

indianspaceflight.in platform

Complete User Guide & Contribution Manual

User-facing routes, feature workflows, identifiers, contribution guidance, community tools and troubleshooting.

AUGUST 2026	USER GUIDE v4	COMPLETE REFERENCE
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Base URL	https://www.indianspaceflight.in
Audience	Visitors, members and public contributors
Coverage	25 platform-wide chapters plus 11 detailed user feature guides

About this guide

This guide combines the platform-wide reference with detailed instructions for the pages most visitors and contributors use. It explains what users can do, what permissions are required, and how to complete common tasks across the platform.

Included	Purpose
Public routes and navigation	Helps users find and understand platform pages
Account and contribution workflows	Explains registration, profiles, creation, proposals and review states
Feature guides and FAQs	Provides detailed help for Archive, Calendar, Chat, Latest, Editor, Companies, Contact, Forum and IROLOS
Identifiers and data explanations	Documents public codes, relationships and interpretation guidance
Public troubleshooting	Gives safe, user-level recovery steps and support guidance

Permission reminder

A visible page does not automatically grant permission to create, edit, review or delete. Available actions depend on your account status, role and ownership of the content.

How the guide is organised

Part I is the platform-wide reference: quick start, accounts, profiles, identifiers, routes, missions, organisations, community tools, contribution policy and glossary. Part II gives step-by-step feature guides and FAQs.

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Reader notes

- Routes are relative to the platform base URL unless a complete address is shown.
- Available actions depend on your account status, role and ownership of the content.
- Verify consequential or time-sensitive facts against the linked primary source.

PART I | PLATFORM-WIDE CORE GUIDE

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

A complete public reference to the platform, its user-visible data systems, identifiers, contribution rules and community features.

1. Quick Start and How the Platform Fits Together

indianspaceflight.in platform is more than a news site. It combines structured reference databases, community publishing, historical archives, orbital-object tracking, discussions, user profiles and specialist visualization tools. A single entity can be connected to several other entities through stable identifiers and Universal Connections.

About the indianspaceflight.in platform

indianspaceflight.in platform is an independent, community-focused reference and discussion platform for Indian spaceflight. Its purpose is to build a connected, transparent and continuously improving record of India's space activity - not only launches, but also payloads, launch vehicles, companies and organisations, orbital objects, historical documents, RTI records, community articles, discussions and the people who helped build the programme.

The platform is designed so that information does not live in isolation. Stable identifiers, structured fields and Universal Connections allow a mission to connect to its payloads, vehicle, company, archive material, RTIs, articles, forum discussions and IROLOS objects. Community contributions can improve that record over time, while moderation and confidence/source fields help separate established facts from uncertain or incomplete information.

What the platform is built to do

- **Document & Track** - maintain structured records of Indian missions, payloads, vehicles, organisations, orbital objects and related developments.
- **Promote Transparency** - organise RTI material, source information and historical documentation so claims can be checked and followed back to evidence.
- **Build Community** - give enthusiasts, students, researchers and professionals places to contribute data, publish, discuss and correct the record.
- **Educate & Explain** - make technical spaceflight information easier to explore through structured data, long-form content, visualisations and cross-linked records.
- **Preserve & Celebrate** - keep a durable record of Indian space achievements, institutions and the people whose work made them possible.
- **Improve Accuracy Over Time** - encourage corrections, sourcing, confidence labels and review rather than pretending incomplete information is certain.

Community principles

- **Accuracy and sourcing** - use reliable evidence for factual claims, especially dates, technical specifications, funding, status and safety-sensitive information.
- **Transparency about uncertainty** - leave unknown values blank or mark confidence appropriately instead of guessing.
- **Respect** - disagree with claims or interpretations without attacking other contributors.
- **Inclusivity** - the platform is for beginners, enthusiasts, students, researchers, professionals and anyone genuinely interested in Indian spaceflight.
- **Continuous learning** - records are expected to improve as new evidence appears; a correction is part of maintaining the archive, not a failure of the archive.

indianspaceflight.in platform is an independent community project and should not be treated as an official statement from ISRO, IN-SPACe, a company, government body or any other organisation unless a specific page is quoting or linking to that organisation. For research, media or consequential decisions, verify important facts against the cited primary source.

What you can do without an account

- Browse public Missions, Payloads, Companies, Launch Vehicles, IROLOS records, RTI posts, Archive items, Forum threads, Latest articles and Pioneer profiles.
- Use public search/filter tools, IROLOS tables and the 3D orbit explorer when orbital data is available.
- Submit a guest RTI request and track its review status through the guest RTI workflow.
- Read public profile pages and public contribution history.

What an active member account adds

- Create Forum posts and save Forum drafts when your account has Create Posts permission.
- Create Latest articles as drafts and submit them for moderation.
- Upload Archive Bank records when your account is active.
- Propose corrections to Missions and Payloads instead of directly overwriting curated data.
- Suggest Company core changes and contribute structured Company data.
- Use authenticated Chat rooms and personal dashboard tools such as notifications, bookmarks and saved threads.
- Use community Calendar editing where the Calendar Board is embedded and your active account has permission.

Member, moderator and administrator are not the same

Important permission rule

A visible route does not guarantee that your account can perform its write action. Some routes are public to read but restricted to members, owners, moderators or administrators for creation and editing. If a button is missing or you are redirected, check the access notes in this guide before assuming the feature is broken.

Role / state	Typical capability
Visitor	Read public content, use public tools, guest RTI submission.
Signed-in / active member	Community creation and proposal workflows; personal profile, Chat and saved activity.
Owner / author	May have direct edit rights for their own content where the feature supports ownership.
Moderator	Direct editing/review for curated areas; can approve or reject proposals in supported workflows.
Administrator	Broad creation, editing, moderation and configuration permissions.
Inactive / restricted account	May be signed in but still blocked from community write actions.

2. Accounts, Login, Password Reset and Sign Out

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Sign in / join	/auth/login	Public
Password update	/auth/update-password	Reset-link session
Sign out	/auth/signout	Signed-in users
Terms	/about#terms	Public
Privacy	/about#privacy	Public

Create an account with email

1. Open /auth/login and switch from Sign In to Join Community.
2. Enter your email address.
3. Enter your full name. This is used as profile/user metadata for the new account.
4. Choose a password. The current form requires at least 6 characters.
5. Submit the application. The system sends a confirmation email.
6. Open the confirmation link in your email before expecting the account session to behave as fully verified.
7. Return to the site and sign in if the confirmation flow does not automatically take you into the app.

Current registration wording

The button is labelled "Submit Application" and success text tells the user to check email for a confirmation link. Google is also offered as "Continue with Google (For Application)" while on the Join Community mode.

Sign in with email/password

1. Open /auth/login.
2. Enter the email used by the account.
3. Enter the password.
4. Select Sign In.
5. If your account is active and permitted, the app redirects to the main site.

Continue with Google

The authentication page supports Google OAuth for both sign-in and community-join mode. The provider redirects through the site authentication callback. If Google returns an OAuth error, retry after confirming the browser is allowing the authentication redirect.

Forgot password

1. Open /auth/login in Sign In mode.
2. Enter your email first. The reset action requires an email value.
3. Select Forgot Password.
4. Open the reset email. The link routes through the authentication callback to /auth/update-password.
5. Enter a new password and confirm it. The update page requires at least 6 characters and both fields must match.
6. If the page says the session has expired, request a new reset link rather than repeatedly submitting the old one.

Sign out

Use the normal account sign-out action. The route is /auth/signout. If a stale page still appears signed in after sign-out, refresh once so server-rendered content receives the cleared session.

Account troubleshooting

Problem	What to do
Confirmation email not received	Check spam/junk, confirm the address was typed correctly, then retry registration only if necessary.
Forgot Password says enter email	Type your account email into the Email Address field first, then choose Forgot Password.
New password rejected	Use at least 6 characters and make sure New Password and Confirm Password are identical.
Signed in but creator is blocked	Your user record may not be active or the route may require another role. See the Route Directory.
Google sign-in loops	Allow the OAuth redirect/cookies, return to /auth/login and retry; if persistent, use email/password or contact Account Help.

3. Profiles, Reputation, Notifications and Personal Activity

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Your dashboard	/profile	Signed-in user
Public profile	/profile/[displayName]	Public

Your profile dashboard

The profile dashboard is the central place to inspect what your account has published, saved, liked, voted on or submitted for review. It also exposes notifications and account profile settings.

- **Overview** - summary statistics such as reputation, posts, total views, upvotes, blogs, RTIs, archives and wiki-style edits.
- **My Posts** - your Forum activity and published posts.
- **Drafts** - saved or unpublished work. Blog submissions can also appear with moderation states.
- **Notifications** - system/community alerts. You can mark individual notifications or all notifications as read.
- **Bookmarks** - Forum/content items you explicitly saved.
- **Liked** - content you liked.
- **My Votes** - your voting history where the Forum interaction system records it.
- **Reputation History** - how your reputation changed over time.
- **Saved Threads** - Forum threads you follow/save.
- **Settings** - profile identity and public profile fields.
- **Followers / Following** - community relationship views available from profile interactions.

Profile settings

- Display Name - editable, current UI limits it to 50 characters.
- Bio - current UI limits it to 160 characters.
- Location and Website.
- Social links including Twitter/X username, GitHub username and LinkedIn URL.
- Avatar/banner where the profile UI exposes upload controls.
- Email is account identity data and is displayed separately from the editable public profile fields.

Public profiles

Public profiles resolve by username or display name at /profile/[displayName]. They can show a user bio, contribution activity, reputation and social links. The public profile workflow also supports following/unfollowing users when the viewer is authenticated.

Understanding review-status labels in your profile

Status	Meaning
Draft	Saved but not submitted or not published.
In Review	Submitted to moderators; editing may be locked while review is active.
Changes Requested	A reviewer wants corrections. Read the review notes before editing.
Rejected	Not approved in its current form. A rejection reason may be shown.
Published	Approved or directly published and visible according to feature visibility rules.

4. Route Directory

All routes below are relative to <https://www.indianspaceflight.in>. Bracketed values such as [slug] are replaced with the real slug or identifier path used by the record.

Area	Route	Purpose	Access
Authentication	/auth/login	Sign in / join community	Public
Authentication	/auth/update-password	Set new password from reset flow	Reset session
Authentication	/auth/signout	Sign out	Signed-in
Profile	/profile	Your account dashboard	Signed-in
Profile	/profile/[displayName]	Public user profile	Public
Missions	/mission	Mission database, IROLOS and analytics tabs	Public
Missions	/mission/create	Create Mission or Payload	Admin / Moderator
Missions	/mission/[slug]	Mission detail	Public
Missions	/mission/[slug]/edit	Edit or propose Mission changes	Signed-in; direct for Admin/Moderator
Payloads	/mission/[slug]/payload/[payloadSlug]	Payload detail	Public
Payloads	/mission/[slug]/payload/[payloadSlug]/edit	Edit/propose Payload	Signed-in; direct for Admin/Moderator/author
Launch Vehicles	/launch-vehicles	Directory, analytics and codes	Public
IROLOS	/mission?tab=irolos-globe&irolos=[IROLOS-ID]	Open an object in 3D Globe	Public if TLE available
Companies	/companies	Company directory	Public
Companies	/companies/new	Create Company	Admin / Moderator
Companies	/companies/[slug]	Company detail	Public
Companies	/companies/[slug]/edit	Direct Company edit	Admin / Moderator
Companies	/companies/[slug]/contribute	Suggest core Company edit	Signed-in
Companies	/companies/[slug]/community	Contribute structured Company data	Signed-in
Archive	/archive	Archive Bank	Public listing
Archive	/archive/create	Create Archive record	Active Member/Admin/Moderator
Archive	/archive/[slug]	Archive detail	Depends on visibility
Archive	/archive/[slug]/edit	Edit Archive	Owner or privileged controls on detail
RTI	/rti	RTI dashboard	Public
RTI	/rti/guest-rti	Guest submission + status tracking	Public
RTI	/rti/create	Create RTI database post	Dashboard exposes to active Member/Admin
RTI	/rti/[slug]	RTI detail	Public when published
RTI	/rti/[slug]/edit	Edit RTI post	Owner/Admin from detail permissions
RTI	/rti/tree?focus=[ISF-RTI-ID]	RTI parent/child visualization	Public
Forum	/forum	Forum feed	Public
Forum	/forum/create-post	Create post	Account with Create Posts permission
Forum	/forum/create-post?edit=[id]	Edit saved Forum post/draft	Authorised user
Forum	/forum/post/[slug]	Forum thread	Public
Latest	/latest	Latest/community articles	Public
Latest	/latest/create-latest-post	Create article	Active Member/Admin/Moderator
Latest	/latest/[slug]	Article detail	Public when published
Latest	/latest/edit-latest-post/[id]	Direct edit route	Current route: Admin/Moderator
Chat	/chat	Community Chat	Active Member/Admin/Moderator
Chat	/chat/[roomId]	Open specific room	Room member / permitted user
Pioneers	/pioneers-hall-of-fame	Hall listing	Public
Pioneers	/pioneers-hall-of-fame/[slug]	Pioneer detail	Public
Pioneers	/pioneers-hall-of-fame/create	Add Pioneer	Admin-oriented tool
TTC	/telemetry-tracking-center-ttc	3D launch trajectory simulator	Desktop/laptop
Support	/contact	Contact/support page	Public

Route not confirmed: Launch Vehicle authoring

Public Launch Vehicle pages use /launch-vehicles/[slug]. A standalone public Launch Vehicle create/edit URL is not documented for general users. Moderators and administrators should use the authoring controls available to their accounts.

5. Identifier and Code Systems - Master Reference

indianspaceflight.in platform uses stable human-readable identifiers so records can be referenced across databases. A slug is a URL-friendly name; an identifier is the stable record/code value. Do not substitute one for the other when a form specifically asks for an entity ID.

Feature	Format	Example	Rule
Company	ISFC-YYYY-NNNNN	ISFC-2026-00001	Auto; sequence never resets
Mission	ISFM-DDMMYY-MAIN_CODE-OO-PPP-NNN	ISFM-220719-LVM3-LN-SSP-111	Encodes launch facts + mission sequence
Payload	System auto_payload_id	System-generated identifier; format is not publicly documented	Do not invent; link to parent Mission
Launch Vehicle	main_code (4-6 chars)	LVM3 / PSLVXL / VIKR1	Permanent vehicle dictionary code
IROLOS object	IROLOS-DDMMYY-SITE-NORAD-NNNNN	IROLOS-190475-KYM-07752-00001	Permanent orbital-object ID
Archive	ISF-ARC-YYYY-NNNN	ISF-ARC-2026-0001	Auto-generated
RTI	ISF-RTI-YYYY-NNNN	ISF-RTI-2026-0001	Auto-generated; government RTI no. separate
Forum post	ISF-POST-YYYY-NNNNNNN	ISF-POST-2026-0000001	Auto-generated, 7-digit seq
Latest / Blog	ISF-BLOG-YYYY-NNNNN	ISF-BLOG-2026-00001	Auto-generated
Pioneer	ISFP-YYYY-NNNNN	ISFP-2026-00001	Auto; sequence never resets
Chat room	Opaque roomId	UUID-like value	Not a public human code
Calendar/TTC/Profile	No stable human code documented	-	Use route/user/event controls

What YYYY means in ISFC, ISF-ARC, ISF-RTI, ISF-POST, ISF-BLOG and ISFP

For these database-generated identifier families, YYYY is the year the record is created/assigned in indianspaceflight.in platform. It is not automatically the company founding year, archive document date, RTI filing year, article subject year or pioneer birth/induction year. The record can describe an event from a different year and still carry the year in which indianspaceflight.in platform created the record.

Never invent an auto number

If a create form does not ask you for the final stable ID, let the database generate it. Manually constructing the next sequence can create collisions or inconsistent references. Copy the displayed identifier from the saved record when cross-linking.

External identifiers stay separate

- **Government RTI number** - external/government reference. It is not the same as the site's ISF-RTI number.
- **NORAD Catalog ID** - external global catalog number embedded as one segment of an IROLOS ID.
- **International Designator** - orbital-object metadata, not the IROLOS stable identifier.
- **Company CIN / ticker / exchange** - legal/market identifiers stored as Company metadata, not substitutes for ISFC.
- **Slug** - human-readable URL component. Useful for navigation but not the same as the stable system code.

6. Universal Connections and Cross-Linking

Universal Connections let one record point to another without copying the other record's data. In editors that expose a Linked Entities or Cross-Reference control, search/select an entity or paste its valid stable identifier, choose the relationship and optionally add a context note.

Entity types commonly linkable

- Mission
- Payload
- Launch Vehicle
- Archive
- RTI
- Latest/Blog article
- Forum post
- IROLOS object
- Company where the Company feature exposes relationship tools

Default relationship ideas used by the platform

Source	Target	Typical relationship
Mission	Payload	carried_on
Mission	Launch Vehicle	launched_by
Mission	IROLOS	tracked_by
Mission	Archive	documented_in
Mission	Latest/Forum	discusses
Payload	Mission	part_of
Payload	IROLOS	catalogued_as
Payload	Launch Vehicle	deployed_from
Payload	Archive	documented_in
Launch Vehicle	Archive	documented_in
Launch Vehicle	RTI	references
Latest	Mission/Payload/Vehicle	discusses
Forum post	Mission/Payload/Vehicle/Archive/RTI/IROLOS	references

How to link safely

1. Open the entity you want to edit/create.
2. Find Universal Connections, Linked Entities, Cross-Reference Links or the equivalent control.
3. Search by title or paste the stable ID. For an IROLOS object, use the IROLOS ID.
4. Confirm the preview is the correct record. Do not link solely because names look similar.
5. Choose the relationship that best describes the connection.
6. Add a short context note when the relationship is not obvious.
7. Save or submit the proposal. The linked record can then be rendered automatically at the correct route.

Use actual displayed Mission IDs

Some older form placeholder text shows simplified examples such as ISFM-2026-0001. The current Mission identifier system documented in this manual is the full v2 ISFM-DDMMYY-MAIN_CODE-OO-PPP-NNN format. When a lookup asks for the Mission Number, copy the actual ID displayed by the Mission record.

7. Missions and Payloads

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Database / analytics	/mission	Public
Create Mission/Payload	/mission/create	Admin/Moderator
Mission detail	/mission/[slug]	Public
Mission edit/contribute	/mission/[slug]/edit	Any signed-in; direct Admin/Moderator
Payload detail	/mission/[slug]/payload/[payloadSlug]	Public
Payload edit/contribute	/mission/[slug]/payload/[payloadSlug]/edit	Signed-in; direct Admin/Moderator/author

Using the /mission hub

The Mission hub is a multi-tool area rather than a single list. The current interface contains Mission browsing plus IROLOS and analytical views. Depending on screen size, some tabs move into a More menu.

- Missions - searchable mission catalogue.
- IROLOS - orbital-object table.
- Overview - aggregate mission/orbital statistics.
- Charts / Visualize - analytical charts.
- Legend - ISFM and IROLOS identifier guidance.
- Globe - IROLOS 3D orbit explorer.

Vehicle and pad analytics now live on /launch-vehicles under Rockets and Launch Pads; full main_code and PPP tables are under Codes.

Create a Mission or Payload

The dedicated creation route is restricted to administrators and moderators. The creator lets the editor choose between the Tier 1 Mission record and Tier 2 Satellite/Payload record.

1. Open /mission/create with an administrator or moderator account.
2. Choose Mission or Satellite/Payload.
3. Enter the required title. A blank title cannot be saved.
4. Complete structured fields with known facts; leave genuinely unknown values blank rather than estimating.
5. Write the long-form article in the rich-text editor when narrative context is useful.
6. Add linked entities/documents/IROLOS records where appropriate.
7. For a Payload, select the correct parent Mission. A Payload cannot be treated as a standalone launch.
8. Review dates, units, status and spelling, then publish.

Mission fields - what belongs where

Area	Use it for
Title / identity	Recognised mission name; do not turn the title into a sentence.
Mission type	Launch, satellite, exploration, technology demo, commercial, defence, joint, interplanetary, lunar, Mars and other configured types.
Mission status	Announced, development, ready, launched, operational, completed, failed, extended, as supported by the creator.
Launch information	Launch vehicle/code/configuration, provider/operator, launch site/pad, launch date, mass and target orbit.
Spacecraft	Bus, manufacturer, dimensions, total/payload mass, power generation, design life.
Propulsion / systems	Fuel, propulsion, thrusters, attitude control, storage, processing and thermal/temperature data when known.

Area	Use it for
Orbit	Orbit type/reference, altitude, perigee, apogee, inclination, period and eccentricity.
Milestones	Meaningful dated events such as announcement, test, launch, deployment, landing, commissioning and end of mission.
Instruments / communications	Individual scientific instruments and communications systems rather than a single unstructured paragraph.
Data Points	Additional structured values with source/confidence/verification metadata.
Custom fields	Useful facts that genuinely have no standard field.
Article	Background, objectives, design, results, context and significance.
Connections	Related Archive, RTI, Blog, Forum, Vehicle, IROLOS and other records.

Payload-specific rules

- **Parent Mission is required** - link the Payload to the Mission that carried/launched it. Create/find the Mission first.
- **Payload identity** - use the spacecraft/payload name, not the overall launch mission title unless they are truly the same.
- **Instruments** - add each instrument separately when the data is known.
- **IROLOS** - link the payload to its orbital-object catalogue entry when a matching IROLOS record exists.
- **Payload identifier format** - the database stores a unique `auto_payload_id`, but its generation pattern is not publicly documented. Use the displayed system identifier rather than guessing or constructing a format.
- **Mission-only data** - do not force mission milestones/NOTAM concepts into a Payload if the creator does not expose those payload fields.

