
UDGAM
2019-20

AISSMS
INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
ADDING VALUE TO ENGINEERING

Department of Instrumentation Engineering

Vision

To be well known department that will serve as a source of knowledge and expertise in the field of Instrumentation for the society by rendering value added education society by rendering value added education.

Mission

To impart dynamic education and develop engineers, technocrats, and researchers to provide services and leadership for development of the nation.

Program Education Objectives(PEOs)

PEO1: To train graduates with the basic techniques and modern tools of instrumentation engineering to solve real life problems of the society.

PEO2: To enrich graduates by imparting dynamic and value-added education to acquire good position in industry.

PEO3: To motivate graduates to contribute as a socially responsible citizen, ethical leader for the development of the nation.

PEO4: To encourage graduates for higher education, research, competitive examinations, and to become an entrepreneur.

Program Specific Outcomes (PSOs)

PSO1: Students will be able to utilize their knowledge of measurement and control to solve the environmental, health, agricultural and safety related problems.

PSO2: Students will be able to demonstrate their acquired skills related to modern engineering tools such as Distributed control system, programmable logic controller (PLC), supervisory control and data acquisition systems, lab view and embedded systems etc.

AISSMS
INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
ADDING VALUE TO ENGINEERING

Department of Instrumentation Engineering

Program Outcomes (POs)

Graduates will be able to

1. Apply the knowledge of mathematics, science, engineering fundamentals, and an engineering specialization to the solution of complex engineering problems. **[Engineering knowledge]**
2. Identify, formulate, research literature, and analyse complex engineering problems reaching substantiated conclusions using first principles of mathematics, natural sciences, and engineering sciences. **[Problem analysis]**
3. Design solutions for complex engineering problems and design system components or processes that meet the specified needs with appropriate consideration for the public health and safety, and the cultural, societal, and environmental considerations. **[Design/development of solutions]**
4. Use research-based knowledge and research methods including design of experiments, analysis and interpretation of data, and synthesis of the information to provide valid conclusions. **[Conduct investigations of complex problems]**
5. Create, select, and apply appropriate techniques, resources, and modern engineering and IT tools including prediction and modelling to complex engineering activities with an understanding of the limitations. **[Modern tool usage]**
6. Apply reasoning informed by the contextual knowledge to assess societal, health, safety, legal and cultural issues and the consequent responsibilities relevant to the professional engineering practice. **[The engineer and society]**
7. Understand the impact of the professional engineering solutions in societal and environmental contexts, and demonstrate the knowledge of, and need for sustainable development. **[Environment and sustainability]**
8. Apply ethical principles and commit to professional ethics and responsibilities and norms of the engineering practice. **[Ethics]**
9. Function effectively as an individual, and as a member or leader in diverse teams, and in multidisciplinary settings. **[Individual and team work]**
10. Communicate effectively on complex engineering activities with the engineering community and with society at large, such as, being able to comprehend and write effective reports and design documentation, make effective presentations, and give and receive clear instructions. **[Communication]**
11. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the engineering and management principles and apply these to one's own work, as a member and leader in a team, to manage projects and in multidisciplinary environments. **[Project management and finance]**
12. Recognize the need for, and have the preparation and ability to engage in independent and life-long learning in the broadest context of technological change. **[Life-long learning]**

Message



Dear technocrats,

It's my pleasure to present this issue of a technical magazine **"UDGAM-2019"**. The purpose of this magazine is to provide opportunity and platform for the young technocrats to express their talent which will also be beneficial to all others to enhance their technical knowledge.

It is very true that all technocrats must know the basic fundamentals as well as should be able to acquire new knowledge technology quickly for global competition and move demanding engineering required and regulation. Keeping this in front, it is essential to develop new ways to get the information easily. I believe that this magazine will serve this purpose.

I forward my wishes to the editorial team of this magazine for taking great efforts for the issue of the department.

Hereby I appeal to all budding technocrats to join us and share their knowledge and make the magazine more dynamic, transparent and professional.

Dr.D.R.Shende

Head of department

Instrumentation Engg.

AISSMS IOIT, Pune.

EDITORIAL



Dear Readers,

As the saying goes, a mind like a parachute works best when opened. The enthusiastic write ups of our young writers are indubitably sufficient to hold the interest and admiration of the readers.

I am thankful to all the blooming writers who have responded to my call and penned their ideas for “TECHNIFESTO” Magazine which means to showcase the latest trends. I also acknowledge the constant hard work of the student editor Saket Godase who proved to be a catalyst in mobilizing the students to write their view and efficiently edit write ups. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our Head of Department Dr. D. R. Shende for her Constant support and guidance through the entire process of planning and publication of this magazine.

Finally from our Entire Team and Department of Instrumentation I wish you all the readers a Happy Reading!!!!

Ms. Sheetal C. Mulay

Editorial UDGAM



To meet the increasing demands and make life easier for the wellbeing of the society we live in and to think about implementing the latest technology. In order to be aware about the latest technology this year, a generic topic “TECHNO SMART” has been selected for the technical section.

I thank all the writers for contributing to the technical section of Aayam. I would also like to thank Ms. M. S. Mulay Mam for giving this opportunity & for supporting. Indeed it was a wonderful experience and great learning.

