

Tiangong Space Station

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Tiangong Space Station Latest News

Chinese scientists have discovered a new species of bacteria named *Niallia tiangongensis* on board the Tiangong Space Station.

About Tiangong Space Station

- The Tiangong Space Station, translating to 'Sky Palace', is a **Chinese-owned and operated** permanently **crewed space station in Low Earth Orbit (LEO)**.
- It represents the third and final step of China's Manned Space Program.
- The first module of the space station was launched in April 2021, following two precursor missions, Tiangong-1 and Tiangong-2.
- The station consists of a **core module** known as **Tianhe**, which **connects two science modules, Wentian and Mengtian**, as well as a **planned space telescope module, Xuntian**.
- Tiangong is much **smaller than the International Space Station (ISS)**, with only three modules compared with 16 modules on the ISS.

- Tiangong is also considerably **lighter than the ISS**, which weighs about 400 tons (450 metric tons); the Chinese station is about 20% as massive.
- It can **accommodate up to three astronauts at a time for six-month stays**. It can also support six astronauts at a time during crew handovers.
- The **aims** of the Tiangong Space Station are to:
 - Build a long-term, reliable space station in orbit.
 - Guarantee the long-term health and safety of stationed astronauts.
 - Provide conditions for scientific and technological experiments in space.
- The station serves as an **in-orbit laboratory** with 23 enclosed experiment racks, each covering a different proposed **experiment in the fields of**:
 - Space life sciences and biotechnology
 - Microgravity fluid physics and combustion
 - Material science in space
 - Fundamental physics in microgravity
- The space station also features **platforms for exposed and unpressurised external experiments**.

Tiangong Space Station FAQs

Q1: What is the name of the core module of the Tiangong Space Station?

Ans: Tianhe

Q2: In which year was the first module of the Tiangong Space Station launched?

Ans: 2021

Q3: How many astronauts can Tiangong accommodate during crew handovers?

Ans: 6

Source: [NDTV](#)

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