

'GSLV integrated test at Mahendragiri a success'

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TIRUNELVELI: One of the integrated tests of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) in the atmospheric pressure conditions was successfully conducted at ISRO's Propulsion Complex (IRPC) at Mahendragiri in the district on Thursday evening.

"As our testing of the integrated system of the GSLV is progressing as planned, we're targeting for the next launch in December next year," said A.S. Kiran Kumar, chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation, who witnessed the test along with Director of IRPC D. Karthikesan.

Mr. Kiran Kumar said various stages of the launch vehicle with the indigenously developed

Various stages of the launch vehicle with the indigenously developed cryogenic engine are being tested in atmospheric conditions

cryogenic engine were being tested in the atmospheric and vacuum conditions for different durations ranging from a few seconds to a few minutes.

On crossing this hurdle, the qualification test of the launch vehicle would be conducted after integrating various stages of the vehicle.

"Today's test was a successful one and hence we're planning to go in for the next launch of the GSLV in December 2016 after

successfully crossing many qualification tests," Mr. Kiran Kumar said.

He informed that the fourth satellite in the series of the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) would be launched on March 9. The IRNSS was an independent regional navigation satellite system being developed by India on a par with the Global Positioning System of the USA.

It was designed to provide accurate position information service to users in India as well as the region extending up to 1,500 km from its boundary, its primary service area.

IRNSS 1D, which is to be launched, is the fourth in the series of seven satellites. ISRO was planning to launch to put in place the IRNSS.