

## **SIA-India pitch for equal opportunity for space sector in Defence Offset**

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The Satellite Industry Association of India (SIA) India led by President Dr Subba Rao Pavuluri called on Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar and highlighted the possibilities for the country's Defence requirements with emergence of commercial space sector and space start-ups in India. The nascent industry is on the verge of taking its rightful place among the large players internationally, Rao mentioned to the Government.

The Joint Doctrine of the three services emphatically emphasizes the importance of satellite systems. The use of space assets for communications, reconnaissance, imagery and geolocation are integral to modern military requirements. Space tech needs to be optimally utilized, the SIA stated.

Dr. Ajay Kumar observed "While other countries are looking at space for leisure, in India we are still far behind in our development of Space technologies and the opportunities thereof"

The private sector is moving towards significant rationalization of cost of launch and is on the path toward a proliferated constellation of small satellites for navigation, sensing, Command, Control, Communications, Computers (C4) in space.