Editing vs contributing

Mission edit routes authenticate every user. Administrator/moderator accounts edit directly. Other signed-in users receive the same full Mission editor but their changes are submitted through the pending-edit review workflow. For Payloads, the payload author joins administrators/moderators as a direct editor; other signed-in users submit proposals.

When a proposal is submitted

- Only changed values should be proposed.
- If no real fields changed, the editor can report that no changes were detected.
- A moderator can review the proposal before it alters the public record.
- Use the Reason for edit field to explain what changed and why, ideally with a source.

Mission/Payload troubleshooting

Problem	Likely cause / action
Payload save says parent Mission required	Select the actual parent Mission before saving.
Mission lookup does not accept a typed example	Copy the real Mission ID from the existing Mission record; older placeholders may show an outdated abbreviated example.
Member edit does not immediately change page	Expected: member changes are proposals requiring review.
No changes detected	The submitted form matches the saved record; change the intended field or cancel.
Media/link save fails	Retry after confirming the file/link is valid. Do not duplicate the entire record to work around a failed media upload.
Unknown technical value	Leave blank and add a sourced custom/data point later rather than guessing.

8. ISFM Mission Identifier Reference

ISFM is the Indian Space Flight Mission identifier used by the Mission catalogue. The v2 format encodes launch date, the permanent launch-vehicle main_code, intended destination orbit, launch pad and mission sequence.

ISFM-DDMMYY-MAIN_CODE-OO-PPP-NNN

Example - Chandrayaan-2:

ISFM-220719-LVM3-LN-SSP-111

Segment	Meaning	Rule
ISFM	Prefix	Fixed for Indian Space Flight Mission codes.
DDMMYY	Launch date	Day, month, two-digit year; 220719 = 22 Jul 2019.
MAIN_CODE	Launch Vehicle	Permanent 4-6 character launch_vehicles_codes.main_code stored by the Mission.
OO	Orbit Type	2-character intended destination orbit; use planned orbit even for failed missions.
PPP	Launch Pad	3-character site + pad code.
NNN	Sequence	3-digit mission sequence; 001 = Aryabhata, 153 = Vikram-1 Aagaman in the ISFM v2 reference.

Launch Vehicle main_code dictionary - shown on Launch Vehicles > Codes

main_code	Full name	long_code	Country	Operator
SLV3	SLV-3	SLV3	India	ISRO
ASLV	ASLV	ASLV	India	ISRO
PSLV	PSLV (Generic)	PSLV	India	ISRO
PSLVCA	PSLV Core Alone	PSLVCA	India	ISRO
PSLVXL	PSLV-XL	PSLVXL	India	ISRO
PSLVDL	PSLV-DL	PSLVDL	India	ISRO
PSLVQL	PSLV-QL	PSLVQL	India	ISRO
GSLVM1	GSLV Mk I	GSLVMK1	India	ISRO
GSLVM2	GSLV Mk II	GSLVMK2	India	ISRO
LVM3	LVM3	LVM3	India	ISRO
SSLV	SSLV	SSLV	India	ISRO
VIKRS	Vikram-S	VIKRAMS	India	Skyroot Aerospace
VIKR1	Vikram-1	VIKRAM1	India	Skyroot Aerospace
SORTED	SOrTeD	SORTED	India	Agnikul Cosmos
RLVTD	RLV-TD	RLVTD	India	ISRO
TVD1	TV-D1	TVD1	India	ISRO
PADAB	Pad Abort	PADABORT	India	ISRO
ATVSC	ATV (Scramjet)	ATVSCRAM	India	ISRO
ARN1	Ariane-1	ARIANE1	Europe	Arianespace
ARN3	Ariane-3	ARIANE3	Europe	Arianespace
ARN44L	Ariane-4 44L	ARIANE44L	Europe	Arianespace
ARN42P	Ariane-4 42P	ARIANE42P	Europe	Arianespace
ARN42L	Ariane-4 42L	ARIANE42L	Europe	Arianespace
ARN5G	Ariane-5 G	ARIANE5G	Europe	Arianespace
ARN5EA	Ariane-5 ECA	ARIANE5ECA	Europe	Arianespace
FAL9B5	Falcon 9 Block 5	FALCON9B5	USA	SpaceX
KOS3M	Kosmos-3M	KOSMOS3M	USSR	NPO Polyot
VOS2M	Vostok 2M	VOSTOK2M	USSR	OKB-1
SOYZU	Soyuz-U	SOYUZU	USSR	OKB-1
MOL2B	Molniya-M Blok-2BL	MOLNIYA2B	USSR	OKB-1
DL3910	Delta-3910	DELTA3910	USA	McDonnell Douglas
DL4925	Delta-4925	DELTA4925	USA	McDonnell Douglas

main_code	Full name	long_code	Country	Operator
STSPMD	Space Shuttle PAM-D	SHUTTLE	USA	NASA

Orbit Type Codes (OO)

Code	Type	Description
LO	LEO	Low Earth Orbit - below about 2,000 km
SO	SSO	Sun-synchronous Orbit - LEO with nearly constant sun angle
GT	GTO	Geostationary Transfer Orbit
GE	GEO	Geostationary Orbit - approximately 35,786 km
HE	HEO	Highly Elliptical Orbit
LN	Lunar	Lunar orbit or trans-lunar trajectory
MR	Mars	Mars orbit or trans-Mars trajectory
HL	Halo	Halo orbit around a Lagrange point such as L1
SB	Sub-orbital	Suborbital flight that does not complete an orbit

ISFM v2.0 orbit rule

The NA orbit code is retired. Failed missions use the orbit they were intended to reach. The ISFM v2 reference notes that 12 missions were corrected under this rule.

Launch Pad Codes (PPP) - shown on Launch Vehicles > Codes

Code	Site and pad	Location
SLP	SDSC - SLV Launch Pad (legacy, pre-1994)	Sriharikota, India
SFP	SDSC - First Launch Pad (FLP)	Sriharikota, India
SSP	SDSC - Second Launch Pad (SLP)	Sriharikota, India
SRC	SDSC - Sounding Rocket Complex	Sriharikota, India
SAL	SDSC - ALP-01 (private sector pad)	Sriharikota, India
KY1	Kapustin Yar - LC-107	Russia (USSR)
KY2	Kapustin Yar - LC-107/2	Russia (USSR)
BAK	Baikonur Cosmodrome - LC-31/6	Kazakhstan (USSR)
KE1	Guiana Space Centre - ELA-1	Kourou, French Guiana
KE2	Guiana Space Centre - ELA-2	Kourou, French Guiana
KE3	Guiana Space Centre - ELA-3	Kourou, French Guiana
CC1	Cape Canaveral - LC-17A / LC-17B	Florida, USA
CC4	Cape Canaveral - LC-40 / SLC-40	Florida, USA
KSC	Kennedy Space Center - LC-39A	Florida, USA
VBG	Vandenberg SFB - SLC-4E	California, USA

Worked ISFM examples

Mission	Date	main_code	OO	PPP	NNN
001 - Aryabhata	190475	KOS3M	LO	KY2	001
047 - AGILE	230407	PSLVCA	LO	SSP	047
068 - Mangalyaan	051113	PSLVXL	MR	SFP	068
111 - Chandrayaan-2	220719	LVM3	LN	SSP	111
132 - Chandrayaan-3	140723	LVM3	LN	SSP	132
134 - Aditya-L1	020923	PSLVXL	HL	SSP	134
152 - Drishti	030526	FAL9B5	SO	VBG	152
153 - Vikram-1 Aagaman	180726	VIKR1	LO	SFP	153

9. Launch Vehicles

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Directory / analytics	/launch-vehicles	Public
Create/edit	Use privileged authoring controls	No standalone public route is currently documented

Launch Vehicles page tabs and codes

The /launch-vehicles page has four tabs: Fleet (directory and overview), Rockets (vehicle comparisons), Launch Pads (pad/site analysis), and Codes (main_code and PPP references). Fleet cards open /launch-vehicles/[slug]. Use ?tab=rockets, ?tab=pads, or ?tab=codes for direct links.

Core Launch Vehicle fields

- Vehicle Name - required.
- Vehicle Code / main_code - use the established permanent dictionary code where one exists; do not invent a second code for the same variant.
- Operator.
- Status - current editor supports Active, Retired, In development and Cancelled.
- Vehicle Family toggle - use for a family record such as PSLV.
- Parent Family - use for specific variants under a family.
- Description / Full Article.
- Tags, first flight date, last flight date and Universal Connections.

Sidebar / infobox model

The Launch Vehicle editor uses flexible sections and rows. New/bulk records can receive starter rows; blank starter rows are not meant to be stored merely to fill space.

- Typical starter labels include Function, Manufacturer, Country of origin, Cost per launch, Height, Diameter, Mass, Stages, Payload to LEO/GTO/TLI, Family, Status and Launch sites.
- Rows have a label and value, and may support public/member visibility.
- Sections can be renamed or reordered.
- Header image and section images can carry caption/alt text.

Member proposals and current image limitation

Launch Vehicle contributions use a moderated change flow. Supported text, field and sidebar changes can be proposed for review. Sidebar-image changes are handled separately, so a contributor's proposal does not replace the vehicle's currently saved images.

If image controls are missing in contribution mode

That is a current workflow limitation, not necessarily a browser problem. Ask a moderator/admin to make the Launch Vehicle sidebar-image change.

10. IROLOS Registry and 3D Orbit Explorer

Purpose	Route	Typical access
IROLOS table and analytics	/mission	Public
Direct 3D object view	/mission?tab=irolos-globe&irolos=[IROLOS-ID]	Public when valid TLE exists

What IROLOS is

IROLOS - Indian Registry of Objects Launched into Outer Space - is presented on the indianspaceflight.in platform as a comprehensive unofficial catalogue of India's orbital footprint. It tracks payloads, rocket bodies and orbital debris. IROLOS identifies Space-Track.org and ISRO as data sources, with the indianspaceflight.in platform maintaining the catalogue.

Identifier format

IROLOS-DDMMYY-SITE-NORAD-NNNNN

Example - Aryabhata:

IROLOS-190475-KYM-07752-00001

Segment	Example	Meaning
IROLOS	IROLOS	Fixed registry prefix.
DDMMYY	190475	Launch date - fixed at launch.
SITE	KYM	3-character launch-site code - fixed at launch.
NORAD	07752	NORAD Catalog ID zero-padded to 5 digits.
NNNNN	00001	Global sequence across tracked payloads, rocket bodies and debris.

Launch Site Codes (SITE)

Code	Site	Location
SRI	SDSC - Satish Dhawan Space Centre	Sriharikota, India
KYM	Kapustin Yar Cosmodrome	Russia (USSR)
TTM	Tyuratam / Baikonur Cosmodrome	Kazakhstan (USSR)
PKM	Plesetsk Cosmodrome	Russia
KOU	Guiana Space Centre (ELA-1/2/3)	Kourou, French Guiana
CCK	Cape Canaveral Air Force Station	Florida, USA
VBG	Vandenberg Space Force Base	California, USA
ERA	Esrange Space Center	Sweden
JSC	Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center	China

Worked IROLOS examples

IROLOS ID	Object	Launch	Notes
IROLOS-190475-KYM-07752-00001	Aryabhata	1975-04-19	First Indian satellite; USSR Kosmos-3M launch.
IROLOS-070679-KYM-11392-00002	Bhaskara	1979-06-07	Second Indian satellite.
IROLOS-180780-SRI-11899-00003	Rohini 1	1980-07-18	First satellite launched from Indian soil on SLV-3.
IROLOS-021125-SRI-66311-00759	CMS 03	2025-11-02	Communication satellite on LVM3.

IROLOS ID	Object	Launch	Notes
IROLOS-241225-SRI-67233-00760	LVM3 CUS R/B	2025-12-24	Cryogenic upper stage rocket body.

How to decode an IROLOS ID

1. Split the ID on hyphens.
2. Confirm the first segment is IROLOS.
3. Read DDMMYY as the launch date.
4. Translate SITE using the launch-site table.
5. Read NORAD as the five-digit NORAD Catalog ID.
6. Read NNNNN as the indianspaceflight.in platform global orbital-object sequence.

Example: IROLOS-021125-SRI-66311-00759 = IROLOS object; launched 02 Nov 2025; Sriharikota; NORAD 66311; 759th object in this catalogue sequence.

Why object type, orbit type and mission name are not encoded

Excluded	Why
Object type	Objects can be reclassified later; encoding PLD/RKB/DEB would make a permanent ID change when classification changes.
Orbit type	Orbit changes continuously due to manoeuvres, drag and decay; embedding it would make the identifier stale.
Mission name	Names can change or be informal; permanent orbital identity should not depend on mutable naming.

How to use the IROLOS table

1. Open /mission and choose the IROLOS view.
2. Search by object name, IROLOS ID or other supported table search terms.
3. Use object type, launch site and status filters to reduce the catalogue.
4. Read the stable IROLOS ID alongside NORAD, International Designator, launch date/site and object type.
5. Compare period, inclination, apogee and perigee rather than assuming a single orbit label tells the full story.
6. Use the copy control to copy the stable IROLOS ID when cross-linking another entity.
7. Choose the 3D Globe action to focus the object when TLE data is available.

3D Globe - what the controls mean

- **Selected object** - focuses the globe on the object and shows current orbital information derived from its TLE.
- **Orbit path / ground track** - visualises the propagated orbit and path over Earth.
- **History** - loads recent orbital-history records and charts values such as apogee, perigee and inclination.
- **Passes** - predicts passes using the available orbit solution and location logic.
- **Footprint** - draws a visibility/coverage footprint with an adjustable footprint angle.
- **Conjunctions** - shows conjunction records/risk feed when available; risk labels are not a substitute for an official collision-avoidance decision.
- **Constellations** - groups related spacecraft and provides constellation analytics.
- **NavIC DOP** - visualises dilution-of-precision style navigation geometry where that mode is available.
- **Copy TLE** - copies the selected object's current two-line element set.
- **Show All / Recenter** - clears focus or returns the camera to the selected object.

TLE age and prediction limits

TLE-based position, passes and projected ground tracks are model outputs. The viewer exposes the TLE epoch/age. The older the TLE, the more cautious you should be with fine-grained position/pass interpretation, especially for low-orbit objects. A re-entry estimate is an indication from available orbital history, not an authoritative prediction.

IROLOS troubleshooting

Problem	What it means / what to do
Record appears in table but not in 3D	The 3D viewer only loads objects with valid TLE line 1 and line 2. The catalogue record can exist without a usable current TLE.
3D says no TLE data	The Space-Track synchronization may not have populated current TLEs. Normal users should retry later; the sync action is administrative.
Pass/location looks stale	Check TLE age. Newer TLE data will improve propagation.
Conjunction panel empty	No current supported conjunction records may be available for the selected object.
Re-entry date changes	Expected. It is an estimate that changes as orbital history/TLEs change.
Cannot find object by mission name	Search by actual satellite/object name, NORAD ID or IROLOS ID rather than assuming the mission name equals the tracked object name.

11. Companies and Organisations

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Directory	/companies	Public
New Company	/companies/new	Admin/Moderator
Company detail	/companies/[slug]	Public
Direct edit	/companies/[slug]/edit	Admin/Moderator
Suggest core edit	/companies/[slug]/contribute	Signed-in
Contribute structured data	/companies/[slug]/community	Signed-in

Company identifier - ISFC

ISFC-YYYY-NNNNN

Example: ISFC-2026-00001. The sequence is system-generated and does not reset each year. The year is the database record-creation year, not the company founding year.

Use the directory before creating a record

Search first. A company may already exist under a legal name, brand name, short name or earlier name. The directory supports search and filters for category, status, ownership, country, registration status, listing status, funding stage, IN-SPACE authorisation and verification.

Core Company data

- Name, legal name, short name, aliases, slug, tagline and description.
- Category, ownership/control classification and operating status.
- Country/state/city/headquarters and coordinates where appropriate.
- Founded date/year, defunct data and parent-company relationship.
- CIN and regulatory/IN-SPACE authorisation fields.
- Employee count, funding totals/stage and valuation where sourced.
- Website, careers and social links.
- Registration/listing state, ticker and exchange information.
- Tags, keywords, featured/verification/data-quality/source fields.
- Long-form article content plus logo/banner media.

People, founders and milestones

Company pages support structured people/founder records and a dated milestone timeline. Use a person row for people/roles; use a milestone for a dated event such as incorporation, funding, test, contract, facility opening, product announcement or launch achievement. Funding milestones can carry amounts when sourced.

Core edit vs Community data

Action	Use it for
Suggest core edit - /contribute	Corrections to the main Company identity/article/core fields. It is a proposal, not an immediate public overwrite.
Contribute data - /community	Structured community-maintained information such as sidebar/infobox fields, people, milestones and supporting structured material.
Direct edit - /edit	Full privileged editor for administrators/moderators.
New Company - /new	Create an entirely new Company record; restricted to administrators/moderators.

Confidence and source quality

When the Company workflow exposes source/confidence controls, use them conservatively. High confidence should mean strong primary or well corroborated evidence; medium indicates reasonable evidence with limitations; low indicates weak/uncertain support. Verification is a review state, not a substitute for a source.

Seeded profiles can contain gaps

Some Company pages may have been initially seeded from public online research. Treat incomplete, stale or weak-confidence values as candidates for sourced community correction rather than assuming every populated field is authoritative.

Company troubleshooting

Problem	Action
Add Company button missing	Only administrator/moderator accounts can create a new Company.
Edit redirects back to public page	Your account is not administrator/moderator; use Contribute or Community instead.
Duplicate company found after starting	Stop and improve the existing record rather than creating another record.
Funding/employee figure uncertain	Use a sourced value and appropriate confidence, or leave it blank.
ISFC year differs from founded year	Expected: ISFC year is database record-creation year.

12. Archive Bank

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Archive listing	/archive	Public
Create archive	/archive/create	Active Member/Admin/Moderator
Archive detail	/archive/[slug]	Visibility rules apply
Edit archive	/archive/[slug]/edit	Authorised owner/privileged controls

Archive identifier

ISF-ARC-YYYY-NNNN

The Archive stable ID is generated automatically. Example: ISF-ARC-2026-0001. The year is the year the archive record is added to indianspaceflight.in platform, not necessarily the original document year.

Create an Archive record

1. Open /archive/create while signed in with an active member/moderator/admin account.
2. Enter a title of at least 3 characters.
3. Add Description / Context explaining what the material is and why it matters.
4. Complete provenance fields where known.
5. Choose Category and Archive Type.
6. Choose visibility carefully.
7. Add tags and related entities.
8. Select at least one file. The current creator refuses a save with no files.
9. Review the files and metadata, then use the Secure Upload action.

Provenance and sourcing fields

- Original Document Date.
- Original Source Name, such as ISRO or another organisation.
- Original Source URL.
- Original Author / Department.
- Copyright Status.
- Document Language.

Visibility

Value	Meaning in current editor
Public	Everyone can see the record, subject to normal site availability.
Internal	Staff-only/internal visibility.
Private	Only the permitted private owner/context should see it.

Files and media

The creator accepts multiple files and describes support for PDFs, images, videos, data files and other formats. Image/video files are represented as media; other uploaded files can be represented as documents. The detail page can preview attached documents and offers an original download action while recording download counts.

Archive detail page

- Breadcrumb displays the auto archive ID where available.
- Public items can be shared/copy-linked.
- Views and downloads are counted.
- Provenance is displayed as Document Details.
- Documents can be embedded for preview and downloaded.
- Media files are displayed separately when present.
- Authorised users can edit; owner/admin/moderator logic controls destructive actions.

Archive editing

The edit route lets authorised users update title/context, category, type, visibility, tags, provenance fields and related entities. The current edit form limits Linked Entities to 5, while the create form supports a larger set. Do not delete/recreate a record simply to add more links; use the available editor and moderator workflow.

Archive troubleshooting

Problem	Action
Cannot submit archive	Make sure the title is present and at least one file is selected.
Archive is not publicly visible	Check whether visibility is Internal or Private.
PDF preview fails but download works	Use Download Original; embedded third-party PDF preview can fail independently of stored file availability.
Edit/Delete button missing	You are not the owner/authorised moderator/admin for that record.
Wrong original date shown in ID	The ID year is archive-record creation year; Original Document Date is stored separately.

13. RTI Database and RTI Tree

Purpose	Route	Typical access
RTI dashboard	/rti	Public
Guest RTI	/rti/guest-rti	Public
Create database post	/rti/create	Dashboard exposes to active Member/Admin
RTI detail	/rti/[slug]	Public when available
Edit	/rti/[slug]/edit	Owner/Admin from detail permissions
RTI Tree	/rti/tree?focus=[ISF-RTI-ID]	Public

indianspaceflight.in platform RTI identifier

ISF-RTI-YYYY-NNNN

Example: ISF-RTI-2026-0001. The platform generates this number automatically. It is separate from a Government RTI Number or acknowledgment number.

Guest RTI request

The guest page is public and contains two modes: Submit Request and Track Status. The page explicitly tells guests that submitted data will be reviewed and redacted before publishing. Use this workflow when you do not have/need a member account for the submission.

Create an RTI database post

The current RTI dashboard exposes Create RTI to active members and administrators. The create page uses the RTI Post form.

Field group	What to enter
Basic	Title (required) and optional slug; slug can be auto-generated if left empty.
RTI details	RTI type/status, Ministry, Public Authority, Department, Government RTI Number, Acknowledgment Number.
Dates	Filed Date and Reply Received Date.
Outcome	Information Received status and whether Section 8 was used; record clause/details where supported.
Content	Questions, response text, analysis and context in the rich-text editor.
Publishing	Draft/Published status and tags.
Parent/child	Parent RTI via stable ISF-RTI identifier, with child records shown by the system.
Files	PDF upload (current form documents a 50 MB max for RTI PDF) and staged inline images on creation.
Connections	Related Missions, Archives, Blogs, Forum posts and other supported entities; current RTI form allows up to 20 links.
Edit reason	In edit mode, explain why the record is being changed.

