

11/22 The third generation rocket from ISRO has transformed  
25-3 India into the commercial launch service market for  
heavier satellites. Analyse.

The launch of 36 satellites of OneWeb  
communications by Geosynchronous satellite launch  
vehicle (GSLV) MK III has made the launchers  
entry into the commercial space.

### India commercial launches so far

The ISRO has earned \$279 million in  
more than 350 customer launches from over  
30 countries. The Polar satellite launch vehicle  
was used predominantly. By the one-web  
launch the GSLV has marked the entry.

The space launch service market is  
valued at \$9.8 billion in ~~2020~~ 2019 and  
projected to reach \$32 billion by 2047.  
The GSLV and PSLV can greatly contribute  
to gain the market share.

### Benefits of launch

The GSLV MK III is a three stage

heavy lift - launch vehicle that can carry  
4 tonnes to geostationary transfer orbit and

10 tonnes to lower earth orbit.

The launcher can be highly cost  
effective and can launch more commercial  
communication satellites.

### challenges to launch

① Funding remains a constraint for private  
players. The Direct Space activities Bill can  
give regulation for foreign direct investments  
and define the role of sectors.

ISRO receives only ₹15000 crore funding per  
year which is mainly used to build satellites  
and rockets. Infrastructure status to space sector  
can accelerate funding.

② Interoperability issues must be ironed  
out to increased India's share from 2% of  
global space market.

Initiatives such as the Indian space  
association to represent views of stakeholders is  
progressive, which can assure a larger space market.