

# Mission SpaceR

by Harsha Pasupulati

Ever since the establishment of the Space Commission for Indian-based astronautical activities in 1972, there have been no milestones in the private sector of astronautics for companies/foundations looking to launch their own spacecraft from India. That was until recently a group of space technology foundations, with the lead of the group being Skyroot Aerospace, teamed up to launch a rocket dubbed Vikram-S to put NASA CubeSat satellites into orbit. I, Harsha Pasupulati, was fortunate enough to be able to work with the involved space foundations to help in the launch of Vikram-S. I joined this mission back in 2021 when I was a freshman through an institute called AVS Academy, which just so happened to partner with Space Kidz India, another prominent space foundation in Mission SpaceR. The ultimate scope of Mission



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SpaceR was to reach the milestone of launching the first privately-owned rocket from an Indian-based space firm, to collect data about the Earth's climate and the flight of the satellites themselves, and to provide opportunities and education for young individuals who are looking for experience in whatever interests they pursue. Vikram-S was a rocket that was built and launched by students of varied ages who all participated in this mission. When the rocket was launched in December of 2022, the payload of CubeSat satellites were successfully put into orbit. The CubeSat nanosatellites themselves will be used to provide data about their own flight and about the Earth's climate in the atmosphere. The CubeSats that are currently in orbit are continuously relaying

data about their flight and the Earth's climate. As for myself and my role, I worked with professionals in Space Kidz India to document information about Cubesats and their operation, and work continuously to analyze new data being relayed by the satellites as of the present time. Mission SpaceR will continue to provide valuable information to us, and will forever be known as a milestone for private space firms based in Indian aerospace. 0