Parent/child RTI chains

Use the Parent RTI control when an RTI is a follow-up/appeal/related continuation. On the detail page, a parent RTI can link to `/rti/tree?focus=[ID]`. The tree visualises the relationship instead of forcing users to infer it from titles.

RTI detail permissions

Direct RTI editing and deletion are available to the record owner or an administrator. The page shows the Auto RTI No, RTI type/status, filing/reply dates, Government RTI No, acknowledgment number, Ministry, Department, Public Authority, Section 8 status, information-received result, tags, download count and parent/child data when present.

Current navigation quirk

If navigation from the RTI creation screen takes you somewhere unexpected, return to </rti>. If the RTI post was already submitted successfully, do not recreate it.

RTI troubleshooting

Problem	Action
Government RTI number lookup does not cross-link	Use the indianspaceflight.in platform ISF-RTI number in site entity linking; Government RTI Number is separate metadata.
Parent RTI not found	Copy the parent record's displayed ISF-RTI ID exactly.
PDF media update fails after creation	The post may still have been created even if a post-creation media update failed. Open the new post before trying to create another duplicate.
No Edit button on RTI detail	Direct RTI editing is available to the record owner or an administrator.
Need to submit without account	Use /rti/guest-rti and the Track Status tab.

14. Forum

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Forum feed	/forum	Public
Create post	/forum/create-post	Account with Create Posts permission
Edit draft/post	/forum/create-post?edit=[id]	Authorised user
Thread detail	/forum/post/[slug]	Public

Forum identifier

ISF-POST-YYYY-NNNNNNN

Example: ISF-POST-2026-0000001. Forum posts receive a system-generated seven-digit sequence segment. The URL normally uses the post slug; the stable auto-post number is useful for registry/cross-link references where surfaced.

Create a Forum post

1. Open /forum/create-post while authenticated and permitted to create posts.
2. Enter a title. The form validates a minimum useful title length and limits the field to 300 characters.
3. Choose the Post Type.
4. Choose a Category.
5. Write the body in the rich-text editor.
6. Optionally add a cover image, tags, entity links and a poll.
7. Use Save Draft if you are not ready to publish. The creator then uses ?edit=[id] for continued draft editing.
8. Choose Publish Now when ready.

Post types

Key	Label
topic	Topic
short_post	Short Post
announcement	Announcement
news	News

Categories

- General
- ISRO
- Defence
- RTI
- Technology
- Policy
- Commercial
- International
- Education
- News
- Discussion

Tags, cover and links

- Tags are normalised to lowercase-style URL-safe values; current creator limits user tags to 10 and individual input to 30 characters.
- Cover/media uploads are staged until the post ID is available where needed.
- Entity Links supports up to 5 links in the current Forum creator.

Polls

The Forum creator can attach a poll with a question, options, optional closing date and an Allow Multiple setting. A poll requires at least two meaningful options before it can be created.

Forum activity in your profile

Your profile records Forum posts/drafts and can expose views, vote score, replies, bookmarks, liked items, your vote history and saved/followed threads.

Forum troubleshooting

Problem	Action
Create page does not allow publishing	Confirm you are authenticated and your account has Create Posts permission.
Draft seems to open as a URL query	Expected: draft editing uses /forum/create-post?edit=[id].
Poll will not save	Provide a question and at least two options.
Tag will not add	Check the 10-tag limit and use letters/numbers/hyphen/underscore.
Entity not found in link search	Search the actual entity title or use its stable ID in a Universal Connection field that supports ID lookup.

15. Latest / Community Articles

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Article feed	/latest	Public
Create article	/latest/create-latest-post	Active Member/Admin/Moderator
Article detail	/latest/[slug]	Public when published
Direct edit route	/latest/edit-latest-post/[id]	Current route restricts to Admin/Moderator

Latest identifier

ISF-BLOG-YYYY-NNNNN

Example: ISF-BLOG-2026-00001. It is generated automatically and can be used by the entity registry for cross-linking; the public article URL uses the slug.

Who publishes directly?

The article creator distinguishes privileged users from members. Administrators/moderators can publish directly. Active members can create/save drafts but use Submit for Review rather than bypassing moderation.

Article fields

- Title.
- Category.
- Tags.
- Rich-text article body.
- Auto-generated or edited excerpt depending current creator behavior.
- Cover/featured image.
- Cross-Reference Links to other entities.
- Draft/published/review state.

Current article categories

- General
- ISRO Missions
- Defence Space
- Right to Information
- Space Missions
- Satellites
- Launchers & Rockets
- Space Technology
- Space Policy
- Commercial Space
- International
- Space Education
- Space News

Member review lifecycle

Review state	What to do
draft	Keep editing or submit for review.
pending_review	Wait for moderator review; member editing is locked by the creator while review is pending.

Review state	What to do
changes_requested	Read moderator notes, make corrections, then Re-submit for Review.
rejected	Read the rejection reason; revise only if appropriate, then re-submit if the workflow allows.
approved / published	Article is approved/published; normal public detail route applies.

Known route-permission inconsistency

The member publishing workflow supports changes-requested and rejected revisions. Direct editing at /latest/edit-latest-post/[id] is restricted to moderators and administrators. If a member is asked to revise and sees an Unauthorized message there, do not duplicate the article. Use the revision action available from your workflow or profile, or contact a moderator or support.

Latest troubleshooting

Problem	Action
Member sees Submit for Review instead of Publish	Expected: members use moderation; admins/moderators publish directly.
Cannot edit while In Review	Expected: member editor locks pending-review submissions.
Direct edit route says Unauthorized	Current route is admin/mod restricted; use member revision workflow or contact a moderator.
Article image missing in feed/detail	The site prioritises featured_image, then may fall back to the first supported image in rich-text content.
Save succeeds but page not public	Check Draft/Review status; saving is not the same as publishing.

16. Community Chat

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Chat home	/chat	Active Member/Admin/Moderator
Specific room	/chat/[roomId]	Permitted room member
Invite link	/chat?invite=[token]	Invite recipient

Access

Chat requires a signed-in account with a ready, active profile and an eligible member, moderator or administrator role. Users who do not meet these requirements are redirected to sign in or back to the main site.

Core chat features

- Direct chats and group chats.
- Room list and room search.
- Message pagination / load older messages.
- Realtime new messages, edits, deletes and reactions.
- Typing indicators.
- Read-receipt tracking.
- Text, image/video upload and GIF/GIPHY sending.
- Reply, edit and delete actions where permissions allow.
- Emoji reactions.
- User mentions with @name autocomplete.
- Database entity tagging/search with #entity-style insertion.
- Link preview cards.
- Group creation with group name, selected members and optional group image.
- Invite links generated for a limited period; current UI creates a 7-day invite.

Useful message syntax

Syntax	Behavior
@DisplayName	Mention a room member through autocomplete.
#entity	Search/insert a database entity reference in the current chat composer.
spoiler	Hide spoiler text until the reader reveals it.
\$\$LaTeX\$\$	Render supported LaTeX/math block content.
Enter	Send message.
Shift+Enter	Insert a new line without sending.

Group creation

1. Choose the New Group/creation control.
2. Enter a group name.
3. Select at least one member.
4. Optionally choose a group image.
5. Create the room, then share an invite link if other members need to join.

Current group-member limitation

Group membership management is not yet fully available in Chat. Add Member or Remove Member may show a Pending notification. If a roster change reports Pending, this indicates a current feature limitation rather than a failed text message.

Chat troubleshooting

Problem	Action
Redirected out of Chat	Confirm you are signed in, profile is ready/active and role is member/admin/moderator.
Cannot open room	You may not be a member or the invite has expired.
Add/Remove member says Pending	Current UI limitation; roster mutation is not fully active in this client.
Mention popup does not find user	The user must be in/available to the room autocomplete.
Entity # search finds nothing	Try the exact database entity title; entity search uses the registry.
Old messages missing	Use the Load Older pagination control if the room has more than the initial message batch.

17. Calendar Board

Route note

The Calendar Board may be embedded within another page. A standalone public Calendar route is not currently documented.

Who can modify Calendar events

Active members, moderators and administrators can add, update and delete Calendar Board events. Public viewers can still view the calendar where it is available.

Event types

- Launch
- NOTAM
- Testing
- Milestone
- Press conference
- Expo
- Seminar
- Client visit
- Outreach
- Workshop
- Simulation
- Maintenance
- Special
- Custom

Create/edit event fields

- Event Title - required.
- Type.
- Custom Type Name when Type = Custom.
- Start Date and Start Time.
- End Date and End Time.
- Location.
- Description.

Validation

The form validates that start/end values are valid dates and that the end cannot occur before the start. Times are presented in the platform's Calendar context as IST where the UI labels them that way.

Calendar utilities

- Multi-day events.
- Next Launch / countdown presentation where current launch data exists.
- NOTAM window display.
- Individual ICS calendar file export.
- Calendar subscription instructions that can be copied into a calendar service such as Google Calendar.

Calendar troubleshooting

Problem	Action
Cannot add/edit event	Check active account and member/admin/mod role.
End-time error	Ensure end date/time is not before start.
Custom type has no label	Fill Custom Type Name when choosing Custom.
Subscription not updating	Calendar apps cache subscribed feeds; refresh/re-add only after checking the source feed is still valid.

18. Hall of Indian Space Pioneers

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Hall listing	/pioneers-hall-of-fame	Public
Pioneer detail	/pioneers-hall-of-fame/[slug]	Public
Add Pioneer	/pioneers-hall-of-fame/create	Admin-oriented tool

Why the Hall exists

The Hall of Indian Space Pioneers exists to preserve a structured historical record of the people who built, enabled, led and materially shaped Indian spaceflight. It is not intended to be a popularity ranking or a list of only the most famous names. The goal is to keep the contributions of scientists, engineers, administrators, programme leaders, astronauts/gaganyatris and other major contributors connected to the missions, programmes, technologies, institutions and achievements they helped make possible.

A strong Pioneer record should answer three questions: Who was this person? What did they actually contribute to Indian spaceflight? How can that contribution be verified and connected to the wider historical record? The biography provides the narrative, while structured roles, programmes, technologies, awards, dates, citations and entity links make the record useful for research and cross-referencing.

- **Preserve institutional memory** - record important contributors whose work could otherwise become difficult to trace as programmes and generations change.
- **Connect people to the programme** - link a Pioneer to the Missions, Payloads, technologies, programmes, archives and other people associated with their work when those relationships are supported.
- **Record contribution, not association** - being employed in the space sector by itself is not enough; the record should explain a meaningful contribution to Indian spaceflight.
- **Use evidence** - major biographical or contribution claims should be supported by credible sources, archival material or other verifiable records.
- **Keep records maintainable** - if better dates, roles, citations, images or historical context become available, the record should be corrected and expanded rather than duplicated.

Pioneer identifier

ISFP-YYYY-NNNNN

Example: ISFP-2025-00001. The pioneer sequence never resets. The ID intentionally does not encode an era; category is maintained separately as editable data.

What the Hall contains

The public Hall is the discovery layer for this historical record. It lists published Pioneer profiles, supports aggregate statistics, and gives each Pioneer a dedicated detail page. A detail page can bring together identity, biography, major contributions, roles, programmes, awards, media, quotations, external sources and links to related records. Related-Pioneer suggestions help users continue exploring people from the same or connected areas of the programme.

Pioneer record structure

The underlying Pioneer model supports more than a name and portrait. Depending on the configured creator/editor, a record can contain:

- Full/display name, honorific and aliases.
- Birth/death/alive information.
- Editable Pioneer category and publication/status information.
- Induction year/date and citation.
- Tagline, short bio and full biography.
- Early life, education, career and major contributions.
- Missions/programmes/technologies, roles and tenure.
- Awards, Padma honours and academic degrees.
- Portrait, banner and other media.
- External links, quotations and related Mission/Payload/Pioneer/Archive records.
- Tags and keywords.

How to write a strong Pioneer record

- **Name and identity** - use the person's recognised name, honorifics and aliases accurately so the record can be found under common variations.
- **Short bio** - summarise why the person matters to Indian spaceflight in a few clear sentences.
- **Full biography** - cover early life, education, career and historical context without turning the profile into an unsourced tribute.
- **Major contributions** - describe specific work, decisions, technologies, programmes or leadership contributions rather than generic praise.
- **Roles and tenure** - include positions and dates when known so the reader can understand when the contribution occurred.
- **Missions/programmes/technologies** - connect the person to the concrete work they influenced or delivered.
- **Induction citation** - use the citation as a concise explanation of why the person belongs in the Hall; it should be specific enough to stand on its own.
- **Media and quotations** - use relevant material with reliable attribution and respect copyright.

Create/edit caution

Creating Pioneer records is an administrator function. A regular-member Pioneer proposal route is not currently available. If you spot an error in a Pioneer record, report it through the available community, support or moderation channel.

19. Telemetry Tracking Center (TTC)

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Flight simulator	/telemetry-tracking-center-ttc	Desktop/laptop; mobile/tablet intentionally blocked

What TTC is - and is not

The TTC page mounts a Cesium-based Flight Profile Simulator. It visualises launch-vehicle ascent/trajectory using public mission parameters and physics-based/interpolated profile data. It should not be described as official live telemetry unless a specific mission/data source explicitly provides that. Treat displayed trajectory, altitude and stage timing as a simulation/model unless the UI clearly identifies a live sourced field.

Why phones/tablets are blocked

The route deliberately detects mobile/tablet/narrow/touch devices before mounting the simulator. This avoids loading Cesium, mission data and heavy 3D assets on unsupported devices. A phone showing a construction/block screen is therefore expected behavior; use a desktop/laptop browser.

Typical simulator interaction

- Select an available mission/profile.
- Use Play/Rehearsal controls to progress through ascent.
- Use timeline/stage controls to inspect flight phases.
- Rotate/zoom the Cesium 3D scene.
- Use Free Camera for manual viewing and Recenter to return focus to the vehicle.
- Inspect mission/vehicle stage data exposed by the simulator.
- Use NOTAM/zone overlays when that mission profile provides them.

TTC troubleshooting

Problem	Action
Phone/tablet shows blocked screen	Expected; use a desktop/laptop.
3D area is blank	Check WebGL/browser acceleration, reload and confirm heavy assets are not blocked by privacy/network extensions.
No missions/profiles	The mission-data source may not have a supported current profile.
Trajectory differs from official telemetry	The simulator is model-based; compare against official mission sources before treating a plotted point as telemetry.
Camera lost the vehicle	Use Recenter or switch out of Free Camera.

20. Rich Text Editor, Media and Structured Data

Rich-text capabilities

Several creation and editing tools share the Lexical-based rich-text editor. Not every editor enables every toolbar control, but the shared editor supports a large common set:

- Bold, italic, underline, strikethrough and inline code.
- Font size/family, text colour and highlight.
- Headings, bullet/numbered lists, block quotes and code blocks.
- Indent/outdent and left/center/right/justify alignment.
- Subscript and superscript.
- Links and remove-link.
- Undo/redo and clear formatting.
- Equations/formulas.
- Tables and structured data tables.
- Horizontal rules.
- Images, captioned images, side-by-side image/video layouts and video upload.
- YouTube and Twitter/X embeds where enabled.
- Linked entity cards.
- NOTAM/hazard map nodes where enabled.
- Columns, toggles/collapsible structures and sticky-note style nodes where enabled.

Use structured fields before free text

If a fact has a dedicated field - launch date, orbit, Company funding, RTI ministry, Archive source date - put it there first. Structured fields power filters, analytics and cross-feature displays. Use rich text for explanation, history and narrative, not as a replacement for every structured field.

Media staging

Several create workflows stage files locally or temporarily, create the database record, then upload media against the real entity ID. This prevents permanent orphan files when a record fails before creation. If a creation succeeds but a later media step reports an error, first open the created record to see what actually saved before creating a duplicate.

Media quality

- Use a meaningful filename where possible.
- Add useful alt text/caption when the editor supports it.
- Do not upload unrelated promotional graphics merely to fill an image slot.
- Respect copyright and source metadata, especially in Archive records.
- For factual diagrams/screenshots, include context/source in the article or provenance fields.

21. Moderation, Proposals and Review States

Direct edit vs proposal

Workflow	What happens
Direct edit	Authorised account writes the change directly to the record.
Pending proposal	Contributor submits changed fields; public record remains unchanged until review.
Article review	Member saves/submits an article; moderation state controls whether it is editable/published.
Community structured contribution	Feature-specific editor stores/updates structured community data under that workflow's rules.

How to write a useful edit reason

A good edit reason says what changed and why. When possible, include the source in the field/source control or reason. Example: "Updated launch mass to 3900 kg from the mission press kit dated 14 July 2023." Avoid reasons such as "fix" or "I think this is wrong" without evidence.

What moderators should check

- Correct entity - no accidental edits to similarly named records.
- Source quality and whether a source actually supports the changed claim.
- Units, dates, time zones and status values.
- No duplicate records/people/milestones.
- Relationship direction and target.
- Media rights/provenance.
- Whether the edit would erase richer existing structured data.

If only part of a proposal is wrong

Where the moderation UI supports field-level review, a reviewer can approve useful changes and reject/adjust unsupported ones rather than treating the proposal as all-or-nothing. Contributors should therefore keep changes focused and explain them clearly.

22. Contact and Support

Purpose	Route	Typical access
Support page	/contact	Public

Choose the closest support category

Category	Use it for	Displayed response target
Technical Support	Platform features, uploads and technical issues.	24-48 hours
Content & Community	Content, moderation and community standards.	12-24 hours
Account Help	Recovery, profile and access problems.	4-8 hours
Emergency Issues	Critical site-wide problems.	1-4 hours

Contact form

The current contact form asks for Name, Email, Subject and a detailed Message. The message field is limited to 5,000 characters. Include the affected route/record identifier and the exact error text whenever possible.

Copyright, attribution and reuse

The public contact page states that platform content may be quoted or referenced with attribution and links. If you want to reuse material beyond fair use, use the contact page to ask first. Remember that images, documents and quotations displayed on the platform may also carry third-party rights or source-specific conditions; attribution to indianspaceflight.in platform does not replace attribution or permission required by the original rights holder.

What to include in a useful bug/support report

- The page route, for example /companies/[slug]/contribute.
- Stable record identifier such as ISFC/ISFM/IROLOS/ISF-RTI if relevant.
- What you expected to happen.
- What actually happened.
- Exact error text, not only "doesn't work".
- Desktop/mobile and browser if the problem is visual.
- For uploads, file type and approximate size.
- A screenshot if it helps, but do not expose private account tokens or sensitive RTI personal data.

23. Troubleshooting by Symptom

Symptom	What to do
I can read a feature but cannot create/edit	Read and write permissions are separate. Check the Route Directory and your account status/role.
I am signed in but get redirected	Your profile may not be active, the route may require moderator/admin, or the item may require ownership.
I created something but do not see it publicly	Check Draft/Review/Visibility status. Save does not always mean Publish.
I submitted an edit but page did not change	Mission/Payload/member and other proposal workflows wait for moderator approval.
The editor says no changes detected	The submitted fields match the current record; change only the intended values.
A stable ID is not found	Copy the exact displayed identifier; do not substitute slug, government number or a guessed sequence.
Payload cannot save	A valid Parent Mission is required.
3D IROLOS object missing	3D viewer requires valid TLE line 1 and line 2.
TTC unavailable on mobile	Expected. The simulator is intentionally blocked on mobile/tablet/narrow touch devices.
Latest revision route blocks a member	Current direct edit route is admin/mod restricted; use member review/revision workflow or contact moderation.
Chat Add/Remove member says Pending	Current feature limitation for roster changes.
Archive upload will not start	Select at least one file and supply required title/authentication.
Archive is hidden from others	Check Public/Internal/Private visibility.
RTI create Back takes me somewhere unexpected	Navigate directly to /rti; if the submission already succeeded, do not create a duplicate.
Embedded PDF preview is blank	Download the original file; preview service can fail independently.
Media error after create	Open the created entity before retrying. The core record may have saved even if a later media update failed.
Search gives too many near-duplicates	Use stable IDs, legal names, NORAD/ISFC/ISFM or other specific identifiers.
Unknown value	Leave blank or mark appropriate uncertainty; do not manufacture precision.

24. Contribution Quality Checklist

Before creating a new record

- Search for an existing record under alternate names/spellings.
- Confirm you are creating the correct entity type.
- For a Payload, identify its parent Mission first.
- Collect at least one reliable source for important factual claims.
- Check whether your account should create directly or submit a proposal.

Before saving/submitting

- Required title/name is present.
- Dates use the correct event date, not article publication date by accident.
- Units are included and consistent.
- Status reflects current real-world/record state.
- No placeholder/demo text remains.
- Structured fields are used for structured facts.
- Links target the correct entities.
- Images/files are relevant and properly sourced.
- Confidence/verification is not overstated.
- Edit reason explains what changed.

Community-quality checks

- The record explains significance without promotional or fan-style language.
- Important claims are sourceable and uncertainty is visible rather than hidden.
- The contribution improves an existing record instead of creating an avoidable duplicate.
- Biographical records distinguish documented contribution from general association with the space sector.
- Third-party images, documents and quotations are used with appropriate rights/attribution awareness.

After saving

- Open the resulting detail page.
- Confirm stable identifier was generated/displayed correctly.
- Check image/file rendering.
- Check related-entity links.
- If the workflow is moderated, confirm the submission appears as Draft/In Review/Pending rather than creating a duplicate.
- If something failed, capture the route + stable ID + exact error before contacting support.

