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## Next Ariane 5 mission Launch of GSAT-11 and GEO-KOMPSAT-2A satellites

Tuesday 4 December, Ariane 5 will be sent aloft from the Guiana Space Centre (CSG), Europe's spaceport in Kourou, carrying two satellites: GSAT-11 for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and GEO-KOMPSAT-2A for the Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI). The launch will be Ariane 5's 102<sup>nd</sup> flight, its sixth in 2018 and the tenth launch of the year from the CSG.

With a launch mass of 5,854 kilograms, GSAT-11 is an operational telecommunications satellite designed and built by ISRO. It is the largest satellite ever built by India's space agency. GSAT-11 aims to bridge the digital divide on the Indian sub-continent and bring significant benefits to users. The satellite has an expected lifetime of more than 15 years.

With a launch mass of 3,507 kilograms, GEO-KOMPSAT-2A is a national programme developed and built by KARI for the Korean government. The satellite is designed to conduct meteorological and space weather monitoring missions over the Asia-Pacific region. It has an expected lifetime of more than 10 years.

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