

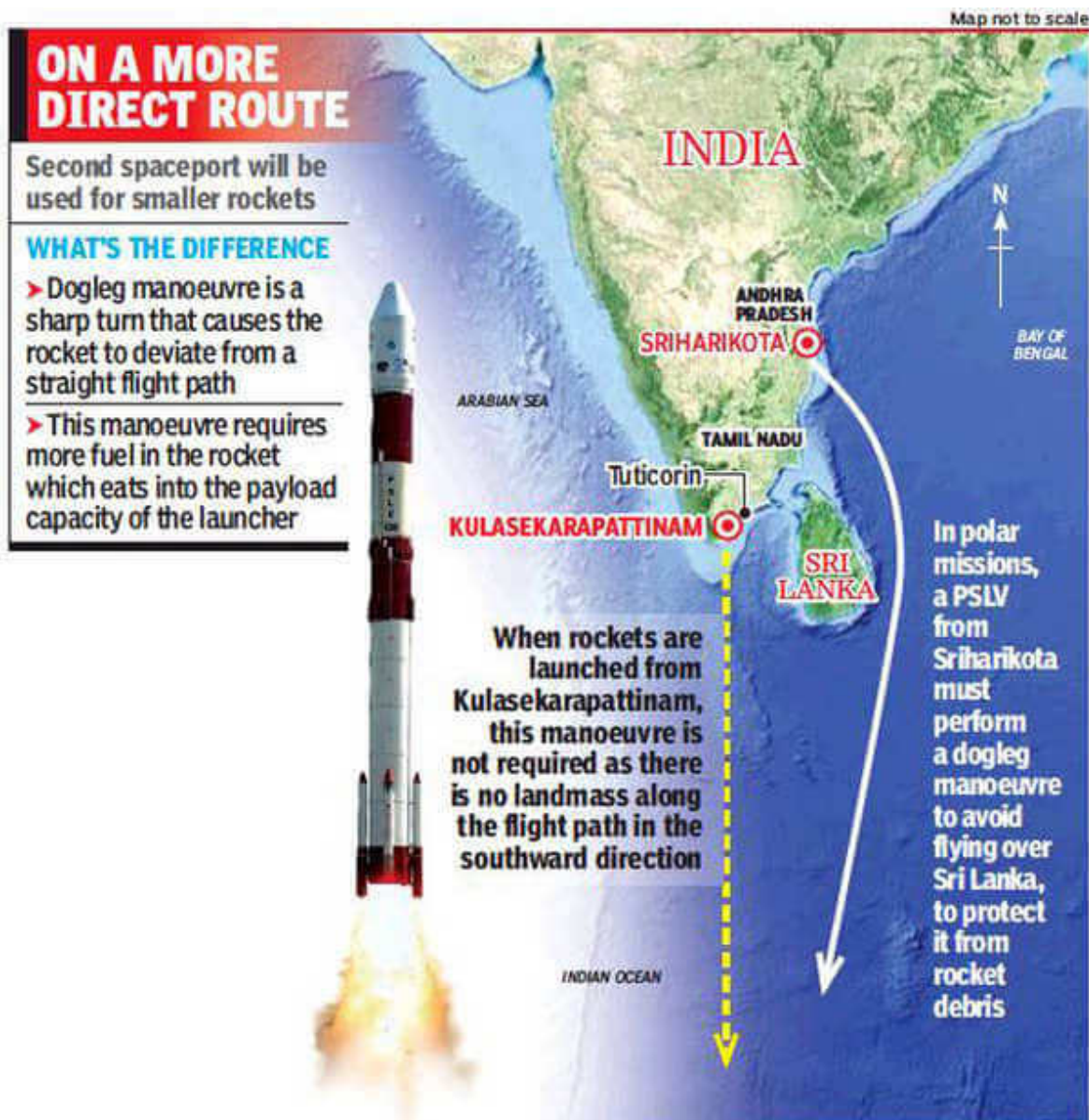


## ISRO's Third Launch Pad

[Source: PIB](#)

The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of the **Third Launch Pad (TLP)** at the [Satish Dhawan Space Centre \(SDSC\)](#), India's 1<sup>st</sup> launchport (2<sup>nd</sup> launchport - [Kulasekarapattinam](#)), in [Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh](#).

- The third launch pad will have the capacity to handle spacecraft weighing up to **30,000 tonnes** in [low Earth orbit](#).
  - Designed to support [NGLV](#), [LVM3 vehicles with semi cryogenic stages](#), and **scaled-up NGLV** configurations.
- Currently, ISRO uses two launch pads i.e., the **First Launch Pad (FLP)** and the **Second Launch Pad (SLP)**.
  - FLP was implemented for the [PSLV](#) and continues to support launches for both **PSLV** and **SSLV**.
  - SLP was primarily set up for [GSLV](#) and [LVM3](#), while also serving as a **backup for PSLV**.
    - It successfully launched the [Chandrayaan-3 mission](#) and is preparing for the upcoming [Gaganyaan](#) missions.
- **Future Vision:** India's vision includes a [Crewed Lunar Landing](#) by 2040 and the [Bharatiya Antariksh Station \(BAS\)](#) by 2035, necessitating heavier launch vehicles that cannot be accommodated by existing pads.
- In 2024, foundation stone for [ISRO's 2<sup>nd</sup> rocket launchport](#) was laid in [Kulasekarapattinam](#), Tamil Nadu for **commercial, on-demand, and small satellite (SSLVs)** launches and to avoid [dogleg manoeuvre](#) over [Srilanka](#).



Read More: [New Rocket Launchport in Tamilnadu](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtiiias.com/printpdf/isros-third-launch-pad>