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Chandrayaan-1 Launch Successful

L&T-made Equipment Engaged in Launch & Tracking

At 06.22 am today India's first mission to the moon was successfully launched from the Sriharikota Space Port. India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C11 placed the 1380 kg Chandrayaan-I Spacecraft in an elliptical orbit.

While this is a historic moment for all Indians, it is a special occasion of pride for L&T-ites as the Heavy Engineering Division (HED) has been closely involved with this effort.

Launch: The 44.4-metre, 316-tonne PSLV-C11 was rocketed into orbit using S139 Motor Casings (Middle segments MS58, MS60 & MS63) manufactured at the Aerospace Shop of HED.

Electronic packages are mounted on upper stage of PSLV-C11 and Heat Shield using honeycomb deck panels. These honeycomb deck panels are manufactured at L&T's Advanced Composite facility at Ranoli.

Tracking: The spacecraft will be tracked using a Deep Space Network Antenna at ISTRAC's tracking facility near Bangalore. This 32 m dia antenna was installed and commissioned by HED-Aerospace. The Antenna Mount Structure and 13m-diameter Bull Gear (made for the first time in India) were also manufactured by HED-Aerospace.

PSLV-C11 was tracked by C-Band Precision Monopulse Tracking Radar developed indigenously by HED-Weapon Systems & Sensors, up to a range of nearly 1300 km for 380 seconds. This radar was recently commissioned at Satish Dhawan Space Centre-Sriharikota and included in the Radar Tracking Network.

Reports from L&T's senior engineers present at Sriharikota this morning say that L&T-made radars performed the best among all the SHAR radars.

Congratulations to the entire team that helped India reach for the moon.

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