (SSLV-D3) team."

Mission director S S Vinod said, "today we have achieved a major milestone in the journey of SSLV. The last and final developmental flight of SSLV-D3 has been successfully accomplished and with that we are moving into the operational phase."