Saket Godase
Student Editor T.E Instru.
(Technical Section)

AISSMS
INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
ADDING VALUE TO ENGINEERING
Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University (ID No. PU/PN/ENGG/124/1998)
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi and Recognised by Govt. of Maharashtra
Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade

FLOW AND LEVEL LOOP TEST SETUP WITH DCS AND HMI

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

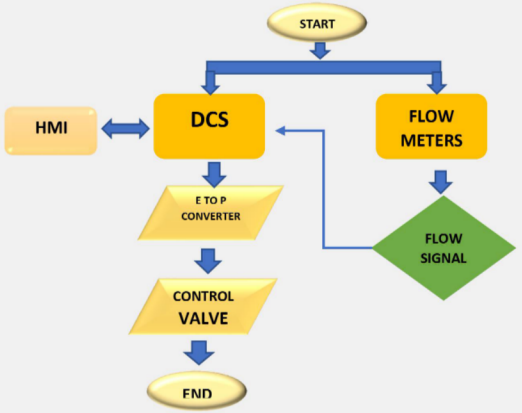
AIM

To learn and implement types of flowmeters along with valves and it's interfacing with Distributed Control System (DCS) and Human Machine Interface (HMI) to monitor and control the flow.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

- This project comprised of an overhead tank to which magnetic level indicator is connected, a motor is used to supply the fluid to 5 different flow sensors which are connected parallelly via pipe.
- On both ends on the sensors SOVs are connected to control the inlet and outlet of fluid in the pipe. A return pipe is connected for the feedback to the tank.
- The feedback of the sensors is interfaced with DCS in-order to monitor and control the flow by taking actions on the final control element control valve actuator. The whole process is monitored via HMI.

FLOWCHART

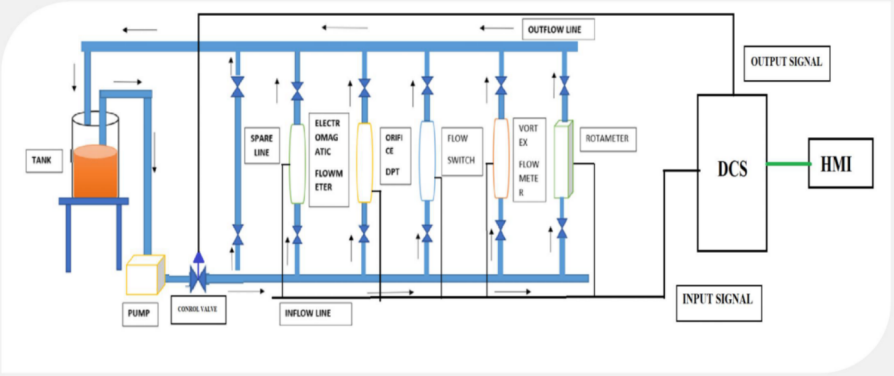


DETAILS OF THE PROJECT

- Our loop consists of 7 pressure gauges (Make-Forbes Marshall) with a maximum dial reading 4Bar & the least count of 0.1Bar. Each pressure gauge is connected to a 2way manifold valve with 1/2 NPT threading. 11 solenoid valves (Make-Forbes Marshall) use for steam, oil, air, water with maximum actuator air pressure 10Bar & fluid temperature 180degree C. 24 manual operated valve.
- Flow switch (Make-Krohne Marshall) with flow rate 0-4metercubed/h. Rotameter (Make-Krohne Marshall) with flow rate 0-4000L/h. Vortex flowmeter (Make-Krohne Marshall) with flow rate 0.5-4metercubed/h. Magnetic flowmeter (Make-Krohne Marshall) with full scale of 10metercubed/h. Orifice plate (Make-Delta Eng.). DPT (Make-Siemens) with measuring span 2.5mBar-250mBar. 2 Control valves (Make-Forbes Marshall) with control range of 1-1.8Bar. RTD PT100 (Eureka Eng. Enterprise).
- Magnetic level indicator (Make-Krohne Marshall). All this field instruments are connected and control by using DCS and monitor by HMI.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

BLOCK DIAGRAM



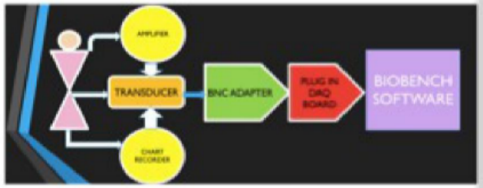
ADITYA BARADKAR, PRANAV PAWAR, PRANAV DALVI, DIVYA YADAV, SUYOG PATIL

GUIDED BY:- PROF.H.P.CHAUDHARI

Objectives

- Data Management
- Vendor Data Storage
- Automatic Journal Creation
- File Analysis
- File Exporting
- Look and Feel of a Chart Recorder
- Configuration Settings
- Example Data Files for Teaching

Block Diagram



AISSMS
INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
ADDING VALUE TO ENGINEERING

Department of Instrumentation Engineering
Year 2020-21

RECORDING PHYSIOLOGICAL PARAMETERS USING BIOBENCH



BioBench is a stand-alone application designed to meet the data acquisition and data analysis needs of the life science, medical research, and education markets. It has ready-to-run data acquisition and data analysis capabilities that can help you save time and money by integrating your personal computer with your physiological monitoring system

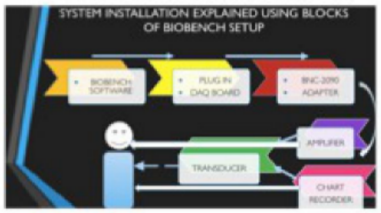
Guide: Mrs. S.V. Kulkarni

Shreya Ghosalkar-Gauri Bhosale-Deepankar Bhat

Why a BioBench?

- With a population of 7.5 billion people in the world which is poised to only grow further, the need for a detailed data management system in the world of healthcare is of utmost importance. Hence, our project deals with this very application using a device called a BioBench.

