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Gaganyaan

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Why is in news? Gaganyaan to be done by end of 2023 or beginning of 2024

Minister of State for Science and Technology, Jitendra Singh has said that the **first trial for Gaganyaan**, India's maiden human space mission, will be done by the **end of 2023 or at the beginning of 2024**.

He said the **first test flight will be followed by sending a female-looking humanoid robot - Vyom Mitra** to ensure that the final flight of Gaganyaan is flawless. Dr. Jitendra Singh said, on the basis of these two missions, our **astronauts will go in the third mission**.

Gaganyaan is significant because it is the **first indigenous mission that will send Indian astronauts to space**.

With the launch of Gaganyaan, **India will become the fourth nation in the world to launch a Human Spaceflight Mission after the US, Russia, and China**.

Gaganyaan is a mission by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** to **send a three-member crew to space** for a period of five to seven days.

The space mission was first announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in **2018** in his independence day address to the nation.

The Gaganyaan spacecraft will be placed in a **low earth orbit (LEO) of 300-400 kilometres**. **GSLV Mk III, also called the LVM-3 (Launch Vehicle Mark-3)**, the three-stage heavy lift launch vehicle, will be used to launch Gaganyaan as it has the necessary payload capability.

ISRO is developing the spacecraft and **Russia is helping in the training of the astronauts**.

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