25. Glossary

Term	Meaning
ISFC	indianspaceflight.in platform Company identifier: ISFC-YYYY-NNNNN.
ISFM	Indian Space Flight Mission identifier using launch date, vehicle code, intended orbit, pad and sequence.
main_code	Permanent Launch Vehicle dictionary code embedded in ISFM, e.g. LVM3 or PSLVXL.
IROLOS	Indian Registry of Objects Launched into Outer Space; unofficial indianspaceflight.in platform orbital-object catalogue and identifier system.
ISF-ARC	Archive Bank auto identifier family.
ISF-RTI	indianspaceflight.in platform RTI auto identifier family.
ISF-POST	Forum post auto identifier family.
ISF-BLOG	Latest/Blog article auto identifier family.
ISFP	Hall of Indian Space Pioneers identifier.
Slug	URL-friendly text used in detail-page routes. Not always the stable identifier.
TLE	Two-Line Element set used to propagate an Earth-orbiting object.
NORAD ID	NORAD Catalog number; external orbital-object identifier embedded in IROLOS.
Universal Connection	Structured relationship between two indianspaceflight.in platform entities.
Proposal	A member-submitted edit awaiting moderation rather than an immediate direct write.
Direct edit	Privileged or owner edit that updates the record immediately after successful save.
Visibility	Archive/content access state such as Public, Internal or Private.
Confidence	How strongly a factual value is supported by available evidence; not the same as verification.
TTC	Telemetry Tracking Center route hosting the Flight Profile Simulator; model-based visualization unless a field is explicitly live-sourced.
RTI Tree	Parent/child visualization for related RTI records.
Draft	Saved content that is not yet published/submitted/approved depending on feature.
Pending review	Submission is waiting for a moderator and may be locked for member edits.

End of guide.

Documentation version: August 2026. Routes, controls and feature availability may evolve as the indianspaceflight.in platform is updated.

PART II | DETAILED USER GUIDES

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

Step-by-step instructions, field explanations, user permissions, FAQs and troubleshooting for the platform's main public and member features.

DETAILED USER GUIDE 1 OF 11

The Archive Bank

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

A Guide for Contributors

How to add, describe, and manage historical material in the Archive Bank

Audience	Contributors And Members	Document type	User Guide
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What Is the Archive Bank?

The Archive Bank is the section of the indianspaceflight.in platform where photos, videos, documents, and other historical material about India's space programme are preserved and made discoverable. Think of it as a shared filing cabinet for primary sources - old press releases, tender documents, RTI responses, mission photographs, telemetry printouts, newspaper clippings, and more - all in one searchable place, properly credited and dated.

Anyone visiting the indianspaceflight.in platform can browse and read public archive items. Registered members and moderators can additionally contribute new material and, for their own contributions, edit or remove it later.

How to Find This Page

Where	How to get there
Desktop	In the top navigation bar, open the Tools menu, then select Archive Bank.
Mobile	Tap the menu icon (top-right), then select Archive Bank under the Tools & Community section.
Direct route	indianspaceflight.in/archive

Tip

You can bookmark indianspaceflight.in/archive directly so you never have to go through the menu at all.

Who Can Do What

Role	Can browse public items	Can add new items	Can edit / delete an item
Visitor (not logged in)	Yes	No	No
Member	Yes	Yes	Only items they added
Moderator / Admin	Yes (including Internal items)	Yes	Any item

If you don't see an "Add to Archive" button, it usually means you're not logged in, or your account hasn't been approved as an active member yet.

Adding a New Item to the Archive

Go to the Archive Bank section of the indianspaceflight.in platform and select "Add to Archive." You'll be asked for two kinds of information: a description of what the item is, and the file(s) themselves.

1 The basics

Field	What to put here
Title	A short, clear name for the item, e.g. "PSLV-C55 Raw Telemetry" or "ISRO Press Release - Chandrayaan-3 Landing."

Field	What to put here
Description / Context	A few sentences explaining what the item is and why it matters. This is what readers see first, so make it informative on its own.
Category	The subject area - e.g. Telemetry, Footage, Report, Tender, RTI, Newspaper, Press Kit. Pick the closest match.
Archive Type	The physical form of the item - Document, Video, Image, Data, and so on.
Tags	A handful of keywords people might search for, e.g. "chandrayaan", "pslv", "isro". Type a word and press Enter to add it.

2 Provenance & sourcing (optional, but strongly recommended)

This section is what turns a random file into a trustworthy historical record. Fill in as much as you know:

- Original Document Date - when the material was originally created or published (not the day you're uploading it).
- Original Source Name - who published or produced it, e.g. "ISRO", "DRDO", "The Hindu."
- Original Source URL - a link to where it was first published, if it exists online.
- Original Author / Department - e.g. "Department of Space."
- Copyright Status - Public Domain, Government Open Data, Classified/Restricted, Copyrighted, or Unknown if you're not sure.
- Language - the language the document itself is written in.

Tip

An item with clear sourcing is far more useful to readers and researchers than one without. If you only have five minutes, at least fill in the Source Name and Original Document Date.

3 Visibility - who can see this item

Setting	Who sees it	When to use it
Public	Everyone visiting the indianspaceflight.in platform	Most archive material - anything safe and appropriate to share openly.
Internal	Logged-in staff/moderators only	Working documents, unverified material, or anything you want a second pair of eyes on before it goes public.
Private	Only you	Personal drafts or material you're not ready to submit for review yet.

Tip

You can always change visibility later from the Edit screen - start as Internal or Private if you're unsure, and switch to Public once it's ready.

4 Uploading files

Drag and drop your files onto the upload box, or click it to browse your device. You can attach more than one file to a single archive entry. Supported formats include PDFs, images, videos, and most common data files.

- Images and videos appear in a Media Gallery on the item's page.
- PDFs and other documents appear in an Attached Documents section with an on-page preview and a Download button.

Once everything looks right, select the upload/save button. You'll see a progress message while each file uploads - larger files or a slow connection will simply take longer, so keep the tab open until it finishes.

5 Linking related entities

If the item relates to a specific mission, launch vehicle, company, or other entry already on the indianspaceflight.in platform, use the "Linked Entities" field to connect them. Start typing the name and select it from the suggestions. This powers the "Connected Intelligence" panel readers see on the item's page.

Browsing and Finding Archive Items

The main Archive Bank page shows every public item as a card with a thumbnail, title, and short description. You can:

- Type a keyword into the search box and press Enter to search titles and descriptions.
- Select a category chip along the top (e.g. Telemetry, RTI, Newspaper) to filter the list down to just that type.
- Select "ALL" to clear the category filter.

Opening an item shows its full description, attached files, sourcing details, tags, and any related missions/companies/people linked to it.

Managing Your Own Items

1 Editing

Open the item and select "Edit archive" (only appears if you're the person who added it, or a moderator/admin). You can update the title, description, category, tags, visibility, sourcing details, and linked entities. To change the attached files themselves, remove the old entry and create a new one - the Edit screen only updates written information, not files.

2 Sharing

On a Public item, select "Share" to post it to Twitter/X, Facebook, or LinkedIn directly, or "Copy link" to grab a URL. Internal and Private items don't show the Share option.

When a link is shared, the preview card is only generated for Public items. Internal and Private items show a generic "Restricted Archive" preview instead, so their real contents aren't exposed by accident.

3 Deleting

From the same menu, moderators/admins and the original contributor can permanently delete an item along with all its attached files. There's a confirmation prompt before anything is removed, and this action cannot be undone.

Writing Good Archive Entries - Content Tips

- 1 Lead with what it is, not what you think about it. "ISRO's official press kit for the GSLV Mk III maiden flight, released March 2014" is more useful than "An interesting old document I found."
- 2 Date everything you can. A photo or document without a date is much harder for future readers (and search) to place in context.
- 3 Credit the original source. Even for material that's freely available, naming where it came from protects the platform and helps readers verify it themselves.
- 4 Use specific, searchable tags. Mission names, vehicle names, and organisation names are more useful than generic ones like "space" or "india."
- 5 Link related entities. Connecting an archive item to the mission, vehicle, or company it relates to helps readers discover it while browsing that entry.
- 6 When unsure, mark it Internal first. It's easy to flip a verified item to Public later; it's much messier to walk back a Public item that turns out to have wrong or missing sourcing.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: The upload seems stuck on "Uploading..." - what do I do?

A: Large files (especially video) can take a while, particularly on a slow connection - leave the tab open and let it finish. If it's been stuck for several minutes with no progress at all, refresh the page and try again with a smaller file or a more stable connection.

Q: I uploaded an item but the files aren't showing up on the page.

A: This can happen if the upload was interrupted partway through. Open the item and check whether the files are attached; if not, it's usually easiest to delete the incomplete entry and add it again from scratch.

Q: Why can't I see the Edit or Delete button on an item?

A: Those options only appear for the person who originally added the item, and for moderators/admins. If you believe an item needs correcting and you're not able to edit it yourself, contact a moderator.

Q: The PDF preview won't load, but the file downloads fine.

A: The in-page preview needs the document to be reachable by the preview service; this can occasionally fail even when the file itself is perfectly fine. Use the "Download Original" button instead.

Q: I shared a link to an Internal item and it looks blank/restricted to others.

A: That's expected. Internal and Private items intentionally don't reveal their real title or description in link previews. Change the item's visibility to Public once it's ready to be shared.

DETAILED USER GUIDE 2 OF 11

The Mission Calendar

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

A Guide for Contributors

How to read, subscribe to, and add events on the Mission Calendar

Audience	Contributors And Members	Document type	User Guide
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What Is the Mission Calendar?

The Mission Calendar is the section of the indianspaceflight.in platform that brings together everything happening across India's space programme in one timeline - upcoming rocket launches, airspace restriction windows (NOTAMs), seminars, press conferences, expos, workshops, and other milestones. It's designed to answer "what's coming up, and when?" at a glance, and to let anyone follow along on their own phone or desktop calendar.

Every visitor to the indianspaceflight.in platform can view the calendar and subscribe to it. Registered members and moderators can also add, edit, and remove events.

How to Find This Page

Where	How to get there
Desktop	Not currently listed as its own item in the top navigation bar - go directly to the route below instead.
Mobile	Not currently listed in the menu panel either - go directly to the route below instead.
Direct route	indianspaceflight.in/calendar

Tip

Since the calendar doesn't have its own menu entry yet, bookmarking indianspaceflight.in/calendar is the fastest way back to it.

Who Can Do What

Role	Can view & subscribe	Can add events	Can edit / delete events
Visitor (not logged in)	Yes	No	No
Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
Moderator / Admin	Yes	Yes	Yes

If you don't see an "ADD EVENT" option after selecting a date, you're most likely not logged in, or your account hasn't been approved as an active member yet.

Reading the Calendar Page

The page is laid out as a few connected panels rather than a single long list:

1 The month grid

A standard month view on the left. Days with something scheduled are highlighted in a colour tied to the type of event (see the relevant section). Use the arrows beside the month name to move forward or backward, and select "SYNC" to subscribe to the whole calendar on your own device (see the relevant section).

2 The featured tile

- If a rocket launch is coming up, the featured tile shows a live countdown - days, hours, minutes, and seconds until liftoff.
- If there's no upcoming launch, the platform instead features the next single-day event (a seminar, press conference, and so on) with its date and time.
- Multi-day windows such as NOTAMs are never featured here - they always appear as their own tile further down, so the countdown spot is reserved for one clear "next big thing."

3 The event tiles

Every other upcoming (or recently past) event appears as its own card below the grid, showing its type, title, date/time in Indian Standard Time, location, and a short description. Cards for events happening soon, or currently in progress, are shown larger so they stand out. Each card has a small arrow icon you can select to download that single event as a .ics file, which most calendar apps can open directly.

4 The active-window banner

When a multi-day window - most commonly a NOTAM (a temporary airspace restriction announced ahead of a launch) - is currently open, a green banner appears at the top of the page showing its name, opening and closing time, and how many days remain.

Understanding Event Types

Every event is tagged with a type, which determines its colour and icon on the calendar.

Type	What it's for
Rocket Launch	A scheduled launch. This is the only type that gets the live countdown in the featured tile.
NOTAM Window	A temporary airspace restriction period, usually tied to a launch. Can span several days - set a start and end date.
Testing	Engine tests, integration tests, or other pre-launch testing activity.
Milestone	A significant achievement or programme milestone that isn't itself a launch.
Press Conference	Media briefings and official announcements.
Space Expo	Exhibitions, trade shows, or public expos.
Seminar	Talks, lectures, and academic events.
Client Visit	Visits from commercial or government clients/partners.
Outreach	Public engagement and educational outreach activity.
Workshop	Hands-on or training sessions.
Simulation	Simulated missions, drills, or software simulations.
Maintenance	Scheduled facility or equipment maintenance.
Special Event	Anything notable that doesn't fit the categories above.
Custom...	Type your own label when none of the above fit.

Subscribing to the Calendar

Select "SYNC" at the top of the month grid to open the subscribe panel.

- 1 One-click subscribe - select "CLICK TO SUBSCRIBE" and your device will offer to add the calendar to Google Calendar, Outlook, or the iOS/Apple Calendar app.
- 2 Manual subscribe (Google Calendar) - copy the calendar link shown in the panel, then in Google Calendar go to Settings → Add Calendar → From URL and paste it in.

Once you're subscribed, new and updated events on the indianspaceflight.in platform will appear automatically on your personal calendar.

Tip

Subscribing is a one-time action. You never need to re-subscribe just because new events are added later - your calendar app checks for updates on its own schedule.

Adding a New Event

Select a date (or a date range) directly on the month grid, then choose "ADD EVENT."

1 Selecting the date(s)

- Select once to set the start date.
- Select a second, later date to set an end date - useful for anything that spans more than one day, especially NOTAM windows.
- Selecting a single date is enough for one-day events; you don't need to select an end date for those.

2 Filling in the details

Field	What to put here
Event Title	A short, clear name, e.g. "PSLV-C60 Launch" or "ISRO Media Briefing - August 2026."
Event Type	Pick the closest match from the list in the relevant section. Choose "Custom..." and type your own label if nothing fits.
Start Date & Time (IST)	When the event begins. All times on the calendar are shown in Indian Standard Time.
End Date & Time (IST)	When it ends. For a NOTAM or multi-day window, set a later date here.
Location	Where it's happening, e.g. "Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota."
Description	A sentence or two of context - shown on the event card and in the featured tile.

Select "CREATE EVENT" to publish it. It will appear on the calendar for everyone immediately, and anyone subscribed will pick it up automatically.

Tip

For a NOTAM or any other window that spans multiple days, always double-check the end date - leaving it the same as the start date will make the event look like it only lasts one day.

Editing and Deleting Events

Any logged-in member or moderator can update an event - select the small edit (pencil) icon that appears on a card, the featured tile, or the active-window banner. This opens the same form used to create the event, pre-filled with its current details.

- To change any detail, update the field and select "UPDATE EVENT."
- To remove an event entirely, open it for editing and select the delete (trash) icon. You'll be asked to confirm, since this cannot be undone.

Because the calendar updates live for everyone viewing the page, changes and deletions are visible to other visitors within moments.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: The countdown on the featured tile isn't for the event I expected.

A: The featured tile always prioritises the next upcoming rocket launch. If none is scheduled, it falls back to the next single-day event instead. NOTAM windows and other multi-day events are deliberately never featured here.

Q: I subscribed, but the event I just added hasn't shown up on my phone yet.

A: Most calendar apps refresh a subscribed calendar on their own schedule (often every few hours) rather than instantly. The event is already live on the indianspaceflight.in platform itself; give your calendar app some time to sync.

Q: Why does an event show "CLOSED" instead of a date?

A: That label applies to NOTAM and other multi-day windows once their end date/time has passed. It simply means the window is over - the event stays visible for reference but is no longer active.

Q: I made a mistake with the time zone - is everything in IST?

A: Yes. Every date and time shown or entered on the Mission Calendar is Indian Standard Time. If you're contributing from outside India, convert your local time to IST before entering it.

Q: Can I download just one event instead of subscribing to the whole calendar?

A: Yes - each event card has a small arrow icon that downloads that single event as a file your calendar app can open directly, without subscribing to ongoing updates.

Q: I don't see the option to add or edit an event.

A: Adding and editing is limited to logged-in members and moderators. If you're logged in and still don't see the option, your account may not yet be approved as an active member - check with a moderator.

DETAILED USER GUIDE 3 OF 11

Sign In & Your Account

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

A Guide for Members

How to sign in, join the community, reset your password, and manage your session

Audience	All Users	Document type	User Guide
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What This Page Is For

The Sign In page is the entry point for anything on the indianspaceflight.in platform that requires an account - contributing to the Archive Bank, adding events to the Mission Calendar, and other member-only features. From this one page you can sign in to an existing account, apply to join the community, sign in with Google, or reset a forgotten password.

How to Find This Page

Where	How to get there
Desktop	Select the "Sign In" button on the far right of the top navigation bar. Once you're signed in, this becomes your profile picture instead.
Mobile	Tap the menu icon (top-right); if you're not signed in, a "Sign In" button appears at the bottom of the menu panel.
Direct route	indianspaceflight.in/auth/login

Tip Once signed in, your account and password settings live under your profile, reached by selecting your avatar (desktop) or your profile card (mobile).

Signing In

If you already have an account, make sure the "Sign In" tab is selected (it's the default), then:

- 1 Enter your email address.
- 2 Enter your password.
- 3 Select "Sign In."

If your details are correct, you'll be taken straight into the indianspaceflight.in platform. If something's wrong, an error message appears above the form explaining what happened - most commonly an incorrect email or password.

Joining the Community

If you don't have an account yet, select the "Join Community" tab. This switches the form into application mode:

Field	What to put here
Email Address	The email you'll use to sign in and receive the confirmation link.
Full Name	Your name as you'd like it shown on your contributions.
Password	A password of at least 6 characters. You'll use this to sign in from now on.

Select "Submit Application" to send it in. You'll see a confirmation message asking you to check your email.

1 Confirming your email

Open the confirmation email and select the link inside it. This verifies that the email address is really yours and activates your login - without this step, you won't be able to sign in.

2 Waiting for approval

Confirming your email is not the same as being fully approved. New accounts are reviewed before they're given full member access to contribution features like the Archive Bank and Mission Calendar. Until an account is marked active by a moderator, signing in will work, but you won't see options like "Add to Archive" or "Add Event."

Tip

If it's been a while since you applied and you still don't see member features after signing in, reach out to a moderator to check on your application's status.

Signing In with Google

Instead of a password, you can select "Continue with Google" on either tab. This takes you to Google's own sign-in screen; once you approve access there, you're returned to the indianspaceflight.in platform automatically signed in (or, if this is your first time, your application is created the same way as the email/password path).

- You don't need to remember a separate password for the platform if you use this option.
- Your Google account's name and email are used to set up your profile.

Resetting a Forgotten Password

On the Sign In tab, select "Forgot Password?" just below the password field.

- 1 Make sure your email address is entered in the Email field first - the reset link is sent there.
- 2 Select "Forgot Password?".
- 3 You'll see a message asking you to check your email for a reset link.
- 4 Open the email and select the link. This brings you to a "Set New Password" page on the platform.
- 5 Enter your new password twice (to confirm it matches), then select "Update Password."
- 6 You'll see a success message and be taken back into the platform automatically, signed in with your new password.

Tip

Reset links are time-limited. If yours has expired by the time you open it, simply repeat the "Forgot Password?" steps to request a fresh one.

Choosing a Good Password

- Use at least 6 characters - that's the platform's minimum, but longer is safer.
- Avoid reusing a password from another site you care about.
- Use the eye icon next to the password field to double-check what you've typed before submitting.
- When setting a new password after a reset, make sure both password fields match exactly - the form will tell you if they don't.

Signing Out

Signing out ends your current session on the indianspaceflight.in platform and returns you to the sign-in screen. Use the sign-out option from your account menu wherever it appears in the site's navigation. You'll need to sign in again to reach member-only features afterwards.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I signed up but never got a confirmation email.

A: Check your spam or promotions folder first. If it's genuinely missing after a few minutes, try applying again with the same email - the platform will resend a fresh confirmation link.

Q: I confirmed my email, but I still can't add anything to the Archive or Calendar.

A: That's expected right after signing up. New accounts need to be reviewed and approved by a moderator before contribution features unlock. Signing in itself will still work in the meantime.

Q: The password reset link took me to an error instead of the new-password screen.

A: This usually means the link has expired or was already used once. Go back to the Sign In tab and select "Forgot Password?" again to get a new link.

Q: Can I switch from signing in with a password to signing in with Google (or the other way round)?

A: Your account is tied to the email address you used, so as long as you use the same email address with Google as you did when you originally signed up, you should be able to sign in either way.

Q: I typed my new password twice but it says they don't match.

A: Double-check for accidental spaces or autocomplete filling in an old password. Use the eye icon on both fields to view exactly what's been entered before submitting again.

Q: Is my password ever visible to platform staff?

A: No. Passwords are never stored or shown in plain text - not even to administrators. If you forget it, the only way back in is through the "Forgot Password?" reset link sent to your own email.

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Finding Your Way Around

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

The Navigation Menu - A Guide

How to get around on desktop and mobile, plus a full page/route reference

Audience	All Users	Document type	User Guide
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What This Guide Covers

Every page on the indianspaceflight.in platform is reachable from the navigation bar at the top of the screen. This guide explains how that menu works on a desktop/laptop browser and on a phone, and finishes with a complete reference table of every page and its web address.

On Desktop

On a wide screen, the navigation bar sits across the top of the page and stays visible as you scroll - it shrinks into a smaller floating pill shape once you scroll down, but all the same options remain available.

1 Always-visible links

Four core sections sit directly in the bar and never need a click to reveal: Home, Latest, Missions, and Companies.

2 Dropdown menus

Three grouped menus open when you hover over or select them:

- Explore - Launch Vehicles, the IROLOS Database, the IROLOS Globe, and the Hall of Indian Space Pioneers.
- Tools - Forum, Community Chat, Archive Bank, RTI Database, Guest RTI, Telemetry Tracking Center, User Manual, and Creator Hub.
- Admin - only visible if you're signed in as a moderator or admin; opens to the staff-only pages listed in the relevant section.

