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ISRO Conducts Mission MITRA in Leh for Gaganyaan Preparation

Published On: 07-04-2026



Why in News:

ISRO has launched Mission MITRA in Leh (Ladakh) from April 2–9, a first-of-its-kind team behavioural study to support human spaceflight missions like Gaganyaan.

Background:

Mission MITRA is designed jointly by ISRO and the IAF Institute of Aerospace Medicine.

It focuses on crew safety and performance, which are critical for human space missions.

Leh (~3,500 m altitude) provides space-like extreme conditions.

Context:

Human space missions require:

Strong team coordination

Psychological resilience

Effective decision-making under stress

Such analogue missions simulate real space conditions on Earth.\

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Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: **044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477 / Whatsapp : 09710729833**

Key Features / Objectives:

Behavioural Study Focus:

Crew (Gaganyatris) & ground team coordination

Decision-making under stress

Communication effectiveness

Environmental Conditions:

High altitude (~3,500 m)

Hypoxia (low oxygen)

Extreme cold & isolation

Performance Analysis:

Physiological response

Psychological resilience

Operational efficiency

Purpose:

Improve team interoperability

Enhance mission safety & success rate

Significance:

First such team behavioural study by India in space context

Crucial step towards Gaganyaan mission readiness

Helps simulate real space challenges on Earth

Strengthens India's human spaceflight capability

Final Takeaway:

Mission MITRA is a critical preparatory step for Gaganyaan, focusing on human behaviour, teamwork, and stress management, essential for safe and successful space missions.

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