

ISRO Does it Again; PSLV-C43 With HysIS, 30 Other Satellites Launched



45th flight of PSLV launched from the First Launch Pad (FLP) of Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota (DD pic)

Sriharikota (AP), Nov 29

India's workhorse launch vehicle PSLV-C43 carrying the 380 kg advanced earth observation Hyper Spectral Imaging Satellite (HysIS) and 30 co-passenger satellites from eight countries, lifts off from SHAR Range here at 0958 hrs on Thursday. The countries comprise United States of America (23 satellites), Australia, Canada, Columbia, Finland, Malaysia, Netherlands and Spain (one satellite each).

After a 28 hour countdown that started at 0558 hrs yesterday morning, the home grown rocket, in its 13th Mission of the PSLV Core Alone variant, took off majestically from the First Launch Pad at 0958 hrs as scheduled and roared into the clear skies, with a rumble that shook the earth. (See: Countdown)

"HysIS is an earth observation satellite developed by ISRO. It is the primary satellite of the PSLV-C43 mission. The satellite will be placed in 636 km polar sun synchronous orbit (SSO) with an inclination of 97.957 deg. The mission life of the satellite is 5 years," ISRO said.

This was a 112 minute-long mission, the PSLV-C43 lifted from its Sriharikota launchpad, released ISRO's HySIS at an altitude of 640 kilometres, and then descended to release the other 30 satellites at 504 kilometres in two batches. Earth observation satellite from Malaysia, the InnoSAT-2 was the first of the 30 to be released into orbit.

HySIS can provide imaging capabilities for a variety of purposes, including agriculture, forestry and assessing geological conditions in coastal zones, inland waterways and land.

It will capture images in the visible near-infrared (VNIR) range of the light spectrum, as well as in the shortwave infrared (SWIR) range.



Between 1994 and 2017, the PSLV, one of the most reliable rockets in the world, launched 48 Indian & 209 foreign satellites into orbit.

The PSLV, ISRO's third generation launch vehicle, still holds the record of launching 104 satellites in a single go in February 2017.

One huge highlight for PSLV has been the launch of Chandrayaan-1 to the moon in 2008 and the Mars Orbiter Mangalyaan in 2013.

PSLV has now established itself firmly in the international commercial launch market by virtue of its various accomplishments. It has earned a reputation of being one of the most cost-effective launch vehicles for primary, as well as, co-passenger satellites. Even the U.S.A. avails its services.

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