Select a dropdown's heading to open it, then select any item inside to go straight there; the menu closes automatically once you navigate.

3 Extra links on very wide screens

On especially wide monitors, three frequently used pages - Forum, Telemetry Tracking Center ("TTC"), and Community Chat (once you're signed in) - also appear as their own direct links alongside the dropdowns.

4 The right-hand controls

Control	What it does
Search icon	Opens a search box you can use to find missions, companies, archive items, and other content across the platform without leaving the page you're on.
Theme toggle	Switches the site between light and dark appearance.
Profile circle / Sign In button	Shows your avatar and takes you to your profile if you're signed in; shows a "Sign In" button if you're not.

On Mobile

On a phone-sized screen, the full menu is tucked behind two icons in the top-right corner: a magnifying glass for search, and a menu icon (three lines) that opens the full navigation panel.

1 Opening the menu

Select the menu icon in the top-right corner. A panel slides in from the right-hand edge of the screen, covering the same ground as the desktop dropdowns but laid out as a single scrollable list.

2 What's inside

The mobile panel groups every page into the same sections you'd find on desktop:

- Main - Home, Latest, Missions, Companies.
- Explore - Launch Vehicles, IROLOS Database, IROLOS Globe, Hall of Indian Space Pioneers.
- Tools & Community - Forum, Community Chat (if signed in), Archive Bank, RTI Database, Guest RTI, Telemetry Tracking Center, User Manual, Creator Hub.
- Administration - shown only to moderators/admins, with the same staff-only pages as the desktop Admin dropdown.

Select any item in the list to go straight to that page; the panel closes automatically. Select the X in the top-right corner, or tap outside the panel, to close it without navigating anywhere.

3 Your account, at the bottom

At the base of the mobile panel you'll see either your profile card (avatar, name, and role) if you're signed in - selecting it takes you to your profile - or a "Sign In" button if you're not.

Tip

On both desktop and mobile, anything under Administration only appears once your account has moderator or admin access - it isn't hidden on purpose from other visitors, it simply isn't part of a regular member's menu.

Full Page & Route Reference

Combine the site's domain with the route to get the full address, e.g. indianspaceflight.in/archive.

1 Main

Page	Route	Who sees it
Home	/	Everyone
Latest	/latest	Everyone
Missions	/mission	Everyone
Companies	/companies	Everyone

2 Explore

Page	Route	Who sees it
Launch Vehicles	/launch-vehicles	Everyone
IROLOS Database	/mission?tab=irolos	Everyone
IROLOS Globe	/mission?tab=irolos-globe	Everyone
Hall of Indian Space Pioneers	/pioneers-hall-of-fame	Everyone

3 Tools & Community

Page	Route	Who sees it
Forum	/forum	Everyone
Community Chat	/chat	Signed-in users only
Archive Bank	/archive	Everyone

Page	Route	Who sees it
RTI Database	/rti	Everyone
Guest RTI	/rti/guest-rti	Everyone
Telemetry Tracking Center	/telemetry-tracking-center-ttc	Everyone
User Manual	/user-manual	Everyone
Creator Hub	/create	Everyone

4 Links & Profile

Page	Route	Who sees it
Contact	/contact	Everyone
My Profile	/profile	Signed-in users only
Sign In	/auth/login	Visitors who aren't signed in

Understanding Your Account Status

On mobile, your profile card at the bottom of the menu shows two small pills - your account status and your role - using the same colour coding you'll see elsewhere on the platform:

Status	Colour	Meaning
Active	Green	Your account is fully approved.
Pending	Yellow	Your application is still awaiting review.
Rejected	Red	Your application was not approved.

Your role - member, moderator, or admin - is shown alongside it and determines whether the Administration section appears in your menu.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I don't see the Admin section in my menu.

A: It only appears for accounts with moderator or admin access. If you believe you should have access, check with an existing admin.

Q: The menu bar looks different after I scroll down - is that normal?

A: Yes. On desktop, the navigation bar shrinks into a smaller floating pill once you scroll. Every link and dropdown still works exactly the same way in that smaller form.

Q: Where did Community Chat go? I can't find it.

A: Community Chat only appears in the menu (on both desktop and mobile) once you're signed in. Sign in first, and it will appear under Tools & Community.

Q: Can I bookmark a page directly instead of going through the menu each time?

A: Yes - every route listed in the relevant section is a real, bookmarkable web address. Combine it with the site's domain (e.g. indianspaceflight.in/mission) and save it like any other link.

Q: I closed the mobile menu by accident - how do I get back into it?

A: Select the same menu icon (three lines) in the top-right corner again to reopen it.

DETAILED USER GUIDE 5 OF 11

Community Chat

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

A Guide to Messaging on the Platform

How to message, react, share media, and manage conversations - on desktop and mobile

Audience	Members	Document type	User Guide
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What Is Community Chat?

Community Chat is the real-time messaging section of the indianspaceflight.in platform. It lets signed-in members send direct one-to-one messages or create group conversations, with support for replies, reactions, GIFs, image/video attachments, @mentions, and live typing indicators - all updating instantly for everyone in the conversation.

Unlike the Forum or Archive Bank, Chat is a members-only space - it is not visible to visitors who aren't signed in, and isn't intended for public browsing.

How to Find This Page

Where	How to get there
Desktop	Open the Tools menu in the top navigation bar and select Community Chat. On very wide screens, a direct "Chat" shortcut also appears in the bar once you're signed in.
Mobile	Tap the menu icon (top-right), then select Community Chat under Tools & Community. It only appears there once you're signed in.
Direct route	indianspaceflight.in/chat
Direct link to one conversation	indianspaceflight.in/chat/<roomId> - used by shared message links and invite links; opens straight into that conversation.

Tip

If you're not signed in, opening /chat automatically redirects you to the sign-in page first, then brings you back to Chat once you're logged in.

Who Can Use It

Role / Status	Can use Chat?
Visitor (not logged in)	No - redirected to Sign In
Signed in, but account not yet approved	No - redirected to the homepage
Member (active)	Yes
Moderator / Admin (active)	Yes

Chat checks two things before letting you in: that you're signed in, and that your account status is Active with the role Member, Moderator, or Admin. If either check fails, you're sent back to Sign In or the homepage rather than seeing an error.

Starting a Conversation

Select the + button at the top of the conversation list to open "New Comms." This opens two tabs:

1 Direct messages

On the Direct tab, search for someone by name. Selecting a person from the results either opens your existing conversation with them or creates a new one - you'll never end up with two separate direct-message threads with the same person.

2 Group chats

On the Group tab, you can optionally add a group photo, then give the group a name and search for members to add. Selecting a person adds them to the group (a checkmark confirms it); select them again to remove them.

Select "INITIATE GROUP" once you've named the group and picked at least one member. You're taken straight into the new conversation.

Tip

A group photo upload has to finish before you can create the group - if the button seems unresponsive, check whether the avatar is still uploading.

Sending Messages

Type into the message box at the bottom of a conversation and press Enter to send (use Shift+Enter to add a new line without sending). The message box also understands a few special formats:

Type this	What it does
hidden text	Creates a spoiler - the text is blurred out until someone taps/clicks it to reveal.
\$\$ formula \$\$	Renders the contents as a mathematical formula.
@name	Opens a suggestion list of conversation members as you type; selecting one mentions them.
#term	Opens a search of the platform's mission/company/entity database; selecting a result links that entity directly in your message.

If you paste or type a web link, the message automatically shows a small preview card underneath it (title, description, and image) once the link's page has been scanned.

Attachments & GIFs

- Select the paperclip icon to attach an image or video (up to 50MB). A preview appears above the message box while it uploads - remove it with the X if you change your mind before sending.
- Select the sticker icon to open the GIF picker, search or browse trending GIFs, and select one to attach it in place of an image.

Tip

You can only attach one image/video or one GIF per message - attaching a new one replaces whatever was already staged.

Replying to a Message

Where	How to reply
Desktop	Hover over a message, select the  menu that appears, then choose Reply.
Mobile	Swipe a message you received to the right until the reply icon appears, or long-press the message and choose Reply from the menu.

A small preview of the message you're replying to appears above the message box - select the X on it to cancel the reply. Once sent, your reply shows a quoted snippet of the original message; selecting that snippet jumps you straight to it further up the conversation (and briefly highlights it).

Reacting to a Message

Where	How to react
Desktop	Hover over a message and select the  menu - a row of quick emoji (   ) appears at the top.
Mobile	Long-press the message (about half a second) to bring up the same menu.

Selecting an emoji you've already reacted with removes your reaction; selecting a different one switches it. Reactions from everyone in the conversation are grouped and shown as small pill buttons below the message, with a count.

Editing and Deleting Your Messages

You can only edit or delete messages you sent yourself - these options only appear in the  menu for your own messages.

- Edit: select Edit, change the text in the message box, then send it as normal. The message is marked "(Edited)" for everyone.
- Delete: select Delete, then confirm in the dialog that appears - this permanently removes the message and cannot be undone.

Typing Indicators & Online Status

- While someone in the conversation is typing, a small "is typing..." note appears above the message box in real time.
- A green dot on someone's avatar (in the sidebar or conversation header) means they're currently online.
- In a direct conversation, the header under the other person's name shows "Online" or "Offline" directly.

Managing a Group

Select the  info icon in a group's header to open its details panel.

- Roster - see everyone currently in the group; members with the ADMIN tag have elevated permissions in that group.
- Add personnel - search and select people to add directly from this panel.
- Invite link - select the person-plus icon in the group header to generate a shareable invite link, automatically copied to your clipboard. Anyone who opens it (and is signed in) joins the group instantly.
- Leave - select LEAVE next to your own name in the roster to exit the group.

Tip

Invite links are shareable outside the platform too - anyone with the link who signs in and opens it will be added to the group.

Unread Messages & Catching Up

- Conversations with new messages you haven't seen yet show a small orange dot and bolder text in the conversation list.
- Opening a conversation automatically marks its latest message as read.
- Use the filter box at the top of the conversation list to quickly search for a person or group by name.

Loading Older Messages

Chat only loads the most recent messages in a conversation to start. Select "LOAD PREVIOUS TRANSMISSIONS" at the top of the message list to fetch the next batch of older messages further back in the conversation's history.

Using Chat on Mobile

Chat's layout adapts for a phone screen:

- The conversation list opens as a full-width panel over the chat; selecting a conversation slides you into it and hides the list automatically.

- Use the back arrow at the top-left of an open conversation to return to the conversation list.
- Reactions and the message menu open with a long-press (about half a second) instead of a hover.
- Swipe right on a received message to reply to it - a reply icon fades in as you swipe.
- The message box sits above your device's on-screen keyboard and above any home-bar safe area automatically.

Tip

If a long-press doesn't seem to register, make sure your finger isn't moving - moving more than a few pixels cancels it, since Chat treats that as the start of a scroll instead.

Using Chat on Desktop

- The conversation list stays visible alongside the open conversation at all times.
- Hover over any message to reveal its  action menu (reply, react, edit, delete) without needing to tap first.
- Press Enter to send a message; press Shift+Enter to start a new line without sending.
- @mention and #entity suggestion popups appear directly above the message box as you type and can be dismissed by continuing to type past them.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I opened /chat and got sent straight to Sign In or the homepage - why?

A: Chat requires an active, approved account. If you're not signed in, you're sent to Sign In. If you're signed in but your account isn't active yet (or lacks a member/moderator/admin role), you're redirected to the homepage instead. See the relevant section.

Q: Why can't I edit or delete someone else's message?

A: Edit and Delete are only available on messages you sent yourself - this is by design and isn't something you can request an exception to from within the chat interface.

Q: A message I sent shows as sent, but no one else seems to be seeing it update.

A: Chat updates live for everyone currently viewing the conversation; if someone doesn't have that conversation open, they'll see it next time they open it rather than instantly. This isn't a delivery failure.

Q: My upload got stuck and my message won't send.

A: The send button stays disabled while a file is uploading. If it's stuck, remove the attachment with the X on the preview and try attaching it again - very large files (near the 50MB limit) or a slow connection are the most common cause.

Q: I clicked an old shared chat link and it says the message is 'too old to view.'

A: That means the specific message hasn't been loaded into your current view yet. Use "LOAD PREVIOUS TRANSMISSIONS" to page further back, or simply scroll - very old messages may take a few loads to reach.

Q: I joined a group through an invite link - will it work again later?

A: Invite links are valid for a limited time (7 days) after they're generated. If an old link stops working, ask a member of that group to generate a fresh one from the group's info panel.

Q: Typing indicators or online status seem stuck on for someone who's gone.

A: Typing indicators automatically clear themselves after a few seconds of inactivity, and online status updates as soon as the platform detects the change - a brief delay of a few seconds is normal, especially on a slow connection.

DETAILED USER GUIDE 6 OF 11

Latest

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

A Guide to Reading & Writing Articles

How to read, write, submit, and manage articles on the Latest page

Audience	Contributors And Members	Document type	User Guide
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What Is Latest?

Latest is the news and blog section of the indianspaceflight.in platform - mission updates, analysis, and community-written articles about India's space programme. Anyone can read published articles; signed-in members and staff can also write new ones using the platform's built-in rich text editor.

Writing on Latest uses the same rich text editor found elsewhere on the platform. This guide covers reading, publishing, and managing articles; for everything the editor itself can do (formatting, images, tables, embeds, and more), see the companion guide “The Rich Text Editor.”

How to Find This Page

Where	How to get there
Desktop	“Latest” is one of the four always-visible links in the top navigation bar.
Mobile	Tap the menu icon (top-right), then select Latest under the Main section.
Direct route	indianspaceflight.in/latest
A specific article	indianspaceflight.in/latest/<article-slug> - shown in the address bar once you open an article, and shareable directly.
Write a new article	Select “Write” / “Create” on the Latest page, or go directly to indianspaceflight.in/latest/create-latest-post.
Edit an existing article	Open the article and select Edit (staff) or your own draft, or go to indianspaceflight.in/latest/edit-latest-post/<id>.

Who Can Do What

Role / Status	Can read published articles	Can write a new article	What happens on save
Visitor (not logged in)	Yes	No	-
Member (active)	Yes	Yes	Goes through review before publishing - see the relevant section.
Moderator / Admin (active)	Yes	Yes	Publishes immediately, no review step.

Only moderators and admins can edit or delete an article after it's published, regardless of who originally wrote it.

Reading an Article

Every article page shows a category tag, the author's name and photo, the publish date, and - for staff viewing an unpublished piece - a Draft badge, followed by the article's featured image (if any), its full body, and any tags at the bottom.

- Views are counted automatically and shown on the article.
- Selecting a tag or an entity mentioned in the article (mission, company, archive item, etc.) takes you to that item's own page.

Article Actions

Every article has a row of actions - shown as inline buttons on desktop, and as a floating bar pinned to the bottom of the screen on mobile.

Action	Who sees it	What it does
Views	Everyone	Read-only counter - not something you can interact with.
Like	Everyone (must be signed in to use it)	Toggles a like on the article. Selecting it again removes your like.
Share	Everyone	On a phone, opens your device's native share sheet; on desktop, copies the article's link to your clipboard.
Back to top	Everyone	Scrolls smoothly back to the top of the article.
Edit	Moderators & admins only	Opens the article in the editor to make changes.
Delete	Moderators & admins only	Permanently removes the article after a confirmation prompt.

Tip

On mobile, Edit and Delete live inside the ... menu at the right end of the floating action bar, which only appears once you're signed in.

Writing a New Article

Select "Write" on the Latest page (or go to /latest/create-latest-post). You'll fill in a few fields alongside the main body editor.

1 The basics

Field	What to put here
Article Title	A clear, descriptive headline. Must be at least 5 characters and under 200.
Category	The closest topic match - ISRO Missions, Satellites, Launchers & Rockets, Space Policy, Commercial Space, and more. Fixed once the article is created.
Tags	Keywords readers might search for. Press Enter or select the + button to add each one, up to 15 total.
Featured Thumbnail	The cover image shown in article listings and link previews. Optional - if you skip it and your article includes an inline image, that image is used automatically.
Cross-Reference Links	Connect the article to missions, payloads, archive items, RTI records, and other entries elsewhere on the platform, so readers can jump between related content.
Article body	Written using the platform's rich text editor - see the companion guide for everything it can do.

Tip

A short excerpt is generated automatically from the start of your article body as you type, so you don't need to write one yourself.

2 Saving your work

- Save Draft - available to everyone while writing; keeps your work private and unpublished so you can come back to it later.
- Publish (moderators & admins) - makes the article live immediately.
- Submit for Review (members) - sends the article to a moderator for approval; see the relevant section for what happens next.

The Review Flow (Members)

Members don't publish directly - articles go through a short review step first. Your article's status is shown as a banner at the top of the editor whenever it isn't a plain draft.

Status	What it means	What you can do
Draft	Not yet submitted.	Keep editing freely; Save Draft or Submit for Review whenever you're ready.
Pending review	Submitted and waiting on a moderator.	The article is locked from editing until a moderator responds.
Changes requested	A moderator reviewed it and left notes asking for edits.	Read the notes shown in the banner, make the changes, then re-submit for review.
Rejected	A moderator declined to publish it, with a reason shown in the banner.	Revise and re-submit if you'd like another review, or leave it as a draft.

Tip

“Pending review” is the only status where you temporarily can't edit the article - every other status leaves it fully editable.

Editing an Existing Article

Moderators and admins can select Edit on any published article to open it back up in the same editor used to create it, with every field pre-filled. The publish date field is locked once an article has been published, so editing won't change when it originally went live.

Deleting an Article

From inside the editor, select the trash icon in the top toolbar. You'll be asked to confirm - this permanently removes the article and cannot be undone.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I'm a member - why didn't my article go live right away?

A: Member-written articles always go through a moderator review before publishing. Select “Submit for Review” rather than expecting an immediate publish; see the relevant section for the full flow.

Q: My article is stuck on “Pending review” and I need to fix something.

A: Articles can't be edited while pending review. If it's urgent, reach out to a moderator directly; otherwise wait for their response, which will either publish it, request changes, or reject it - all of which unlock editing again.

Q: I changed the category and it won't let me.

A: Category can only be set when an article is first created; it's locked afterward, including for moderators editing a published piece. If it truly needs to change, that requires deleting and recreating the article.

Q: My featured image isn't showing up.

A: If you didn't upload one manually, the platform tries to use the first image inside your article body instead. If your article has no images at all, the article will simply show no featured image - upload one under “Featured Thumbnail” to fix this.

Q: Can I get my article back after deleting it?

A: No - deleting an article is permanent. Double-check before confirming the delete prompt.

Q: Where do I go to learn how to actually format and build out the article content?

A: See the companion guide, “The Rich Text Editor,” which covers every formatting option, image layout, table, embed, and special block available while writing.

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The Rich Text Editor - Complete Reference

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

A Complete Guide to Writing Content

Every formatting tool, media layout, table, embed, and special block available while writing - in full detail

Audience	Contributors And Members	Document type	User Guide
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What Is This, and Where Will You See It?

This is the same writing tool used everywhere on the indianspaceflight.in platform that lets you compose rich, formatted content - currently the Latest article editor, and any other feature built on the platform's shared editor going forward. Rather than a separate guide per feature, this document covers everything the editor itself can do in full depth; each feature's own guide simply points here.

There's no separate page for the editor - it appears embedded inside whichever creation/editing screen you're using (for example, indianspaceflight.in/latest/create-latest-post). Wherever you see it, every tool described in this guide behaves identically.

Tip

This guide is long because the editor is genuinely full-featured. Use it as a reference - skim the section headings for what you need rather than reading start to finish.

Layout Overview

- A toolbar sits along the top of the editor, staying visible (“sticky”) as you scroll so it's always within reach, even in a very long article.
- The writing area below it is where your content goes - type directly, or use the toolbar to insert formatting, media, and special blocks at the cursor position.
- A small word/character count sits at the very bottom of the editor, updating live as you type.
- On mobile, the toolbar wraps onto multiple rows instead of scrolling sideways or hiding tools behind a menu, so every single tool stays reachable without digging through a submenu.
- Placeholder text (e.g. “Start writing...”) shows in a muted color whenever the editor is empty, and disappears the moment you start typing.

Reading the Toolbar, Left to Right

The toolbar is organized into small groups, each separated by a thin vertical divider on desktop (dividers are hidden on mobile to save space, but the grouping is the same). Knowing the groups helps you find a tool quickly:

Group	Contains
1. Text formatting	Bold, Italic, Underline, Strikethrough, Inline Code
2. Text style controls	Font size, font family, text color, remove color, highlight, remove highlight, inline quote, clear formatting
3. Advanced formatting	Subscript, Superscript
4. Headings	Heading 1, Heading 2, Heading 3
5. Lists & blocks	Bullet list, Numbered list, Block quote, Code block
5b. Indent	Decrease indent, Increase indent
6. Alignment	Left, Center, Right, Justify

Group	Contains
7. Insert blocks	Sticky Note, Columns, Toggle List
8. Case transforms	lowercase, UPPERCASE, Capitalize
9. Media & inserts	Equation, Data Table Block, Horizontal Rule, Table, Entity Link, NOTAM Map, Image, Image-with-side-text, Side-by-side media, Video upload
10. Embeds & link	YouTube, Twitter/X, Insert/Edit Link, Remove Link
11. History	Undo, Redo

Tip

Hover any toolbar button on desktop to see a short tooltip confirming what it does before you select it.

Basic Text Formatting

Select some text first, then choose a formatting option - or turn a format on before typing to apply it going forward as you type.

Tool	What it does
Bold	Standard bold weight.
Italic	Standard italic style.
Underline	Underlines the selection.
Strikethrough	Draws a line through the selection.
Inline Code	Marks short text as code, using a monospace font with a subtle background - good for a filename, command, or variable name mentioned mid-sentence.