Design Methodology



AUTOMATION USING DATA LOGGER THROUGH PLC COLD STORAGE MAINTAINANACE SYSTEM

Anuradha Chavan AISSMS IOIT Pune, Maharashtra
Vijaymala Desai AISSMS IOIT Pune, Maharashtra
Sonal Karle AISSMS IOIT Pune, Maharashtra
Dr. Dipali R. Shende. HOD of instrumentation dep. AISSMS IOIT Pune, Maharashtra
Dr. Aditya Abhyankar HOD of technology dep. SPPU Pune, Maharashtra

ABSTRACT: The objective of our endeavor is to arrangement, make and screen "Quarrel transport utilizing PLC". This work outfits with a huge amount of focal points like low power use, low operational cost, less help. This endeavor relies upon Industrial robotization and is a huge application used in various undertakings like milk adventures, engineered, sustenance, mineral water and various mechanical creators. A model to plot the endeavor. Filling is the task that is finished by a machine and this system is commonly used in various ventures. In this endeavor, the filling of the container is compelled by using a controller known as PLC which is similarly the center of the entire system. For the vehicle system, a DC engine is utilized to drive the transport line where an automated ARM arranged at start of belt, places quarrel on belt. Nearness sensor sense the quibble. An automated ARM put toward the finish of transport pick the squabble and set it in ice chest. Ladder method of reasoning used for the programming of the PLC, which is the most extensively used and recognized language for the programming of the PLC.

Keywords: PLC, robotic arm, proximity sensor

I. INTRODUCTION

A line aficionado robot is basically a robot expected to seek after a line or route starting at now pre-managed by the customer. This line or way may be as clear as a physical white line on the floor or as unusual way stepping designs for instance introduced lines, appealing markers and laser oversee markers. These specific markers or 'lines', distinctive distinguishing plans can be used. These plans may move from fundamental negligible exertion line recognizing circuit to wide vision systems. The choice of these plans would be penniless upon the identifying exactness and flexibility required. Nowadays an enormous number of the organizations are getting mechanized using PLC and thusly it has transformed into a key bit of the ventures. Continues watching and controlling of organizations are required in light of the far-reaching proportion of age. PLC is a contraption which is related with equipment in the business and it will trades the data to PC by methods for long connections and an individual seating in the control room on PC can screen and control the business. There are five basic vernaculars which are used for the programming of the PLC. Out of these lingos, ladder diagram is the most by and large used language and is clear when diverged from various vernaculars. Ladder diagram used for the programming of this PLC.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

The outcomes from paper [1] states that The controller demonstrates the quantity of hours it should work and various occasions it should water the field and the length between each cycle, in the wake of choosing these parameters the status of the engine is to be chosen. IOT based brilliant cultivating framework can end up being very helpful for agriculturists since over and also less water framework isn't valuable for developing. Edge regards for climatic conditions like stickiness, temperature, sogginess can be settled in light of the biological conditions of that particular locale. This structure makes water framework plan in light of the distinguished consistent data from field and data from the atmosphere store. This structure can endorse agriculturist whether, is there a prerequisite for water framework [2].

The including features of this endeavor fuses sharp GPS based remote controlled robot to perform endeavors like weeding, showering, suddenness

identifying, feathered animal and animal unnerving, keeping carefulness, etc. Additionally, it joins splendid water framework with sharp control and shrewd fundamental authority in perspective on exact continuous field data. Thirdly, it is a splendid dispersion focus organization which consolidates temperature support, stickiness upkeep and theft area in the stockroom [3].

This undertaking has tried to display a gainful astute estate structure. It has joined automation into various pieces of the estate. Another arrangement for animal separated zones is progressed to upgrade the living conditions of tamed creatures, and likewise decline physical work. It fuses a mechanized light, temperature, clamminess and sprinkler system. The clamminess and moistness control parts guarantee the animals are pleasant in the fenced in regions they are kept in, by changing the settings as indicated by essential. This will achieve settlement, imperativeness viability, and quality and prosperity benefits [4].

For future enhancements it very well may be redesigned by structure up this system for colossal areas of place where there is land. Furthermore, the system can be facilitated to check the idea of the soil and the improvement of reap in earth. The sensors and microcontroller are adequately interfaced and remote correspondence is practiced between various center points. All recognitions and test tests show that this endeavor is a whole response for field activities and water framework issues. Utilization of such a structure in the field can upgrade the yield of the harvests and general age [5].

The system incorporates a custom sensor plan for control efficiency, cost sufficiency, trashy sections, and furthermore versatility end accommodation. In future there are a couple of assignments that should be done and would develop the structure to a more create state. The structure may be furthermore connected for outside utilization [6].

'Web of Things' is far and wide castoff in relating contraptions and get-together bits of knowledge. This agriculture watching system fills in as a strong and viable structure and healing move can be made. The made system is increasingly viable and favorable for agriculturists. It gives the information about the temperature, stickiness of the air in rustic field through MMS to the farmer, if it outcome from perfect range. The usage of such structure in the field can impel the gather of the harvests and overall creation [7].

The motorized water framework structure delineated and executed in this paper. The structure made is important and works in monetarily canny manner. It lessens the water usage to a progressively conspicuous degree. It needs immaterial upkeep. The power usage decreased specifically. The structure can be used as a piece of green houses. The System is very useful in regions where water deficiency is an essential issue. The alter proficiency increases and the wastage of harvests is especially diminished using this water framework system. The made structure is progressively helpful and gives increasingly down to earth results [8].

This paper [9] discussed the improvement of a structure that could address these issues. It moreover discussed the arrangement necessities and the strategy on the most ideal approach to association the layout with instantly available gadgets. The splendid water framework controller was seemed to have the limit of remote association of programming. This limit will give an accommodating strategy to make updates to the structure without bothering the end customer. Programming has made and exchanged to the controller for manual use. The consequent stage will be further developing the item's helpfulness and start tackling data accumulating likewise, examination for automation purposes. With the improvement of advancement, agrarian field grabbed noteworthiness in restricting the human power.

