

Space MAITRI Mission

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About Space MAITRI Mission:

- Space MAITRI (**Mission for Australia-India's Technology, Research and Innovation**), represents a major step forward in the **strategic partnership** between the two nations in the space domain.
- It aims to foster **closer ties between commercial, institutional**, and governmental space organizations from **India and Australia**.
- It focuses on **debris management and sustainability**, aligning with both nations' core values and objectives in promoting responsible space operations and mitigating the growing threat of space debris.
- Under this agreement, NewSpace India Limited will launch Australia's Space Machines Company's second **Optimus spacecraft** in **2026**.
 - The 450kg Optimus spacecraft, the largest Australian-designed and built spacecraft to date, will be launched on **ISRO's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)**.

Key facts about NewSpace India Limited

- It is a **commercial arm** under **Department of Space (DoS)**, Government of India.
- It was incorporated in March 2019 and was set up to take high technology space-related activities in India.

- Under the new space policy reforms announced by the Government of India in June 2020, NSIL is to undertake operational satellite missions on a “**demand-driven**” model.
 - They are responsible to build, launch, own and operate the satellite and provide services to customers.
 - It is headquartered **in Bengaluru**.
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Q1: What are Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLVs)?

SSLV is a 3-stage Launch Vehicle configured with three Solid Propulsion Stages and liquid propulsion-based Velocity Trimming Module (VTM) as a terminal stage.

Source: [Collaboration Marks a New Era in Space Exploration](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/space-maitri-mission/>

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