Bluebird-2 Mission

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Why in News?

The LVM3-M6 / BlueBird Block-2 Mission successfully launched on December 19, 2025, into its intended orbit, from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.

- The BlueBird Block-2 Mission refers to the ***ISRO-launched commercial space mission*** that successfully placed the BlueBird Block-2 communication satellite.
- **BlueBird Block-2 Satellite –** It is a ***communication satellite***, part of the next generation of BlueBird 6 communication satellites.
- **Orbit -** Deployed in Low Earth Orbit (at an altitude of approximately 520 km).
- **Payload-** 6,100 kg.
- **Developed by –** US-based AST SpaceMobile, became the first spacecraft to be launched from Indian soil.
- **Commercial space push -** The mission was executed under a commercial agreement between NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), ISRO's commercial arm and AST SpaceMobile.
- **Launch Vehicle –** LVM3 (ISRO's heaviest rocket, also known as GSLV Mk-III).
- **Flight Number –** It is the 6th operational flight of LVM3.
- **Purpose –** It is designed to enable direct-to-mobile connectivity, providing 4G and 5G voice and video calls, text messaging, streaming and data services directly to standard mobile smartphones.
- It represents a major step toward global direct-to-device communication networks.
- **Significance –** It is the largest commercial communications satellite deployed in LEO & the heaviest payload launched by LVM3 from Indian soil.
- This dedicated commercial mission showcases ISRO's growing role in global satellite launches.

To know about LMV-3, click here

References

1. The Hindu | Bluebird Block-2 Mission launched by LVM-3
2. ISRO | LVM3-M6 / BlueBird Block-2 Mission



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