In that manner IOT and Image taking care of advancement used to perceive the plant disorders. The overall water framework circumstance is masterminded by extended enthusiasm for higher plant gainfulness, poor execution and lessened availability of water for agribusiness. In any case, our arrangement will construct the execution of green field and keeping up the field keeping from ailments [10].

PROPOSED SYSTEM

A programmable rationale controller (PLC) or programmable controller is a mechanical advanced PC which has ruggedized and adjusted for the control

of assembling forms, for example, sequential construction systems, or automated gadgets, or any movement that requires high unwavering quality control and simplicity of programming and procedure flaw determination.

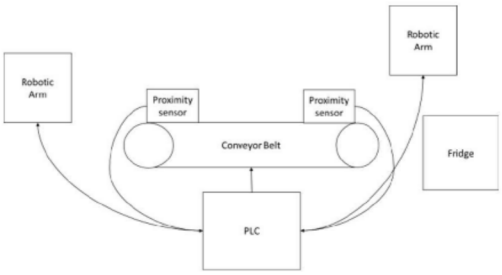


Fig block diagram of proposed system

Mechanical Arm put toward the start of transport line puts a quibble on transport line. A DC engine is utilized to drive the transport line though Servo engine is utilized to control both automated arm to convey pick and spot tasks. Nearness sensor is utilized to recognize whether the quibble is put on transport line or not. PLC controls working of mechanical arm. Mechanical arm present at end purpose of transport line pick quarrel and spot it on ice chest.

CONCLUSION

The fundamental target of this undertaking was to build up a programmed framework for picking a squabble from compartment and setting it in ice chest. The venture introduces a programmed transporting framework constrained by PLC. The framework has the focal points as basic structure and dependable activity. The framework is constrained by PLC.

REFERENCES

[1] Mehran Pakdaman Tabari, M. Mehdi Sanaatiyan "Design and Implementation of Line Follower Robot" Second International Conference on Computer and Electrical Engineering, 2009

[2] Abhijit Pathak1 ,Refat Khan Pathan2 , Amaz Uddin Tutul3 , Nishat Tahsin Tousi4 , Afsari Sultana Rubaba5 , Nahida Yeasmin Bithi, "Self driving carfor Industrial Manufacturing Process", International Journal of Engineering Inventions e-ISSN: 2278-7461, p-ISSN: 2319-6491 Volume 6, Issue 10 [October. 2017] PP: 10-17 www.ijeijournal.com Page 10

[3] Md Zabiuddin1 , Pushpalatha R, "Implementation Of Line Tracing Algorithm For Path Tracking Robot", IJRET: International Journal of Research in Engineering and Technology Volume: 04 Special Issue: 05 NCATECS-2015 May-2015

[4] Deepak Punetha, Neeraj Kumar, Vartika Mehta "Development and Applications of Line Following Robot Based Health Care Management System" International Journal of Advanced Research in Computer Engineering & Technology (IJARCET) Volume 2, Issue 8, August 2013

[5] V Hymavathi G Vijay Kumar "Design And Implementation Of Double Line Follower Robot" International Journal of Engineering Science and Technology (IJEST), Vol. 3 No. 6 June 2011

[6] Tushar Supe1 , Aishwarya Joy DESIGN OF A LINE FOLLOWING SENSOR FOR VARIOUS LINE SPECIFICATIONS International Journal of Computer Engineering and Technology (IJCET), ISSN 0976-6367(Print), ISSN 0976 - 6375(Online), Volume 4, Issue 6, November - December (2013), © IAEME

[7] Kishan K Pramod G Kamath Sandeep Suresh Kerudi Sunil R Keri M. S. Vijaykumar "Moving Object Follower", International Journal of Innovations in Engineering and Technology (IJIET) Volume 6 Issue 1 October 2015

[8] Pradeep Kumar.G.H Rupa Gurram Sweatha Suresh.B. Sneha.B.R. Sushmitha.R, "Object Tracking Robot on Raspberry Pi using OpenCV", International Journal of Engineering Trends and Technology (IJETT) – Volume 35 Number 4- May 2016 Page 160

[9] Ali A. Abed Iraq Sarah A. Rahman "Python-based Raspberry Pi for Hand Gesture Recognition" International Journal of Computer Applications (0975 – 8887) Volume 173 – No.4, September 2017 18

[10] "PLC Based Automatic Bicker Filling and Capping System With User Defined Volume Selection "T. Kalaiselvi, R. Praveena, Assistant professor, Easwari Engineering College, Chennai. International Journal of Emerging Technology and Advanced Engineering (ISSN 2250-2459)2012.

MASK DISPOSAL BIN

Aditya Mangesh Baradkar
Department of Instrumentation & Control
AISSMS Institute of Information Technology Pune-411006, INDIA
baradkaraditya2000@gmail.com

***Abstract*— As we know corona virus is defeating our world and whole world is back of getting an antidote. It has cleared from various reputed research Center that it will take a time up to of view** months, **so we have to fight with virus and for that we have to use mask, PPE kits but big problem is of disposal. In this project sand is heated with heater at a specific temperature and over sand which there is aluminum plate, mask get into bin from top and falls on plate which is heated by sand and the virus gets destroyed due to high temperature. Ash produce at last can easily be decomposed anywhere. These types of projects are used in public place as per research these viruses are going to be end after a year and we human being must be lived with these viruses.**

Keywords— Thermocouple, Arduino, Mask, AD595

1. INTRODUCTION

Mask Disposal bin is project which is used for disposal of mask. As the virus is becoming trouble for whole world and as per the researcher it has been noted that it will take a time up to few months and to that we have to use mask and PPE kits to fight with corona virus. But the problem is with what about the disposal of masks and kits for protecting we people are going to use mask and problems come with the disposal of these masks. If these masks are not disposed it can create many issues. There are many methods which used for decomposing of biomedical waste, but they cannot be used for larger amount of biomedical waste also it is costlier. Burning is only the option which has many economic and environmental issues. These projects can be used for decomposing of biowaste i.e., Masks.