Every one of these is a toggle - selecting it again on already-formatted text removes that formatting. Buttons highlight to show you which formats are currently active at your cursor position.

Font, Color & Highlight

Tool	What it does
Font size dropdown	Sets the size of the selected text, from 12px up to 48px in fixed steps, or back to Default (the editor's normal reading size).
Font family dropdown	Switches the selected text's typeface - Arial, Georgia, Times New Roman, Verdana, Tahoma, or a Monospace option, plus Default.
Text color (paint palette icon)	Opens your device's native color picker to set the text color of your selection. The button itself shows highlighted when a color is currently applied.
Remove text color (X next to the palette)	Clears any color override, returning the selection to the normal text color.
Highlight (highlighter icon)	Applies a background highlight color behind the selected text, similar to a highlighter pen. Defaults to a soft yellow if you haven't picked a color before.
Remove highlight (X next to the highlighter)	Clears the highlight background from the selection.
Inline Quote	Styles just the selected text as a quotation - a subtle background tint and a colored left accent, without breaking it into its own paragraph.

Tip

Inline Quote (this section) only affects the exact text you've selected mid-sentence. Block Quote changes an entire paragraph instead. Use inline for a short quoted phrase, and block for a standalone quotation that deserves its own line.

Clear formatting (the eraser icon, also in this group) is the fastest way to undo a mess of overlapping styles: it strips bold, italic, underline, strikethrough, code, color, highlight, font size, font family, and inline quote all at once, and resets the current block back to a plain paragraph.

Headings, Lists, Quotes & Code Blocks

- Heading 1 / 2 / 3 - turns the whole current paragraph into a heading of that level; selecting the same heading level again on an already-headed paragraph turns it back into a normal paragraph. Use headings to structure long articles into sections readers can scan.
- Bullet List / Numbered List - turns the current paragraph into a list item. Selecting the same list type again removes the item from the list and returns it to a normal paragraph.
- Block Quote (“BQ” button) - styles the whole paragraph as a quotation, with a left border and italic text, distinct from Inline Quote in the relevant section.
- Code Block (braces icon) - styles the whole paragraph as a formatted, monospaced code block with its own background, good for pasting a snippet of several lines.

1 How exiting a list works

Pressing Enter on an empty list item is handled specially so you're never stuck typing endless empty bullets:

- If the empty item is a top-level list item, pressing Enter removes it from the list entirely and drops you into a normal paragraph at the same position, ready to keep writing outside the list.
- If the empty item is nested inside another list item (a sub-bullet), pressing Enter outdents it by one level instead of exiting completely - press Enter again from the top level to fully exit.

Indentation & Alignment

- Decrease / Increase indent - nudges the current paragraph or list item inward or outward by one level. Works on regular paragraphs as well as list items.
- Align left / center / right / justify - sets the horizontal alignment of the current paragraph. Justify stretches each line to fill the full width except the last line.

Case Transforms

Select some text, then choose one of the three case tools to instantly rewrite the selection:

Button	Effect
lowercase	Rewrites the selection entirely in lowercase.
UPPERCASE	Rewrites the selection entirely in uppercase.
Capitalize	Capitalizes the first letter of every word in the selection, leaving the rest as-is.

Tip

These tools only do anything if you have text actually selected - with no selection, they do nothing, so you never accidentally rewrite the wrong part of the article.

Links

- Select the link icon to add a link to your selected text - a dialog opens asking for the URL, plus optional custom display text if you didn't already select existing text.
- Selecting text that's already a link changes the link icon's tooltip to “Edit link”; a second icon (a link with a diagonal slash) appears next to it to remove the link while keeping the underlying text.
- Typing or pasting a plain web address (starting with http, https, or www) or an email address automatically turns it into a clickable link as you type or as soon as you paste it - you don't need to use the link tool at all for the common case of just dropping a URL into a sentence.

Tip

Links inserted or auto-detected are clickable directly inside the editor while you're writing, not just after publishing - useful for double-checking a link goes where you meant.

Images

There are three different ways to add an image (or, in most cases, a video) depending on how you want it to sit in the article. All three share the same underlying uploader, so file requirements are consistent across them.

1 Single image with caption

Select the image icon to insert a full-width image block. Upload the image, then optionally add:

- A caption - shown centered and italicized beneath the image, good for photo credits or context (up to 800 characters, with a live counter).
- Alt text - a short description used for accessibility and screen readers; not shown visually, but important for readers using assistive technology.

Once an image is uploaded, select Edit at any time to swap the image or change its caption/alt text, or Remove to delete the whole block.

2 Image (or video) beside text

Select the image-plus icon to insert media with its own text column running alongside it - useful for a photo with a paragraph of commentary next to it rather than stacked below it. This block can hold either an image or a video.

- Swap sides - choose whether the media sits on the left or right of the text using the swap button (a panel icon with left/right arrows).
- Width split - set how much of the block's width the media takes using preset buttons (25%, 33%, 50%, 66%, or 75%), or drag the vertical divider between the media and text on desktop to fine-tune a custom split between 20% and 80%.
- The text side has its own small formatting toolbar - bold, italic, underline, strikethrough, Heading 2, Heading 3, block quote, bullet/numbered lists, a link tool, and a quick 2×3 table - separate from the main editor toolbar above.
- As your side text grows longer than the media's height, it automatically continues at full width below the media once it runs out of room beside it, so a long passage never gets trapped in a narrow column.

Tip

The width-split divider is desktop-only (it needs a mouse drag). On mobile, use the percentage preset buttons instead.

3 Side-by-side images or videos

Select the side-by-side icon (two overlapping squares) to place two media items directly next to each other - each side can independently be an image or a video.

- Choose the width split from a dropdown: 50/50, 60/40, 40/60, 70/30, or 30/70.
- Add an optional caption under each side individually (up to 800 characters each, with a live counter).
- Select Edit / Done to toggle between editing the block and viewing it as it will appear published; select Remove to delete the entire block.

Tip

If you leave either side empty, a small warning note appears reminding you both sides need media before the block looks complete to readers.

4 Resizing an inserted image

Select an inserted image to reveal four resize handles at its corners; drag any corner to resize it while automatically keeping its original proportions (aspect ratio locked). There's a minimum width the image can't shrink below, and it can't be resized wider than its container. On touch devices, use and hold the handle the same way you would drag it with a mouse.

Video

Select the film-strip icon in the toolbar to upload a self-hosted video file directly into the article body, playable inline with standard playback controls (play/pause, seek, volume).

- Accepted formats: MP4, WebM, and QuickTime (.mov).
- While a video is uploading, the toolbar button shows a subtle pulsing animation; the button is disabled until the upload finishes.

Tip

For YouTube content specifically, use the YouTube embed tool instead rather than downloading and re-uploading someone else's video - it embeds the official player and keeps the original creator properly attributed.

Tables

Select the table icon to open the table size picker.

- Quick presets - one-select options for 2×2, 3×3, 4×3, or 5×4 tables.
- Custom size - enter any row and column count up to 20×20, then select “Create table.”

Once a table exists, select any cell inside it to bring up a floating Table Controls panel (it appears beside the table on desktop, or below it on narrow screens, always positioned to stay fully on-screen):

Control	What it does
Insert row above / below	Adds a new empty row relative to the row your cursor is in.
Delete row	Removes the row your cursor is currently in.
Insert column left / right	Adds a new empty column relative to the column your cursor is in.
Delete column	Removes the column your cursor is currently in.
Delete Table	Removes the entire table from the article.

Tip

The Table Controls panel closes automatically if you click elsewhere in the article, or you can press Escape to dismiss it without making a change.

Social Embeds

Platform	How to embed	Accepted link formats
YouTube	Select the YouTube icon and paste a video URL.	Standard watch links (youtube.com/watch?v=...), short links (youtu.be/...), and embed links (youtube.com/embed/...) all work.
Twitter / X	Select the Twitter icon and paste a post URL.	Both twitter.com/<user>/status/<id> and x.com/<user>/status/<id> are recognized.

Once embedded, pressing Enter right after an embed automatically creates a fresh paragraph below it, so your cursor always has somewhere to continue typing instead of getting stuck against the embedded block.

Equations

Select the Σ (sigma) icon to open the equation editor.

- 1 Choose Inline (the equation sits within a line of running text) or Block (it gets its own centered row on its own line).
- 2 Type your formula using LaTeX notation into the input field.
- 3 Watch the live preview update below as you type, so you can confirm it renders the way you expect before inserting.

- 4
- Select “Insert equation,” or use the keyboard shortcut: Enter for an inline equation, or Ctrl+Enter (Cmd+Enter on Mac) for a block equation.

You want	Type this
A simple formula	$E = mc^2$
A fraction	$\frac{a}{b}$
A square root	$\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$
The quadratic formula	$\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

Once inserted, select an equation once to select it (showing quick Edit/Delete icons in its corner), or double-select (double-click, or double-tap on touch) directly on an equation to jump straight into editing it. If you leave an equation's text empty while editing and cancel, the empty equation block is removed automatically rather than left behind.

Entity Link Cards

Select the network icon to embed a rich card linking to another item on the platform - a Mission, Payload, Archive item, RTI record, Blog post, Forum post, or IROLOS entry - directly inside your article, so readers can jump between related content without leaving the page.

- 1
- Search for the item by name or number and select it from the results.
- 2
- Choose a display style: a compact read-more link, a full rich information card, a media card featuring an image, or an information table layout.
- 3
- Choose where the card appears: inline within the article body, only in the sidebar (on wider screens), or both places at once.
- 4
- Optionally override the card's preview image or its excerpt/summary text if you want something different from what's on the source item.

1 Editing an inserted entity card

Every inserted card shows a small toolbar beneath it while you're editing the article:

- Display style and Placement dropdowns - change the card's layout or where it appears at any time, without needing to delete and re-insert it.
- Edit - opens a full dialog to change the relationship label (how this item relates to your article, e.g. “references”, “features”), add or edit a context note explaining the connection, or override the image/excerpt.
- Refresh data - pulls the latest title, image, and summary straight from the linked source item, useful if that item has since been updated and your embedded card is showing stale information.
- Remove - deletes the card from the article.

NOTAM Hazard Maps

Select the map-pin icon to embed a live hazard map for a specific NOTAM (a temporary airspace restriction notice), useful when writing about an upcoming launch and its exclusion zone. Pick one NOTAM from the picker dialog to embed its map at the cursor position; only one NOTAM can be embedded per map block.

Special Blocks

Block	What it's for
Sticky Note	A highlighted note block with a soft yellow background and a colored left border, that visually stands out from the surrounding text - good for asides, warnings, or callouts you want readers to notice.
Columns	Splits the content into two side-by-side text columns you can type into independently, each starting with its own empty paragraph - useful for comparisons or parallel lists of points.
Toggle List (collapsible section)	Adds a section with a clickable title and a body that can be expanded or collapsed by readers - good for optional detail, FAQs within an article, or long asides that shouldn't dominate the main flow. See the relevant section for how it behaves while editing.

Block	What it's for
Data Table Block	A structured, spreadsheet-style data table builder, separate from the freeform table tool in the relevant section - built specifically for presenting structured datasets with defined rows and columns rather than an arbitrary table.
Horizontal Rule	Inserts a plain dividing line across the width of the article to visually separate sections.

1 Working with a Toggle List

- Select the title area to type the section's heading; select the arrow/chevron next to it (or the title itself) to expand or collapse the section.
- Pressing Enter while typing the title moves you into the section's body content instead of adding a new line to the title, and automatically expands the section if it was collapsed.
- The little chevron rotates to point downward when the section is open, and back to pointing sideways when it's closed, so its current state is always visible at a glance.

Selecting Text Brings Up a Floating Toolbar

Whenever you select a range of text, a compact floating toolbar appears right above your selection (or below it, if there isn't enough room above), with quick access to the most common formatting options, without needing to reach up to the main toolbar at the top of the editor:

- Bold, Italic, Underline, Strikethrough, Inline Code
- Insert/edit link
- Font size and font family dropdowns
- Highlight color
- Remove highlight
- Inline quote

Tip

This floating toolbar follows your selection as you scroll, and automatically repositions itself to stay fully visible if you're selecting text near the very top or edge of the screen.

Moving & Reordering Content

Hover near the left edge of any paragraph or block (on desktop) to reveal a small drag handle (a six-dot grip icon). Select and drag it up or down to reorder that block within the article - a horizontal line shows exactly where it will land as you drag.

Tip

The drag handle temporarily disappears while you're in the middle of resizing an image or dragging an image-beside-text divider, so the two gestures never interfere with each other.

Markdown Shortcuts

The editor recognizes common Markdown patterns as you type at the start of a line and converts them automatically, without needing to touch the toolbar at all:

Type this at the start of a line	Becomes
#	Heading 1
##	Heading 2
###	Heading 3
>	Block quote
- or * (followed by a space)	Bullet list

