

ISRO to use electric propulsion system on satellites in two years

HYDERABAD: The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) plans to use electric propulsion system on satellites for station keeping and orbital manoeuvre in two years. Talking to reporters on the sidelines of the twoday 10th International High Energy Materials Conference and Exhibition here on Thursday, Director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) K. Sivan said besides VSSC, Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) and ISRO Satellite Centre (ISAC) were working on developing electric propulsion system for use on satellites. "In two years, we may be able to achieve it," he said. He said the cryogenic engine for GSLV MarkIII will be undergoing stage-level test soon and the target to achieve flight test is December this year. Regarding Chandrayaan-II, he said the objective was to land a rover on the moon and carry out in-situ experiments. ISRO was also developing various technologies required for a manned mission, which was yet to be approved by the government. Director of High Energy Materials Research Laboratory, a DRDO facility, K.P.S. Murthy said their lab was developing a table-mounted explosive detection kit, which could be used for detecting explosives, including deeply concealed ones. He said the Advanced Centre of Research in high Energy Materials, University of Hyderabad, was collaborating in the project. The kit could be used in airports and other places. Earlier addressing the conference, Dr. Satish Kumar, Director-General (Missiles and Strategic Systems), DRDO, said rapid changes were taking place in warfare technology and called upon researchers to work on developing insensitive munitions.

DESIDOC