In this project sand is heated with heater at a specific temperature and over sand which there is aluminium plate mask get into bin from top and falls on plate which is heated by sand and the virus gets destroyed due to high temperature. These types of projects are used in public place as per research these viruses are going to be end after a year and we human being must be lived with these viruses. As the precaution mask should and properly disposed as soon as possible so these bins can be used in public places like railway station, airport etc. In regular mask is disposal by burning in dump yard. But in this project mask and virus is burned at same place and instantly. Due to burning it won't harm living beings and main reason to have such bin in our society to protect a committee of garbage picker which is always neglected they pick garbage with bare hand so they do same with mask which can become medium of COVID-19 spread. Also, it is easy to install and maintain.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is worn by workers in surgical settings to protect them and patients. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) clears some PPE (e.g., surgical masks (SM)) as class II medical devices and regulates some (e.g., surgical head cover) as class I exempt devices. For respiratory protection, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)-approved FFR that is also cleared by the FDA for use in medical settings.

As per flammability test mask get burn at 45 C. This project works for class II mask. There were many methods used for disposal of biomedical waste, but it was not reasonable and has environmental effect. Efficiency of these methods were low and have heavy procedure. As per the research and WHO N95 mask is used to protect from corona virus.

Incineration is process in which biomedical waste is disposed by burning. This process is quick, easy, and simple. Alternative method which is famous and has less cost than other methods in this process involves steam sterilization which destroy microorganism. specially used for solid waste. Chemical used is chlorine. In microwaving waste is shredded, mixed with water, and then internally heated to kill harmful elements.

In microwaving waste is shredded, mixed with water, and then internally heated to kill harmful elements.

978-1-7281-6916-3/20/$31.00 ©2020 IEEE

Table1. Flammability Class of N95 Respirators, Surgical N95 Respirators, Surgical Masks, and other Fabric Materials

Respirator, PPE, and Fabric Material	Weight (g/m^2)	Average Burn Time (sec)	Flammability Class
N95 FFRs (11)	140-469	DNI (11)	1
Surgical N95 FFRs (8)	98 - 502	DNI (7)	1
		7.8 (1)	
Surgical Masks (7)	59 – 86	DNI (5)	1
		5.7-6.7 (2)	
100% Cotton	81.8	14.2	1
100% Cotton Bubble Gauze	52.2	11.53	1
100% Cotton Harem Cloth	35.6	3.78	1
100% Cotton Voile	33.2	5.14	1
Double Cotton Fabric	17.3	2.5	3
100% Linen	130	DNI	1

The number in parentheses represents the number of models tested in the study.
DNI - did not ignite

3. ELEMENT DESCRIPTION

3.1 Thermocouple: -

In this project we have used K-type thermocouple which have temperature range 0C to 200C. K-type e is most common type of thermocouple. It has accuracy of +/- 2.2C. or +/- .75%. At 50C the voltage is about 2.023V. It can handle lead compensation.



Figure no. 1 K-Type Thermocouple

3.2 AD595: -

AD595 is an instrumentation amplifier with cold junction compensator on a single monolithic chip. It combines an ice point reference with precalibrated amplifier to produce a high level (10mV/C) output directly from thermocouple signal. The AD595 includes a thermocouple failure alarm that indicates if one or each thermocouple leads become open. It requires power supply of +5V. Figure no.2 AD595 Pin

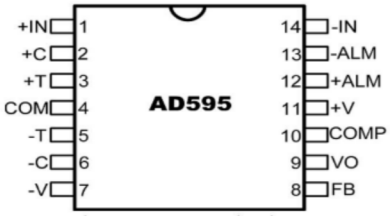


Figure no.2 AD595 Pin Diagram

3.3 Arduino: -

In this project we have used Arduino uno board as controller of system and as a heart of project. Arduino gets the signal from instrumentation amplifier. Arduino is open source platform where we can develop the code and as per it controls the system. Program can be uploaded with IDE (Integrated Development Environment).



Figure no. 3 Arduino UNO Board

4. METHODOLOGY

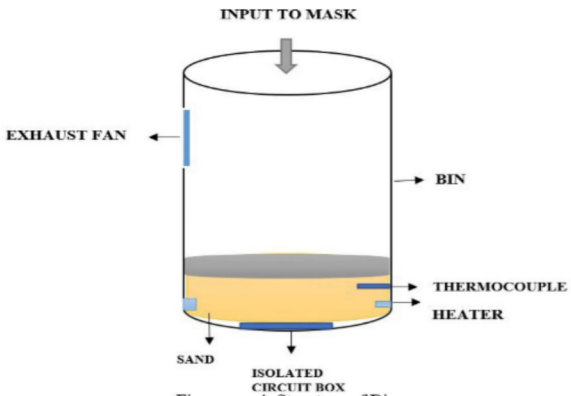


Figure no. 4. Structure of Bin

Bin is of cylindrical structure in which it contains 30% of sand which good conductor of heat. In sand there are two heaters with various types of sensors. At bottom of cylinder there is isolated circuit box in which relay circuit and microcontroller is present. Heater is connected to 240V mains supply through relay. At the top of sand there is tray which is made up of aluminium.