Type this at the start of a line	Becomes
1. (followed by a space)	Numbered list
```	Code block
---	Horizontal rule

Inline Markdown also works mid-sentence: wrapping text in double asterisks makes it bold, and single asterisks make it italic, converting automatically as you finish typing the closing marks.

## Tab & Indentation Behavior

Pressing Tab inside the editor indents the current line (or, inside a list, nests the current item one level deeper); Shift+Tab does the reverse. This works the same as the toolbar's indent/outdent buttons but is faster while typing continuously.

## Undo & Redo

Use the Undo and Redo icons at the end of the toolbar, or your device's standard keyboard shortcuts, to step backward and forward through your recent changes. History tracks every edit made during the current session, including formatting changes, insertions, and deletions.

## Word & Character Count

A small counter along the bottom edge of the editor shows the current word and character totals for the whole article, updating live as you type. This reflects the entire article body, not just the currently selected block.

## Using the Editor on Mobile

- The toolbar wraps across multiple rows instead of scrolling sideways or hiding tools behind a menu - everything is still reachable, the toolbar is simply taller.
- Touch targets throughout the toolbar are sized larger than on desktop so buttons are easy to tap accurately with a finger.
- The floating selection toolbar still appears when you select text on a touch device, positioned the same way.
- Image resize handles work the same way with a touch-and-drag gesture instead of a mouse drag.
- Side-by-side images and multi-column blocks automatically stack vertically on narrow screens rather than staying side-by-side, so they remain readable and usable on a phone screen.
- The image-beside-text width divider is hidden on narrow screens since it needs a mouse; use the percentage preset buttons there instead.

## If Something Goes Wrong

If an article's saved content somehow can't be loaded back into the editor correctly, the editor falls back to showing it as plain text rather than losing it or leaving the editor blank - nothing you've written is silently discarded. If you notice formatting looks unexpectedly plain when reopening a draft, that fallback is what happened; reach out to a moderator if it keeps recurring on the same article.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: I typed a formula but it shows as “Invalid equation” instead of rendering.**

A: Double-check your LaTeX syntax - unmatched braces (missing a closing brace) or an unsupported command are the most common causes. Use the live preview in the equation dialog to confirm it renders correctly before inserting; it updates as you type.

**Q: My image beside text looks squashed into a tiny column on my phone.**

A: That's expected - on narrow screens, media-with-text and side-by-side layouts stack vertically instead of staying side-by-side, so the media gets full width rather than a cramped column. See the relevant section.

**Q: I dragged a block to reorder it and it didn't move.**

A: Make sure you're grabbing the drag handle itself (the six-dot icon that appears on hover near the left edge of a block), not the block's content - dragging from inside the text will just move your text cursor instead.

**Q: Pressing Enter at the end of a table, video, or embedded block doesn't seem to do anything.**

A: The editor automatically ensures there's always an empty paragraph after tables, videos, images, embeds, and other special blocks so you can keep writing below them. If your cursor seems stuck, click just below the block rather than trying to press Enter from inside it.

**Q: Why are there two different ways to insert a table?**

A: The regular table tool is for general freeform tables you fill in by hand, up to 20×20. The separate Data Table Block is built for structured datasets and behaves more like a small spreadsheet - use whichever matches what you're building.

**Q: I can't find a way to insert an @mention of a user directly from the toolbar.**

A: The editor recognizes hashtag-style tags automatically as you type them, but user mentions in article body content aren't a toolbar tool here - that functionality is specific to certain other features (like chat) rather than the shared article editor.

**Q: I refreshed an entity link card and it changed the image/summary I had customized.**

A: "Refresh data" intentionally overwrites the title, image, and summary with the latest information from the source item, but preserves your chosen display style, placement, relationship label, and context note. If you want a permanently custom image or summary, set it again after refreshing, or avoid refreshing that particular card.

**Q: The Table Controls panel appeared in a strange position on my screen.**

A: It's designed to reposition itself to stay fully visible - to the side of the table on desktop, or below it if you're near a screen edge, and full-width along the bottom on narrow screens. If it still looks off, try scrolling slightly and re-selecting a cell in the table.

**Q: Can I resize a video the way I can resize an image?**

A: Videos inserted via the film-strip tool play at a fixed width; the corner-drag resize handles apply to inserted images specifically. If you need a smaller video, use the image-beside-text block and set a narrower width percentage, since that block accepts video too.

**Q: My article body looks fine while editing but I'm worried something didn't save.**

A: The editor never silently drops content - if saved content can't be reloaded normally for some reason, it falls back to showing it as plain text rather than losing it. If a whole section still seems genuinely missing after saving, use Undo before navigating away, and consider reaching out to a moderator if it happens again.

DETAILED USER GUIDE 8 OF 11

# Companies & Organisations

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

## A Complete Guide to the Company Directory

How to browse, research, and contribute to company profiles - in full detail

Audience	All Users	Document type	User Guide
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### What Is the Companies Directory?

The Companies section of the indianspaceflight.in platform is a structured directory of Indian space companies, government bodies, research organisations, academic labs, suppliers, and other ecosystem entities. Every organisation gets its own profile page combining a rich written article, a trustworthy sourced infobox, people, a timeline of milestones, and structured links to the missions, vehicles, and payloads it's actually involved with.

Unlike a simple listing, company data here is built to be verifiable: individual facts can be marked as sourced and verified, changes to the core profile go through moderator review, and every article edit is kept as a numbered, restorable revision.

### How to Find This Page

Where	How to get there
Desktop	Companies is one of the four always-visible links in the top navigation bar.
Mobile	Tap the menu icon (top-right), then select Companies under the Main section.
Direct route	indianspaceflight.in/companies
A specific company	indianspaceflight.in/companies/<company-slug> - shown once you open a company profile.
Add a new company (staff)	indianspaceflight.in/companies/new, or select “Add company” on the main Companies page.
Edit a company (staff)	indianspaceflight.in/companies/<slug>/edit, or select “Edit company” on the profile.
Suggest a core edit (members)	indianspaceflight.in/companies/<slug>/contribute, or select “Suggest core edit” on the profile.
Contribute community data (members)	indianspaceflight.in/companies/<slug>/community, or select “Contribute data” on the profile.

### Who Can Do What

Role	Browse & search	Suggest a core edit	Contribute community data	Create / directly edit / delete	Verify facts & review proposals
Visitor (not logged in)	Yes	No - redirected to sign in	No - redirected to sign in	No	No
Member (signed in)	Yes	Yes - goes to moderator review	Yes - saved directly	No	No
Moderator / Admin	Yes	Not needed - can edit directly	Yes, plus can verify community submissions	Yes	Yes

Tip

The two contribution paths in the relevant section exist specifically so members can add real information without needing full editing rights, while still keeping the core profile protected by review.

If you try to open a staff-only page (create, edit, review, settings, or trash) without the right role, you're redirected rather than shown an error: signed-out visitors are sent to Sign In (and brought back afterward), and signed-in members without staff access are quietly sent back to the relevant company page or the main Companies list.

## Browsing & Searching Companies

The main Companies page shows a searchable, filterable grid of every company on the platform, with a running result count and pagination for large result sets.

### 1 Search and filters

Filter	What it searches / narrows
Search box	Company name, ticker, founder names, and CIN (Corporate Identity Number).
Category	The organisation type, e.g. launch vehicle manufacturer, satellite operator, government body, academic institution.
Status	Active, Announced, Stealth, Inactive, Acquired, Merged, or Defunct.
Ownership	Private, Government, Public-sector undertaking, Joint venture, Academic, or Nonprofit.
Registration	Registered, Unregistered, Proposed / pre-incorporation, Dissolved, Struck off, Not applicable, or Unknown.
Listing	Private / not listed, IPO announced, DRHP filed, IPO approved, Listed, Delisted, Subsidiary of a listed company, or Not applicable.
Funding	From Bootstrapped and Grant/Government funded, through Pre-seed to Series G+, Debt, Pre-IPO, Public markets, Acquired, or Unknown.
Country	Free-text country filter.
IN-SPACe authorised only	Shows only companies formally authorised by IN-SPACe.
Verified companies only	Shows only companies with a verified badge.

On desktop, all filters are shown inline above the results. On mobile, they collapse into a “Search & filters” button showing a badge with the number of active filters; selecting it opens a full-screen filter sheet. A “Clear” option resets every filter at once on both layouts.

### 2 Reading a company card

- Logo (or a generic building icon if none is set), company name, and a green checkmark if the company is verified.
- The company's unique ISFC ID (the platform's own reference number for it).
- Category, city, and country on one line.
- The tagline if set, or otherwise the short description.
- Status and listing status pills, plus an “IN-SPACe authorised” badge when applicable.
- Three quick counts at the bottom: vehicles, launches, and founders associated with the company.

### 3 Pagination

Results are shown 30 companies per page. When there's more than one page, Previous / Next links and a “Page X of Y” indicator appear beneath the results; your current search and filters are preserved as you move between pages, so paging forward and back doesn't reset what you searched for.

#### Tip

An “Add company” button appears at the top of this page, but only for moderators and admins - members and visitors browse and search the same list without seeing it.

## Viewing a Company Profile

Selecting a company opens its full profile page, laid out as a main content column and a sticky sidebar.

### 1 Header

- An optional wide hero/banner image at the very top.
- The company's logo (a separate dark-mode logo is used automatically when your device is in dark mode, if one has been set).
- Name, legal name (if different), tagline, and a row of badges: ISFC ID, category, status, and listing status.
- A Website button, if one is set, opening the company's official site in a new tab.

## 2 Main content

- Short description, shown as a highlighted introductory paragraph.
- About - the full written article about the company, formatted with the platform's rich text editor (see the companion Rich Text Editor guide for everything that article can contain).
- People - founders and key people, each with a photo (if available), role, short bio, and a verified badge when applicable.
- Timeline - milestones such as founding, funding rounds, tests, launches, contracts, and authorisations, each dated and optionally linked to a specific mission or vehicle.
- Launch Vehicles and Recent Missions - cards linking to any vehicles or missions structurally associated with this company (see the relevant section).
- Related entities - any additional universal links to missions, payloads, archive items, RTI records, and more.

## 3 Sidebar

- Company overview - a quick-reference box: category, ownership, founding date, headquarters, employee count, registration number, ticker, and IN-SPACe authorisation status, whichever apply.
- Custom infobox sections - one block per named section (e.g. "Facilities," "Leadership," "Products"), each showing any section images plus a list of sourced fact rows. Each row can show a verified marker, a confidence level (high/medium/low), and an "as of" date.
- Data trust - a small panel showing how many infobox rows are verified out of the total, how many are marked low confidence, and how many have no source at all, giving readers a sense of how thoroughly sourced the page is.
- Parent company and Subsidiaries - quick links if this company is part of a corporate family.
- Location and website, shown again at the very bottom for convenience.

## Two Ways to Contribute

If you're signed in and not a moderator/admin, a company profile shows two distinct contribution buttons. They lead to genuinely different workflows, so it's worth knowing which one you want before you start:

Path	What it covers	What happens to your changes
Suggest core edit	The company's core identity, classification, location, dates, registration/listing, funding, web links, and the main written article.	Submitted as a proposal and held for a moderator to review, approve, or reject - nothing changes on the live page until it's approved.
Contribute data	Infobox rows, section images, founders/key people, and timeline milestones.	Saved immediately and directly - no review step, since this is a structured, sourced wiki-style contribution path.

### Tip

If you only want to add or fix a sourced fact, a person's bio, or a milestone, use "Contribute data" - it's faster and doesn't require moderator sign-off. Save "Suggest core edit" for changes to the company's identity, classification, or its main article.

## Suggesting a Core Edit (Members)

Opens a proposal form pre-filled with the company's current core details, grouped the same way as the full editor:

Section	Fields covered
Identity	Name, slug, legal name, short name, also-known-as names, tagline, short description.

Section	Fields covered
Classification & location	Category, ownership, status, country, state, city, headquarters, parent company.
Dates, registration & listing	Founded/defunct/incorporation dates, registration status/number/authority, CIN, listing status, ticker, stock exchanges.
Operations & funding	IN-SPACe authorisation, employee count, funding stage, funding and valuation amounts.
Web, sources & discovery	Website, careers URL, LinkedIn, X/Twitter, primary source URL, tags, keywords.
Company article	The main written article, using the shared rich text editor - with image/video insertion intentionally turned off in proposals, so a rejected proposal can never leave orphaned uploaded files behind.

A Reason for change field is required (at least a few characters) before you can submit - use it to explain what changed and, ideally, where the information came from. Select "Submit for review" to send it to the moderation queue.

**Tip**

This form doesn't touch infobox rows, people, or milestones - for those, use "Contribute data" instead, which is linked directly from the top of the proposal form.

## Contributing Community Data (Members)

This is the direct, no-review path for adding sourced structured facts, images, people, and milestones.

### 1 Infobox / sidebar fields

- Add a field with a Label (its key/identifier is generated automatically from the label the first time you save it, then stays stable even if you edit the label later, so verification isn't lost on unrelated edits), a Section it belongs to (pick an existing preset or type a new one), and a Value - either a single value or a comma-separated list of values.
- Optionally add a Source URL and a Source note explaining why the source is trusted or noting any ambiguity, a Confidence level (high/medium/low), an "As of" date, and whether the field is Public (visible to readers) or kept internal.

### 2 Sidebar section images

Add photos to a named infobox section - facility photos, team photos, product photos, organisation charts, or a general section image - each with its own caption, alt text, and sort order, grouped under whichever section you assign it to.

### 3 Founders & key people

- Add a person's name, role, a short bio, a photo, and LinkedIn/X links.
- Mark whether they're a Founder and whether they're Current (still with the company) or a past role.
- Optionally link a Pioneer UUID if that person already has their own profile in the platform's Hall of Indian Space Pioneers.
- Set start/end dates, a confidence level, and an "as of" date, same as infobox fields.

### 4 Timeline milestones

Add a dated event to the company's timeline - choose a type (Founding, Incorporation, Funding, Authorisation, Facility, Test, Static fire, First launch, Launch, Contract, MoU, Product, Award, Acquisition, IPO, Partnership, Leadership, or Other), a date and its precision (exact day, month, year, or approximate), a description, and optionally the funding amount and counterparty involved. A milestone can optionally be hard-linked to a specific Mission or Vehicle UUID, and marked as a Major milestone to give it more visual weight on the timeline.

### 5 Saving

Select "Save community data" once you're done - everything you've added, edited, or removed across all four areas is saved together in one action, and you're taken straight back to the company's public profile to see it live.

## Structured Relationships (Associations)

This is a separate, more powerful kind of link from the general “Related entities” field, available only to moderators/admins in the full editor. It writes the real, structured relationship that powers a company's fleet, launch, and manufacturer statistics elsewhere on the platform.

Role	What it means
Vehicle / vehicle family	This company builds or owns this launch vehicle.
Mission operator	This company operates the mission (owns/runs the payload or spacecraft).
Mission launch provider	This company provided the launch service for the mission.
Payload / spacecraft manufacturer	This company manufactured the payload or spacecraft.

### Tip

A single mission can have both a separate operator and a separate launch provider recorded - removing one role doesn't affect the other. Search for the item by its platform reference number (e.g. an ISFM/vehicle/payload ID) to attach it in a given role, and remove any relationship at any time from the same list.

## Field-Level Verification

Individual infobox rows, people, and milestones each carry their own independent verified status, separate from the company-wide Verify action in the relevant section. Moderators and admins can toggle Verify/Unverify on any individual row directly from the editor, giving readers (via the Data Trust panel in the relevant section) a genuine sense of exactly how much of a company's profile has been checked against a source, rather than an all-or-nothing badge.

## Article Revision History

Every save to a company's written article creates a new numbered revision (r1, r2, r3, ...), visible in a Revision History panel on the edit page for moderators/admins, showing the edit summary, who made the change, when, and a word count.

- Revisions are append-only - nothing is ever deleted from the history.
- Selecting Restore on an older revision doesn't erase anything either: it creates a brand-new current revision with that older content, so the full history (including the version you moved away from) is still there afterward.
- Restoring reloads the page to guarantee the article editor picks up the freshly restored content correctly.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: I'm a member - why can't I add an image directly to a company's article?

A: The “Suggest core edit” proposal form intentionally disables media insertion in the article editor. This is by design, so that a proposal which ends up rejected can never leave an orphaned uploaded file behind. If you specifically want to add images, use “Contribute data” for section images instead, which saves directly.

### Q: What's the actual difference between the general “Related entities” links and Associations?

A: Related entities are descriptive, open-ended connections shown to readers on the page. Associations are structured relationships in specific defined roles that actually feed the company's fleet/launch/manufacturer counts and statistics elsewhere on the platform. Use Associations when the relationship is one of the four defined roles; use Related entities for everything else.

### Q: I submitted a core edit proposal - why hasn't it appeared on the company page yet?

A: Proposals from members always wait for a moderator to Approve them before anything changes on the live page. There's no notification setting described here for when that happens - check back on the company page, or reach out to a moderator if it's been a long time.

### Q: I contributed community data (infobox/people/milestones) - does that also need approval?

A: No - “Contribute data” saves directly and immediately, with no review step. This is intentionally different from the core-edit proposal flow; see the comparison table in the relevant section.

**Q: Why does my infobox field's key not change even though I edited the label?**

A: Once a field has been saved once, its internal key stays stable even if you later edit the visible label - this is intentional, so verification status and history tied to that specific field aren't lost by a wording change. Only brand-new, never-saved fields generate a fresh key from the label.

**Q: Can I get back an older version of a company's article after someone else has edited it?**

A: Yes - the Revision History panel keeps every past version. Selecting Restore on any older revision brings that content back as the new current version without deleting anything from the history, including the version you're moving away from.

**Q: A field I marked as verified reset to unverified after someone else edited the company.**

A: Field-level verification is tied to that specific field's stable key, not to the company record as a whole, so an unrelated edit shouldn't reset it. If a field's actual value changed, its verified status may need to be re-checked and re-applied deliberately, since the underlying fact being verified has changed.

**Q: I proposed a core edit and it was rejected - can I try again?**

A: Yes. Rejected proposals always come with a stated reason; revise your submission based on that feedback and submit a fresh proposal through "Suggest core edit" again.

**Q: I followed a company link and landed on a "not found" page.**

A: That means the company doesn't exist at that address - either the link is broken/outdated, or the company was soft-deleted and hasn't been restored. Search for the company by name from the main Companies page instead.

**Q: A company's profile shows no article at all under "About."**

A: That's expected when no one has written the company article yet - the page shows a placeholder note rather than an error. Staff can add one directly, or a member can propose one via "Suggest core edit".

DETAILED USER GUIDE 9 OF 11

# Contact

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

## A Guide to Getting in Touch

How to reach the team, what to expect, and how the form actually behaves

Audience	All Users	Document type	User Guide
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## What Is the Contact Page?

The Contact page is the general way to reach the team behind the indianspaceflight.in platform - for technical issues, account problems, content questions, copyright re-use requests, or anything else that doesn't fit neatly into another part of the site. It's open to everyone, signed in or not.

## How to Find This Page

Where	How to get there
Desktop	Listed as "Contact" among the general links in the site's navigation.
Mobile	Tap the menu icon (top-right), then select Contact.
Direct route	indianspaceflight.in/contact

## Who Can Use It

Who	Experience
Visitor (not signed in)	Full access to the form; fills in every field manually.
Signed-in member	Same form, but Name and Email are pre-filled from your account and locked so they can't be accidentally changed.

## What Each Category Is For

The page lists four kinds of requests side by side with the general response time you can expect for each, so you know roughly how long to wait before following up:

Category	What it covers	Typical response time
Technical Support	Help with platform features, uploads, and technical issues.	24-48 hours
Content & Community	Questions about content guidelines, moderation, and community standards.	12-24 hours
Account Help	Account recovery, profile issues, and access problems.	4-8 hours
Emergency Issues	Critical site-wide problems requiring immediate attention.	1-4 hours

Tip

These categories are shown for guidance only - the form itself has a single free-text Subject field, so just describe your issue clearly and mention which category it's closest to if that helps.

## Filling Out the Form

Field	Notes
Name	Required. Auto-filled and locked if you're signed in, using your display name (or the part of your email before the @ if you haven't set one).
Email	Required. Auto-filled and locked if you're signed in, using the email on your account.
Subject	Required. A short line describing what your message is about.
Message	Required. Free text, with a running character counter beneath it and a hard limit of 5,000 characters - the box simply won't accept more once you hit the limit.

Submitting with any required field empty shows a “Missing Fields” notice and the form isn't sent. Select “Send Message” once everything is filled in.

## Signed-In vs. Guest Experience

If you're signed in, the Name and Email fields are filled in automatically from your account and shown with a slightly dimmed, locked appearance - this is intentional, so a message from a member is always reliably tied to the account that sent it, and you don't need to retype your details every time you reach out.

If you're not signed in, both fields start empty and you can type anything you like into them - just make sure the email address is one you actually check, since that's the only way you'll get a reply.

## Spam Protection

The form is protected by an invisible spam check (reCAPTCHA) that runs automatically in the background when you submit - there's no puzzle or checkbox to solve. If that check can't run for any reason, the form still submits normally rather than blocking you; the check is a background safeguard, not a barrier you need to clear yourself.

## After You Submit

- A success confirmation appears once your message is received.
- The Subject and Message fields clear automatically so the form is ready for a new message; your Name and Email (whether typed or auto-filled) stay in place.
- If something goes wrong during submission, an error notice explains what happened so you can try again.

## Content Re-Use & Copyright

A short note on the Contact page reminds readers that content on the platform is copyright-protected: quoting or referencing it with attribution and a link is fine, but anything beyond that - re-publishing, re-using in another project, and so on - should go through this same Contact form first.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: I'm signed in and my Name/Email fields are greyed out - can I change them?

A: Not from this form. Those two fields are intentionally locked to your account's details while you're signed in, so the message is reliably tied to you. If your display name or email is wrong, update it on your profile first, then come back to Contact.

### Q: My message got cut off at 5,000 characters.

A: That's a hard limit on the Message field - the box won't accept any more text past that point. Trim your message, or split longer content (like a long log or detailed report) into a summary here and offer to send the rest once someone responds.

### Q: How do I know which category my issue falls under?

A: The four categories are shown purely as a guide to expected response times - the form itself doesn't ask you to pick one. Just describe the issue in the Subject and Message fields; mentioning which category feels closest can help, but isn't required.

**Q: I submitted a message but haven't heard back within the stated response time.**

A: Response times are typical estimates, not guarantees - busier periods can take longer. If it's been well beyond the estimate for your category, it's reasonable to send a follow-up message referencing your original subject line.

**Q: Can I attach a file or screenshot to my message?**

A: The form is text-only - there's no file attachment option. Describe the issue in detail in the Message field, and if a screenshot would genuinely help, mention that you have one available to share once someone responds.

**Q: I want to re-use some content from the platform - is this the right place to ask?**

A: Yes - use this form for exactly that. Quoting with attribution and a link back is already fine without asking; for anything beyond that, explain what you'd like to use and how in your message.

DETAILED USER GUIDE 10 OF 11

# The Forum

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

## A Complete Guide to Posts, Replies, and Discussion

How to read, post, vote, reply, and stay notified - in full detail

Audience	All Users	Document type	User Guide
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### What Is the Forum?

The Forum is the discussion section of the indianspaceflight.in platform - topics, short posts, announcements, and news items that members write, vote on, react to, and reply to. It works like a Reddit-style feed: posts can be sorted by recency or popularity, replies nest into threaded conversations, and every post can carry tags, a category, a cover image, entity links, and even a poll.

### How to Find This Page

Where	How to get there
Desktop	Open the Tools menu in the top navigation bar and select Forum. On very wide screens, a direct “Forum” shortcut also appears in the bar.
Mobile	Tap the menu icon (top-right), then select Forum under Tools & Community.
Direct route	indianspaceflight.in/forum
A specific post	indianspaceflight.in/forum/post/<post-slug> - shown once you open a post, and shareable directly.
Write a new post	indianspaceflight.in/forum/create-post, or select “Create Post” on the Forum feed.
Continue editing a draft	indianspaceflight.in/forum/create-post?edit=<post-id> - the platform takes you here automatically the first time you save a new post as a draft.

### Who Can Do What

Role / Status	Read & browse	Vote, react, bookmark	Reply	Create a post	Edit/delete any post
Visitor (not logged in)	Yes	No	No	No	No
Signed in, account not yet active	Yes	No	No	No - shown a status warning instead	No
Member (active)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Only their own posts
Moderator / Admin (active)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Any post

Tip

If your account is signed in but not yet approved, the feed shows a warning banner explaining that your account status doesn't allow posting yet - you can still read and browse everything in the meantime.

### Reading the Feed

The main Forum page is a scrolling feed of posts, with sorting, search, and filtering tools pinned above it on desktop, and tucked into the mobile menu on smaller screens.

#### 1 Sorting

Sort	Shows
Recent	The newest posts first. This is the default.
Hot	Posts trending right now, based on recent votes and activity.
Top	The highest-scoring posts overall.

2 Search

Type into the search box to search post content directly; results update automatically shortly after you stop typing. Searching temporarily replaces the sort/filter view with matching results.

3 Filtering by category or tag

