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## 'Isro to conduct key Gaganyaan test on Oct 21'

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**NEW DELHI:** The Indian Space Research Organisation will conduct the test vehicle development flight (TV-D1) — a crucial test for India's first human spaceflight Gaganyaan — on October 21, Union minister of science and technology and space Jitendra Singh said on Tuesday.

Speaking at an event organised by a private news channel, Singh said, "Isro will also test the efficacy of the crew escape system, which is the crucial part of Gaganyaan mission, resulting in



Gaganyaan is India's first human spaceflight mission.

unmanned and manned missions to outer space by 2024. The test is to be conducted at Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. Crew module will carry the astronauts during the Gaganyaan mission to outer space"

He added, "The test involves launching a crew module to outer space and bringing it back to Earth and recovering it after touchdown in the Bay of Bengal. Indian Navy personnel have started mock operations to recover the module. The success of this test will set the stage for the first unmanned Gaganyaan mission and ultimately manned mission to outer space in low Earth orbit". "Before the ultimate manned Gaganyaan mission, there will be a test flight next year, which will carry Vyommitra, the female robot astronaut."

The Gaganyaan project envis-

ages to demonstrate human spaceflight capability by launching a crew of three members to an orbit of 400km for a three-day mission and bringing them back safely.

"The prerequisites for Gaganyaan mission include development of many critical technologies including human rated launch vehicle for carrying crew safely to space, life support system to provide an earth like environment to crew in space, crew emergency escape provision and evolving crew management aspects for training, recovery and rehabilitation of crew," Isro said in its mission document.