Bin is made from material which is poor conductor of heat. In bin there is thermocouple sensor which is connected to Arduino for temperature measurement. Exhaust fan is used to remove gases which are formed at the time of heating. Input to the mask is from top of the bin. K-type thermocouple is used to calculate temperature of sand. There are various types of indicator on the bin to show the status of process.

Heater get start through mains supply sand stats to get heated. Sand gets heated up to 50 C TO 70 C which is calculated by thermocouple. Thermocouple gives the output to AD595 which is instrumentation amplifier and feed to Arduino. K-Type thermocouple gives the analog output in the range of 3 V to 5V. As per the signals from AD595, Arduino gives signal to relay for actuation. If the temperature exceeds then it shows the indication on panel and heater gets off. Exhaust fan is directly connected to mains supply. When mask get entered from top of bin it falls on the aluminium plat (Melting point of aluminium

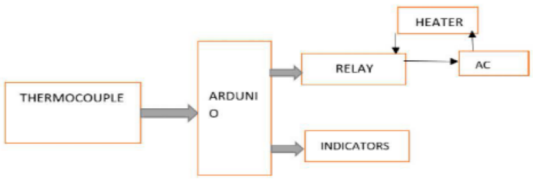


Figure no. 5 Block Diagram of Internal Circuiti

Is 660.3 C). As plat or tray is heated by the sand mask get melt or burn as the melting temperature of mask are in range of 45 C. The gases which are released after the burning of mask is exhausted by the fan. These gases are non- toxic to nature and humans. When tray or plat is filled by ash then it can be removed after cooling. Circuit which is at bottom is isolated by mica sheets (Can be withstand up to 900 °C (1,650 °F)) to protect components and to low down temperature. As per the research corona virus can be withstand up to 45 C.

5. CONCLUSION

Hence this paper proposed a newer concept of disposal of mask and biowaste. These types of bin can be used in public places to dispose masks as soon as possible, these types bin avoid less human contact and can be sanitized easily. Virus is destroyed at the same place so there is less chance of contact or spreading of virus. Ash which is produced in the bin can easily be disposed. There is less pollution produce due to burning of mask. Maintenance of the bin is very low and nor the special care is required. This project is easy to install and it is more durable. The voltage supply requirement is easily available. Initial time required to heat sand is more which is drawback for system.

5. FUTURE WORK

Load cell which is capable to work in high temperature can be connected to calculate the load on the ash tray or plat. Some provision can be made to cool the tray as soon as possible to remove ash. Less costly materiel can be used to isolate the circuit. Same type of bin can be created for disposing of PPE kits and class II mask. Initial time to preheat sand can be minimized. In future we can also add up with char coal filter to minimize pollutants emitting while burning.

7.REFERENCE

1. Beckman S, Materna B, Goldmacher S, Zipprich J, D'Alessandro M, Novak D, Harrison R (2013) Evaluation of respiratory protection programs and practices in California hospitals during the 2009-2010 H1N1 influenza pandemic Am J Infect Cont 41:1024–1031.

2. Burgess GE III, LeJeune FE Jr (1979) Endotracheal tube ignition during laser surgery of the larynx. Arch Otolaryngol 105:561–562.

3. Chang S-C, Slopek RP, Condon B, Grunlan JC (2014) Surface Coating for Flame-Retardant Behavior of Cotton Fabric Using a Continuous Layer-by-Layer Process. Ind Eng Chem Res, 2014 53:3805–3812.

4. Clarke JR, Bruley ME, Editorial Advisory Board (2012) Surgical fires: Trends associated with prevention efforts. Pennsylvania Patient Safety Advisory 9:130–135.

5. ECRI Institute (2009a) 2010 top 10 technology hazards. In: Health Devices, pp 364–373.

6. ECRI Institute (2009b) New clinical guide to surgical fire prevention. In: Health Devices, pp 314–332.

7. Fan J, Lau L (2009) Flammability of fabrics and garments. in Engineering apparel fabrics and garments. Woodhead Publishing Limited and CRC Press, LLC, Boca Raton, FL.

8. Federal Register (2008) Standard for the flammability of clothing textiles. Consumer Product Safety Commission. 16 CFR Part 1610. US Government Printing Office, Office of Federal Register, Washington, DC: 73:15636–15661.

9. Manyele SV, Anicetus H. Management of medical waste in Tanzanian hospitals. Tanzania Health Research Bulletin.2006;8(3):177-82.

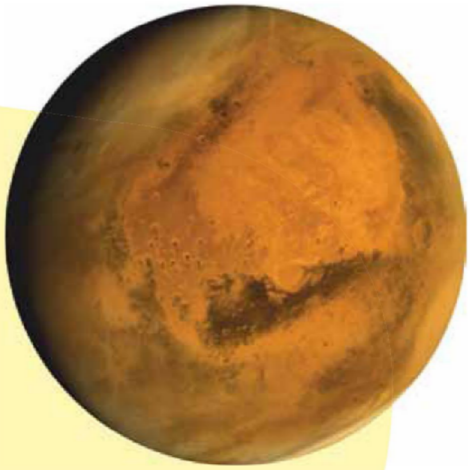
10. AL-khatib I, Sato C. Solid health care waste management status at health care centers in the West Bank-Palestinian Territory. Wastes Management. 2009; 29(8);2398-2403.

11. Rao, HVN. Disposal of hospital wastes in Bangalore and their impact on environment. In the third international conference on appropriate waste management technologies for Developing Countries Nagpur. 1995:839-42.

12. Gupta S, Boojh R. Biomedical waste management practices at Balrampur Hospital Lucknow, India. Waste management and research. 2006;24(6):584-91.

