

India's First Private Rocket Construction and Launch Initiatives for Space Education

September 9, 2014

International Indian University (IIU), Khedbramha, Gujarat is pleased to announce its Rocket and Space Technology Program started by the Aerospace Faculty.

IIU, very recently, has unveiled its Program of Rocket Launching public demonstrations and Rocketry Education Sessions for school and college students across the country.

This program of IIU of Rocket Launching is now getting overwhelming and widespread response of the common people, Educational Institutions and students.

Given that there are neither such Private Rocket & Space industry nor the public Rocket Launches in the Indian Subcontinent the Initiative taken by IIU to reach students and civilians educate and inspire them to endeavor into the Rocket Technology is most appreciable activity these days in South Asia.

First privately build official Civilian Rocket Launch from Achirne Village of Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra state is a great start for IIUs Rocket Team. The First successful flight took off into air with Red Glare and thrilling exhaust on August 11, 2014 13: 30 Hrs. the

launch was witnessed by approximately 3000 Civilians including the school students, farmers and engineering students. IIU has planned to launch a series of Sounding Rockets for the benefits of agriculture, Aeronomy, Meteorology and microgravity experiments. The Sounding Rockets of IIU Rocket Team are:

Gyananjali – 1.5 km Apogee; 2.5 kg Weight

Gyanjyot – I- 4.5 kg Apogee; 12 kg Weight

Gyanjyot- II – 10 km Apogee

Gyanjyot- III – 40 km Apogee

Gyanantariksh – 100 km Apogee

The Rocket *Gyananjali* of Caliber 2 Inch and 24 inch in a length was launched from the rail launch at 13:30 Hrs first from Achirne, Sindhudurg on August 11, 2014 and recently from SBGI Ground, Sangli on 6 September 2014. Rocket achieved 1.5 km Altitude with total take-off weight 2.5 kg

and net payload capacity of 0.9 kg. The Rocket performed all the performance parameters as per the design calculation with 20% calibration. The Rocket launch boosted confidence at the International Indian University Faculty to start the Rocket Launch services for the Student Built CanSats, Upper Atmospheric Payloads, Hail Suppression & Cloud Seeding Payloads and Microgravity experiment devices when augmented with Sounding Balloon Platform.

The 4.5 km is rescheduled to launch on 27 September 2014. Also in the coming months the team will have two rocket launch done with altitudes attaining 10 kms and 100 kms with a 500 gms of payload. These two tests in next month's will be formally offered for all the young space researchers. Thus becoming a pioneering and breakthrough for the people of space hungry nation where the space program is constrained only up to the government organizations. Opening avenues to those who seek private space access, this is good news.

Mr. Kiran Naik, Rector of the University reckons the system as first of its kind in India will benefit numerous space enthusiasts in Asia. The technology will benefit mankind in agriculture as a hail suppression needs saving the losses of cash crops, accurate weather forecasting, space photography at higher altitudes, space research for young scientists, low cost deployment for educational purposes and much more. Mr. Kiran Naik dedicated this initiative to the youth of nation and is optimistic this will provide a new vision to aspiring space enthusiasts. The design engineering team behind the successful

launch led by the rector Mr.Kiran Naik, Rocket Propulsion Engineer Mr. Rajesh Muneshwar, Trustee of the University Mr.Sanjay Soni is offering his unwavering and unanimous support for the project. Mr.Shabeer H Melethil, Vice President of University applauded the effort of the whole team and commented that this will usher a new era of space research and ignite the minds of youth of nation to explore and venture into to new avenues to benefit mankind by using space technology and research.