The filter panel (a sidebar on desktop, a slide-in drawer on mobile) lists every category - General, ISRO, Defence, RTI, Technology, Policy, Commercial, International, Education, News, Discussion - plus the platform's most-used tags. Select a category or tag chip to filter the feed down to it; select it again (or use the Clear option) to remove the filter.

- Only one category and one tag can be active at a time.
- Active filters also appear as removable pills just above the feed on desktop.
- Your current search, category, tag, and sort are reflected in the page's web address, so you can bookmark or share a specific filtered view.

4 Loading more posts

The feed loads 20 posts at a time. Select “Load More” at the bottom to fetch the next batch; a “Showing X of Y posts” counter above the feed keeps track of where you are. On desktop, once you've scrolled past a handful of posts, a floating scroll-to-top button appears in the bottom-right corner.

Understanding a Post Card

Each post in the feed is shown as a card with everything you need to decide whether to open it:

- Author's avatar and name (select it to visit their profile), their role badge if they're staff, and how long ago the post was made.
- An “(edited)” note if the post has been changed since it was first published, and a PINNED badge for posts staff have pinned to the top.
- Title, a short text excerpt, and a preview image - either the post's dedicated cover image, or automatically the first image found inside the post body if no cover was set.
- Up to five tags, selectable to filter the feed by that tag.
- A summary of the top reactions the post has received.
- Vote arrows and score, view count, and reply count.
- Bookmark, Share, and a ⋮ overflow menu with Edit (your own posts), Report (other people's posts), and Delete (your own posts, or any post if you're staff).

Voting, Reactions & Bookmarking

Action	How it works
Upvote / Downvote	Select the up or down arrow on a post or reply. Selecting the same direction again removes your vote; selecting the opposite direction switches it. The visible score is upvotes minus downvotes.
Reactions	A small emoji reaction bar appears under posts and at the top of a thread - select the + to open the full picker, or select an already-active reaction to toggle it on or off for yourself. Only reactions with at least one vote (or your own) are shown by default.
Bookmark	Saves the post for yourself; select the bookmark icon again to remove it. Bookmarking has no effect on anyone else's view of the post.

**Tip**

All three actions update instantly on your screen the moment you select them, then quietly confirm with the server in the background - if something goes wrong, your selection reverts automatically rather than leaving the count wrong.

## Creating a New Post

Select “Create Post” from the feed (desktop toolbar, or the + icon in the mobile dock) to open the post editor.

### 1 Title and type

Field	Notes
Title	Required, minimum 5 characters, up to 300.
Type	Topic, Short Post, Announcement, or News - pick whichever best describes what you're writing.
Category	One of the eleven forum categories (see the relevant section); this also gets added to the post's tags automatically.

### 2 Cover image

Upload an image to represent the post in the feed and in link previews. If you skip this, the platform automatically falls back to using the first image found inside your post body once you publish.

### 3 Tags

Add up to 10 tags to help readers find your post. Type a word and press Enter (or select the + button) to add it; tags are automatically lower-cased and stripped of anything except letters, numbers, hyphens, and underscores.

### 4 The post body

Written using the platform's shared rich text editor - the same one used for Latest articles, with the full range of formatting, images, tables, embeds, and special blocks. See the companion Rich Text Editor guide for everything it can do.

### 5 Entity links

Link up to 5 related entities - missions, companies, archive items, and more - using the Entity Links field in the sidebar, so readers can jump to related content directly from your post.

## Adding a Poll to Your Post

Below the body editor, select “Add a Poll to this Post” to open the poll builder.

- Question - up to 200 characters.
- Options - between 2 and 10, each up to 100 characters; select “Add option” to add more, or the X next to an option to remove it (you always need at least 2).
- Optional closing date - the poll stays open indefinitely if you leave this blank.
- Multi-select - toggle this on if voters should be able to pick more than one option.

**Tip**

A poll only actually gets attached once you've entered a question and at least 2 non-empty options - an incomplete poll is simply ignored rather than blocking your post from publishing.

## Saving a Draft vs. Publishing

Action	What happens
Save Draft	Saves everything so far without making the post visible to other readers. The very first time you save a brand-new post as a draft, the page's web address updates to include the post's ID, so refreshing or coming back later continues editing the same draft rather than starting a new one.

Action	What happens
Publish Now / Update Post	Makes the post (and its poll, if any) immediately visible in the feed, and takes you to the post's own page.

On mobile, both actions sit in a bar fixed to the bottom of the screen so they're always reachable while you're writing, without needing to scroll back up.

## Editing an Existing Post

Select Edit from a post's : menu (or, on the post's own page, the Edit button) to reopen it in the same editor, fully pre-filled - title, type, category, tags, cover image, entity links, body, and its poll if it had one. Saving works exactly the same way as creating a new post: Save Draft keeps it unpublished, Update Post makes your changes live immediately.

## Viewing a Post Thread

Opening a post shows its full content on the left (or on top, on mobile) and the discussion/reply area on the right (or below).

### 1 The main post

- A vote column on the left (desktop) with upvote/downvote arrows and score, plus quick Share, view count, and comment count icons below it.
- Title, author (with avatar, name, and post date), and a reaction bar.
- A Back-to-Forum shortcut, the post's type badge, a Pinned badge if applicable, and its tags.
- The full formatted body content.
- The poll widget, if the post has one (see the relevant section).
- A “Connected Intelligence” panel showing any entity links attached to the post.
- Bookmark, Follow, Share, and (for the author or staff) Edit/Delete actions.

### 2 Following a thread

Select Follow on a post to get notified about new activity in that thread going forward (see the relevant section); select it again to unfollow.

## Voting on a Poll

If a post includes a poll, it's shown as its own widget with each option as a selectable row. Select an option to cast your vote; once you've voted, the widget switches to showing each option's percentage and vote count, with your own choice marked by a checkmark, and voting is locked - you can't change your vote afterward. A poll past its closing date is marked “Poll closed” and can no longer be voted on at all.

## Replying to a Post

The reply composer sits at the top of the Discussion panel (or, on mobile, docks to the bottom of the screen). It's a lighter-weight tool than the full article editor, built for quick back-and-forth conversation.

Tool	What it does
Emoji picker (smiley icon)	Insert an emoji at your cursor, organized into Smileys, Gestures, Space, and Reactions categories.
Image upload (image icon)	Attach an image directly from your device; it's uploaded immediately and a placeholder marker is inserted into your reply text, with a thumbnail preview shown below the text box.
GIF search (GIF button)	Search or browse trending GIFs and insert one the same way as an uploaded image.
@ mentions	Type @ followed by a few letters of someone's name to open a suggestion list; select a person to insert a mention that notifies them (see the relevant section).

Replies are limited to 5,000 characters, with a live remaining-character counter once you're within 100 characters of the limit. Select Reply to post, or press Ctrl+Enter (Cmd+Enter on Mac) as a shortcut; Cancel clears the composer without posting.

## The Reply Thread

Replies nest under one another, connected by colored vertical thread lines that make the conversation's structure easy to follow at a glance, similar to Reddit-style threading.

### 1 Sorting replies

Choose Oldest, Newest, or Top from the small toggle at the top of the Discussion panel to change how top-level replies (not their nested children) are ordered.

### 2 Reading a reply

- A vote column with the same up/down arrows and score as the main post.
- Author avatar and name, an OP badge if they're the original post's author, a staff role badge if applicable, how long ago they replied, and an "(edited)" note if changed since posting.
- The reply's own content, rendered the same way as a full post body.
- Action row: Reply (to reply to this specific reply, nesting one level deeper), Share, Bookmark, and a ... menu with Edit (your own), Copy link, Report (others'), and Delete (your own, or any if you're staff).

### 3 Collapsing a thread

Select the Minus icon on a reply, or the colored thread line beside any nested reply, to collapse that branch of the conversation down to a single summary line (author, time, and score) - useful for skipping past a sub-conversation you're not interested in. Select the collapsed line again to expand it back.

## Deep Links to a Specific Reply

Every reply has its own shareable link (via its Copy link action, or automatically when a notification points to it). Opening one of these links scrolls the page straight to that specific reply and briefly highlights it with an orange glow for a few seconds, so it's easy to spot in a long thread.

## Notifications

Select the bell icon (desktop right sidebar, or the bell in the mobile dock) to open your notifications panel.

Notification type	Means
Like	Someone liked your post.
Reply	Someone replied to your post.
Follow activity	New activity in a thread you're following.
Mention	Someone @mentioned you in a reply.
Vote	Someone voted on your post.
Reaction	Someone reacted to your post.
Poll	Someone voted on your poll.
Report resolved	A report you submitted has been reviewed.
System	A general platform notification, including messages routed in from other features like Chat.

- Unread notifications are highlighted with an orange left border and a small dot; the header shows a running unread count.
- Selecting a notification marks it read and takes you straight to the relevant post or reply.
- "Read All" clears every unread notification at once.

- A Refresh control next to the unread count re-checks for anything new without needing to reload the page.

## Reporting Content

Select Report from a post's or reply's overflow menu to flag it for the moderation team.

Reason	Use it for
Spam	Advertising, scams, or irrelevant content.
Misinformation	False or misleading claims.
Harassment	Abusive, threatening, or targeted content.
Off Topic	Not related to the discussion.
Duplicate	Already posted elsewhere.
Other	Anything not covered above.

An optional details field (up to 500 characters) lets you add context. You can't report your own content - the option simply isn't shown on posts or replies you authored.

## Getting to Community Chat

A “Join Chat” shortcut is available directly from the Forum feed (top bar on desktop, second icon in the mobile dock) for quickly switching over to real-time Community Chat - see the companion Community Chat guide for everything that covers.

## Using the Forum on Mobile

- A floating five-icon dock sits at the bottom of the feed: Menu (opens the filter drawer), Chat, Create Post, Notifications, and Scroll to Top.
- On a post's own page, a similar floating dock shows quick reactions, view/reply counts, bookmark/share/follow, vote arrows, and a Reply button - selecting Reply transforms the dock into a full-width reply composer in place, without navigating away from the thread.
- Filters, sorting, and search all live inside the slide-in menu drawer rather than a fixed top bar, to keep the reading area uncluttered on a small screen.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: I saved a draft and came back later, but it looks like a new blank post.

A: Make sure you're using the same web address the platform sent you to right after your first draft save (it includes ?edit=<id>) - that's what links you back to the same draft. Starting fresh from “Create Post” again will always begin a new, separate post.

### Q: Why can't I change my poll vote?

A: Poll votes are final once cast - the widget locks to a read-only results view immediately after you vote. If you're unsure, double-check your choice before selecting an option.

### Q: My cover image never showed up on the post.

A: If you didn't upload one manually, the platform tries to use the first image inside your post body instead once you publish. If your post has no images at all, no preview image will show - upload one under Cover Image to fix this.

### Q: I don't see the Report option on a piece of content.

A: You can't report your own posts or replies - the option is intentionally hidden on your own content.

### Q: A reply I linked to isn't highlighting when I open the link.

A: Give the page a moment to finish loading the full reply tree first - the highlight and scroll only trigger once the thread has rendered. If it still doesn't work, the reply may have since been deleted.

**Q: Why does my account show a warning saying I can't post?**

A: New accounts need to be reviewed and marked active before posting unlocks; you can still read and browse everything in the meantime. Check with a moderator if it's been a while since you signed up.

**Q: I collapsed a reply thread by accident and can't find it again.**

A: Select the same collapsed summary line (showing the author's name and score) to expand it back - collapsing never deletes anything, it only hides that branch temporarily on your screen.

**Q: Can I attach more than one image to a single reply?**

A: Yes - use the image or GIF tool as many times as you like within one reply; each insertion adds its own placeholder and thumbnail preview, as long as you stay under the 5,000-character text limit.

**Q: I searched for something and now the sort/filter buttons seem to have disappeared.**

A: Searching temporarily takes over the feed view in place of the normal sort/category/tag browsing. Clear the search box to return to the regular sorted, filterable feed.

**Q: Someone mentioned me but I never got a notification.**

A: Mentions only notify if the @mention was inserted correctly through the suggestion list while typing rather than typed as plain text - make sure you selected the person's name from the dropdown rather than just typing @ followed by their name manually.

DETAILED USER GUIDE 11 OF 11

IROLOS

indianspaceflight.in platform - expanded reference

A Complete Guide to India's Orbital Object Registry

How to browse, search, and track every India-linked object in orbit - in full detail

Audience	All Users	Document type	User Guide
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What Is IROLOS?

IROLOS - the Indian Registry of Objects Launched into Outer Space - is a comprehensive, unofficial catalog tracking every object in orbit connected to India's space activity: operational payloads, rocket bodies, and orbital debris. Every tracked object gets its own permanent IROLOS ID, live orbital data derived from tracking data, and (for many objects) a full history of past orbital measurements.

IROLOS is presented in two connected views: a searchable, sortable Table listing every tracked object with its full orbital parameters, and an interactive 3D Globe that shows every object propagating in real time along its actual orbit, with tools for conjunction (close-approach) monitoring, constellation grouping, and NavIC coverage analysis.

Detail	Value
Data source	Space-Track.org / ISRO
Maintained by	indianspaceflight.in
Format version shown in-app	IROLOS ID Format Reference v1.0 - May 2026

How to Find IROLOS

Where	How to get there
Desktop	Open the Explore menu in the top navigation bar and select IROLOS Database (table view) or IROLOS Globe (3D view).
Mobile	Tap the menu icon (top-right), then select IROLOS Database or IROLOS Globe under Explore.
Direct route - table	indianspaceflight.in/mission?tab=irolos
Direct route - 3D globe	indianspaceflight.in/mission?tab=irolos-globe
Jump to a specific object on the globe	Select the globe icon on any row in the Table - this switches straight to the 3D Globe with that exact object already selected.

Both views live as tabs within the wider Missions page rather than as fully separate pages, alongside the Missions, Overview, and other tabs - IROLOS is simply one part of that page's tab set.

Who Can Use It

IROLOS - both the Table and the 3D Globe - is open to everyone. There's no sign-in requirement to browse, search, filter, or inspect any tracked object in either view.

The IROLOS Table

The Table view lists every tracked object as a row, with a header column set showing its full catalogued data.

1 Columns shown

Column	What it shows
IROLOS_ID	The object's permanent IROLOS identifier (see the relevant section for how to read it). Select the copy icon next to it to copy the ID to your clipboard.
NORAD ID	The object's international NORAD Catalog Number.
INTLDES	The international designator (COSPAR ID).
COUNTRY	The country of origin/ownership.
LAUNCH	The launch date.
SATNAME	The object's current catalogued name.
SITE	The launch site it flew from.
OBJECT TYPE	PAYLOAD, ROCKET BODY, or DEBRIS.
PERIOD	Orbital period, in the unit currently selected.
INCLINATION	Orbital inclination in degrees.
APOGEE	Highest point of the orbit above Earth.
PERIGEE	Lowest point of the orbit above Earth.
RCS SIZE	Radar cross-section size category, where known.
STATUS	The object's current operational status, shown as a coloured pill.
NOTE / COMMENT	Any additional cataloguing notes; long text is truncated with a way to view the full text.
Globe icon column	Select this on any row to jump straight into the 3D Globe with that object pre-selected.

## 2 Searching and filtering

- Search box - matches by name, launch site, or IROLOS ID.
- Type filter - narrow the table to a specific object type.
- Site filter - narrow to objects launched from a specific site.
- Status filter - narrow to a specific current status.
- Clear All Filters - appears once any filter is active, and resets everything in one select.

On mobile, filters are tucked behind a “Show Filters” toggle above the table to save space; on desktop they're always visible in a row above the table.

## 3 Switching units

A small unit toggle above the table switches Period, Apogee, and Perigee between km/min and m/s display - useful depending on whether you're thinking in orbital periods or instantaneous speeds.

## 4 Reading long Note/Comment text

The Note and Comment columns are narrow by design; if a note is too long to show in full, select it to open a small popover showing the complete text for that object.

## 5 About IROLOS panel

Select the (i) info icon above the table at any time to open a short explanation of what IROLOS is, its data source, and who maintains it (see the relevant section) - select it again, or the X inside the panel, to close it.

# The 3D Orbit Globe

The Globe view is an interactive 3D Earth (built on Cesium) showing every tracked object's real orbital position, propagated live from its tracking data - you can watch objects genuinely move along their real orbits in real time, not just see a static snapshot.

## 1 Layout

- A satellite list sidebar on the left, showing quick stats (Total, Payloads, Active), a search box, and Type/Status filters above a scrollable list of every object.
- The 3D globe itself fills the rest of the screen, with every object shown as a coloured dot moving along its orbit path.
- A colour legend pinned to the bottom-left of the globe explains what each dot colour means.
- Selecting an object opens a floating info card (desktop) or a bottom sheet (mobile) with its live data.

## 2 Object colours

Colour	Meaning
Orange	The currently selected object.
Green	Operational payload.
Amber	Non-operational payload.
Grey	Rocket body.
Yellow	Debris.
Red	An object currently involved in a tracked conjunction (close approach).

## 3 Collapsing the sidebar

Select the panel-collapse icon at the top of the sidebar to hide it and give the globe the full screen; a small “Satellites” button appears in the top-left corner to bring it back.

## 4 Selecting and searching for an object

Type into the sidebar's search box (matches name, NORAD ID, or IROLOS ID) and/or use the Type/Status dropdowns to narrow the list, then select any row to fly the globe to that object and open its info card.

## An Object's Info Card

Selecting an object on the globe opens a floating card with everything currently known about it:

Field	Meaning
Altitude	Current live altitude.
Velocity	Current live velocity.
Latitude / Longitude	The object's current ground position.
IROLOS ID	Its permanent registry identifier.
Inclination / Apogee / Perigee / Period	Its catalogued orbital parameters.
Status	Its current operational status.
TLE age	How many days old the underlying tracking data is - flagged with a warning symbol once it's over 14 days old, since older data is less accurate.

- An Eclipse badge appears on the card automatically whenever the object is currently passing through Earth's shadow (umbra or penumbra).
- A Footprint toggle draws the object's visibility footprint on the globe - the area of Earth from which it's currently above the horizon - with a slider to adjust the minimum elevation angle used for the calculation.
- Copy TLE copies the object's name and both raw tracking-data lines to your clipboard in one go, useful if you want to run your own calculations elsewhere.

## Understanding an IROLOS ID

Every tracked object has a permanent identifier in a fixed pattern: IROLOS-DDMMYY-SITE-NORAD-NNNNN.

Segment	Name	What it encodes
IROLOS	Prefix	Fixed identifier confirming the ID belongs to this system.
DDMMYY	Launch Date	The object's launch date (day, month, two-digit year). Fixed permanently at launch and never changes - e.g. 190475 means 19 April 1975.
SITE	Launch Site	A 3-character code for the launch site, fixed at launch (see the relevant section for the site code table).
NORAD	NORAD ID	The object's NORAD Catalog ID, zero-padded to 5 digits. Assigned once by USSPACECOM - globally unique and permanent, and never reused even after the object decays.
NNNNN	Sequence	A global sequence number across every tracked object (payloads, rocket bodies, and debris together), incrementing chronologically by launch date. 00001 is Aryabhata, India's first satellite (1975).

Example ID	Object	Launch date	Notes
IROLOS-190475-KYM-07752-00001	Aryabhata	19 Apr 1975	First Indian satellite. Launched by USSR aboard a Kosmos-3M.
IROLOS-070679-KYM-11392-00002	Bhaskara	7 Jun 1979	Second Indian satellite, Earth observation payload.
IROLOS-180780-SRI-11899-00003	Rohini 1	18 Jul 1980	First satellite launched from Indian soil, on SLV-3.
IROLOS-021125-SRI-66311-00759	CMS 03	2 Nov 2025	Communication satellite on LVM3, GEO orbit.
IROLOS-241225-SRI-67233-00760	LVM3 CUS R/B	24 Dec 2025	Cryogenic upper stage rocket body, LEO.

Three things are deliberately left out of the ID itself, because they change over time and would make a fixed ID go stale:

Left out	Why
Object type (payload / rocket body / debris)	Objects get reclassified - a rocket body that breaks apart becomes debris. Encoding it would force the ID to change.
Orbit type (LEO / GEO / GTO)	Orbital parameters shift continuously from drag, manoeuvres, and decay, so encoding a snapshot orbit would quickly become inaccurate.
Mission name	Spacecraft get renamed and missions extended informally; the catalogued NORAD name (SATNAME) is treated as the authoritative name instead.

## Launch Site Codes

The 3-character SITE segment of an IROLOS ID maps to a specific launch facility. The main ones you'll encounter:

Code	Site	Location
SRI	SDSC - Satish Dhawan Space Centre	Sriharikota, India
KYM	Kapustin Yar Cosmodrome	Russia (formerly USSR)
TTM	Tyuratam / Baikonur Cosmodrome	Kazakhstan (formerly USSR)
PKM	Plesetsk Cosmodrome	Russia
KOU	Guiana Space Centre (ELA-1/2/3)	Kourou, French Guiana
CCK	Cape Canaveral Air Force Station	Florida, USA
VBG	Vandenberg Space Force Base	California, USA
ERA	Esrange Space Center	Sweden
JSC	Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center	China

## Orbit History & Re-Entry Estimate

Select History on an object's info card to open its orbit history panel, showing its last 30 recorded tracking updates.

- Three small trend charts - Apogee, Perigee, and Inclination - plotted over the recorded history.

- An overall change ("start → end") summary for each of those three values across the full history window, colour-coded green for an increase and red for a decrease.
- For any object with a perigee below 600 km, a Re-entry Estimate: an approximate number of days (or years) until the object is expected to decay, based on its recent orbital decay rate where enough history exists, or a general estimate by altitude band when it doesn't.

**Tip**

The re-entry estimate's Confidence label reflects how much history it had to work with - high with 5+ recorded points, medium with 2-4, and low with fewer. It's explicitly labelled "indicative only - not USSTRATCOM grade," so treat it as a rough guide rather than an authoritative prediction.

## Predicting Passes Over a Location

Select Passes on an object's info card to open the Pass Predictor, which calculates when that object will next be visible from a specific point on Earth.

- 1 Enter an Observer Latitude and Observer Longitude (defaulting to Bengaluru's coordinates).
- 2 Select "Predict Passes".
- 3 Review the next few passes over the following 3 days, each showing rise time, set time, duration, and maximum elevation reached (in IST).

Each pass is also marked with how good a viewing opportunity it is: passes reaching above 60° elevation are marked as the best, 20-60° as fair, and anything lower as marginal.

## Conjunctions (Close-Approach Alerts)

A conjunction is a predicted close approach between two objects in orbit - potentially risky if the miss distance is small enough. IROLOS surfaces this data in two places:

### 1 Per-object conjunctions

When you select an object that has any predicted conjunctions, they're shown directly alongside its info, listing the other object involved, its country, time of closest approach, miss distance, and collision probability.

### 2 The full Conjunctions feed

Select the Conjunctions button (desktop top-right, or the conjunctions option in the mobile toolbar) to open a feed of every tracked conjunction across all objects for the next 7 days, sourced from Space-Track CDM (Conjunction Data Message) data.

Risk level	Meaning
RED	Highest concern - close miss distance and/or higher collision probability.
AMBER	Moderate concern.
GREEN	Lower concern, tracked for completeness.

Filter the feed to ALL, RED, or AMBER using the small toggle at the top. Each entry shows the other object's name and country, how many hours away the closest approach is (TCA - time of closest approach), the miss distance in km, and the estimated collision probability. Select any entry to jump the globe straight to the primary object involved.

## Constellations

Select Constellations (desktop top-right, or the mobile equivalent) to open a panel grouping tracked objects into recognized constellations based on their catalogued names - for example, a shared naming pattern across a satellite family.

- Each constellation shows its member count, how many are currently Active vs. Non-operational vs. Debris, and the group's average altitude, with a progress bar showing percent operational.

- Select a constellation's "[N] sats" badge to highlight every member of that constellation on the globe at once, dimming everything else - select it again (now labelled "★ Shown") to clear the highlight.
- Select the constellation's name (or the chevron) to expand a scrollable list of its individual members; selecting any member jumps straight to it.

## NavIC Coverage (GDOP Map)

Select the NavIC DOP button (desktop top-right) to overlay a geometric dilution of precision (GDOP) map on the globe, showing how good NavIC's positioning accuracy is across different parts of the world based on the current constellation geometry.

Colour	GDOP value	Meaning
Green	< 2	Excellent positioning geometry.
Amber	< 4	Good positioning geometry.
Orange	< 8	Fair positioning geometry.
Red	> 8	Poor positioning geometry.
Dark grey	None	No usable NavIC coverage at that location.

### Tip

NavIC DOP, Conjunctions, Constellations, and Orbit History/Passes are mutually exclusive on desktop - opening one automatically closes any of the others that were open, so the sidebar/overlay space is never fought over by two panels at once.

## Using IROLOS on Mobile

- The satellite list becomes a slide-up sheet instead of a fixed sidebar, keeping the globe itself full-screen underneath it.
- A floating quick-access bar provides the same core tools - search, history, passes, conjunctions - adapted for touch, rather than the desktop's always-visible top-right button row.
- Selected-object details are shown in a bottom sheet rather than a floating card, so they don't cover the middle of the screen.
- Within the wider Missions page, the bottom tab bar links Missions, IROLOS (table), Globe, Overview, and a More menu containing Charts and Legend. Launch Pads and Rockets are now on the Launch Vehicles page.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: The table shows "No TLE data" - what does that mean?

A: It means the underlying tracking data hasn't been synced recently and there's currently nothing to display. This is a data availability issue rather than something you can fix from the viewer itself.

### Q: An object's TLE age shows a warning symbol - should I be concerned?

A: The warning appears once tracking data is more than 14 days old. It doesn't mean the object is lost, just that its live position calculation is based on slightly older data and may drift further from reality the longer that data ages - expect it to refresh on the next sync.

### Q: Why doesn't the IROLOS ID tell me what type of object something is?

A: That's intentional - object type, orbit type, and mission name are all left out of the ID on purpose because they can change over an object's lifetime, while the ID itself is meant to stay fixed forever. See the relevant section for the full reasoning.

### Q: I can't find a constellation I expected to see.

A: Constellations are detected automatically from naming patterns in the catalogued object names - if a family of satellites doesn't share a recognizable naming pattern, it won't be grouped automatically.

**Q: How accurate is the re-entry estimate?**

A: It's explicitly labelled indicative only, not USSTRATCOM-grade. Treat the number as a rough planning estimate - its Confidence label tells you how much recent tracking history it was able to base the estimate on.

**Q: Can I see conjunctions for an object I haven't selected yet?**

A: Yes - open the full Conjunctions feed independently of any selection; selecting an entry there will select the relevant object on the globe for you automatically.

**Q: The pass predictor defaulted to a location that isn't mine.**

A: It starts with Bengaluru's coordinates as a default - simply overwrite the Observer Latitude and Observer Longitude fields with your own location's coordinates before predicting.

**Q: I switched units and the table numbers look different now - did the data change?**

A: No - the unit toggle only changes how Period/Apogee/Perigee are displayed (km/min vs. m/s), not the underlying data itself.

**Q: What's the difference between browsing the Table and the Globe?**

A: The Table is best for scanning, sorting, and searching structured data across many objects at once. The Globe is best for understanding where an object actually is right now, its real orbital path, and spatial tools like conjunctions, constellations, and NavIC coverage. The globe icon on any table row takes you straight from one to the other for the same object.