13. Shiferaw Y, Abebe T, Mihret A. Sharps injuries and exposure to blood and bloodstained body fluids involving medical waste handlers. Waste Management. 2012;30(12):1299-1305.

Mars: The Most Interesting Planet



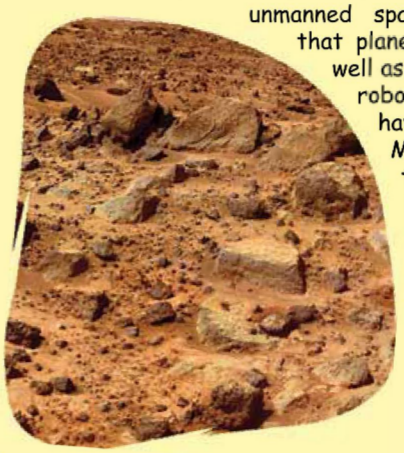
Mars. This planet appears as a red dot in the night sky. It is the second nearest planet to us. Named after the Roman God of war, this red planet caught the attention of ancient humans because of its colour and the way it moved in the sky. Even today, it arouses the interest of modern man for a different reason.

Compared to the other planets (Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune) of the solar system, Mars resembles Earth in many important ways. This has made humans to think of it as the most likely place to search for extra-terrestrial life (life outside the Earth) in our solar system.

Though Mars was familiar to ancients, details about that planet began emerging only after the invention of telescope. But, Telescopic observation of Mars also led to many misconceptions about the situation on that planet. Prominent amongst them was the mistaken belief that Mars had intelligent life, which was far more capable than humans.



But the true nature of Mars began emerging after unmanned spacecraft started travelling to that planet. Those robotic spacecraft as well as the landers and rovers (wheeled robotic vehicles) carried by them have revealed many things about Mars in great detail. At the same time, they have raised more questions for which scientists are struggling to find answers. Thus, Mars has not yet revealed all its secrets.



Surface of Mars as seen by a lander sitting on its surface

Picture courtesy: NASA

To further broaden our knowledge horizon about Mars, robotic spacecraft are being sent to the red planet even today.

India's Mars Orbiter Spacecraft, which started circling planet Mars on **September 24, 2014, successfully completed six months in its orbit around Mars on March 24, 2015.** With this, the primary objective of Mars Orbiter Mission has been realised.

Mars Orbiter spacecraft is an essential part of the effort across the globe to further understand this very interesting and exciting planet.

Mars: The Most Earth like Planet

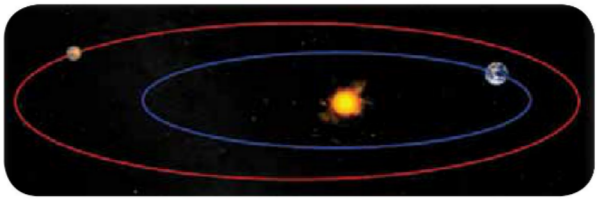
Like Earth, Mars is a large spherical body that revolves round the Sun. It is also a 'terrestrial planet' which means that it has a solid surface like Earth. Compared to this, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune does not have solid surface at all!

Mars has a diameter which is a little more than half that of the Earth. And, planet Mars has a mass which is one tenth of the Earth's mass. Its smaller mass and diameter result in lower surface gravity. Thus, if you weigh 100 kg on Earth, you will weigh only 38 kg on Mars!

The yellowish red colour of Mars is due to presence of Iron Oxide there. On Earth, it is known as rust. So, the surface of Mars has 'rusted' away!



The orbit of Mars lies outside the orbit of Earth around the Sun. And the orbit of Mars is more oval shaped compared to Earth's orbit. The average distance of Mars from the Sun is about 230 million km compared to ours, which is 150 million km.



Mars comes very near to Earth than any other planet, except Venus. When Earth and Mars are very near to each other, they are still separated by a distance of 56 million km!

One year on Mars is 687 days as the red planet takes that much time to revolve round the Sun once. The Earth does the same in 365 days, isn't it?

Surprisingly, one 'day' on Mars is a little more than a day on Earth. If you want the exact value, then it is 24 hours 37 minutes. And, the tilt of the axis of Mars is about 25 deg, which is very near to the Earth's tilt of 23.5 deg.

Like on Earth, one can see plains, plateaus, mountains, volcanoes, valleys, etc., on Mars. In fact, the surface features of Mars are so similar to Earth that in many pictures sent from the surface of Mars by robotic landers and rovers, one cannot immediately make out that it is alien landscape. But, not even a small plant or a tiny lizard is visible in those pictures!

And, those pictures do not reveal the hostile conditions that exist on Mars. The atmosphere of Mars mostly contains the carbon di oxide which we cannot breathe. Besides, Martian atmosphere is extremely thin with the surface pressure being about 100 times less than that on Earth. Since Mars does not have Ozone layer, harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun reach the surface of Mars without any hindrance. So, we cannot survive on Mars without wearing a protective space suit and Oxygen supply system.



Because the entire surface of Mars is sterilised by UV rays, chances of life (as we know it on Earth) on its surface is very small.

One striking similarity between Earth and Mars is related to water. Mars has water on it. But, it is there in the form of ice or snow and water vapour.





Mars before the Space Age

The great civilisations of the ancient world, including Sumerian, Egyptian, Indus Valley, Chinese, Vedic, Greek and Roman civilisations, had observed Mars. They saw it as a bright yellowish orange dot in the night sky moving slowly against the background of fixed and twinkling stars. They named that heavenly body after their gods. Since its colour reminded them of blood, the ancient Romans named that 'wandering' dot of light after Mars, their god of war.



Mangala

In ancient India, Mars was called 'Mangala' and to this day, the same name is retained by many Indian languages. Mars was also known as 'Angāraka' and was referred to as the 'Son of the Earth' in ancient Indian texts.

The ancient people were puzzled by the movement of Mars in the night sky. Sometimes, it appeared to reverse its direction of movement and again resumed its normal course later.

During the renaissance, due to great scientific developments, human understanding of the heavens got changed. Mars, like Earth, came to be seen as a planet that travelled round the Sun. Galileo observed the planet Mars in his telescope and later astronomers found that Mars too showed phases like the moon. German astronomer Johannes Kepler stated the laws that explained the motion of planets around the sun, including that of Mars.

Using telescopes, later astronomers mapped surface features of Mars including its polar ice caps. They also worked out the time Mars took to spin around its axis once as well. In addition, astronomers found that the tilt of the axis of Mars was very much similar to that of the Earth. And, the two small satellites of Mars (later named as Phobos and Deimos) were also discovered through telescopic observation.

There was great excitement after a 19th century Italian astronomer talked about straight line like features on Mars which he had observed. He called them 'canali' (channels in Italian).



A drawing of Martian Canals!

It was mistranslated to English as 'canals', which meant they were artificially built. Following this, an American astronomer named Percival Lowell passionately argued that 'canals' of Mars were constructed by super intelligent beings of that planet to bring water from polar areas to the dry equatorial areas!

The famous science fiction writer H G Wells wrote about the invasion of Earth by Martians in his book 'War of the Worlds' published in 1898. When a dramatised version of that novel was broadcast in 1938 over radio in America, many believed it and ran out of their houses in panic!



Martian Attack in fiction!

It was time for getting a proper picture of the situation on Mars. The dawn of the space age in 1957 made it possible.

Mars: Exciting Exploration in the Space Age

On October 4, 1957, a huge rocket rose from Kazakhstan in the Soviet Union. A few minutes later, the rocket travelled beyond the Earth's atmosphere and provided sufficient speed to a 84 kg metal sphere sitting on top of it. With this, the sphere started circling the Earth on its own and became the first artificial satellite of the Earth. The space age was born.



Mars as seen by Mariner 4

Picture courtesy: NASA

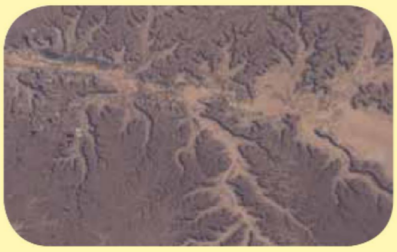
A few years later, both the United States and the Soviet Union began attempts to launch unmanned spacecraft towards Mars. In exploring Mars, the United States has scored many spectacular successes, while the former Soviet Union and today's Russia has not been very successful. Besides, the European Space Agency, Japan, China and India have built robotic spacecraft to explore Mars.



The soviet Mars-3 Lander

The first spacecraft to successfully explore Mars was the American Mariner 4. It flew near Mars in 1965 and sent black and white pictures in which the surface of Mars was uninteresting and showed many craters.

In 1971, a Soviet spacecraft safely landed on Mars. But after communicating with Earth by radio for about 15 seconds, suddenly became silent. The mystery of Mars got further deepened.

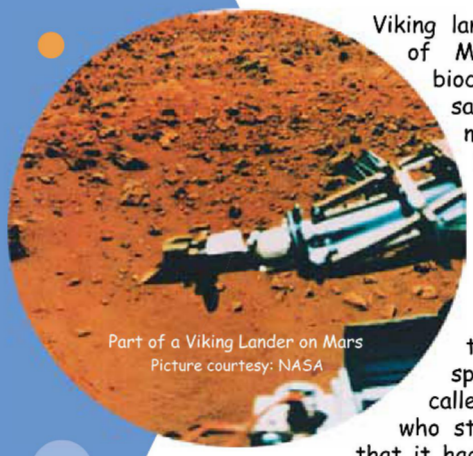


Flow of water on Mars in the past?

Picture courtesy: NASA

A few months later, the American Mariner 9 spacecraft started sending breath-taking pictures of the surface of Mars from its orbit around that planet. Those pictures showed giant volcanoes, a gigantic system of valleys and features which appeared to indicate that large quantities of water had flowed on Mars long ago. But, canals or other indications of intelligent life, which were imagined by many, did not show up in those pictures!

In 1976, two American Viking spacecraft went to Mars and started orbiting it. Later, each successfully sent a lander to the surface of Mars. In the pictures sent by Viking landers, the surface of Mars resembled the deserts of the earth, but neither vegetation nor even small forms of life were visible.



Part of a Viking Lander on Mars
Picture courtesy: NASA

Viking landers also took the samples of Martian soil and performed biochemical tests on those samples to find out whether microscopic life was present in it. But, most scientists feel that those tests did not conclusively detect any signs of microscopic life.

Mars generated worldwide excitement in 1996. Strangely, the reason was not a robotic spacecraft but a meteorite called ALH84001. NASA scientists who studied that meteorite opined that it had come from Mars and there was enough proof for that. But, what was more exciting was their view that the material inside that piece of space rock appeared to strongly suggest that it contained fossils of Martian microorganisms! But many scientists have not accepted this view.

In the 1990s, NASA successfully sent a robotic spacecraft called Mars Global Surveyor into an orbit around Mars. But, Mars Pathfinder, a small NASA spacecraft became more famous because it landed a microwave oven sized rover (wheeled robotic vehicle) called Sojourner on the surface of Mars.



Martian microbe?!
Picture courtesy: NASA

Between 2001 and 2012, many spacecraft have travelled to Mars. Some of them are orbiting while most others have landed rovers on the Martian surface. Spirit and Opportunity, the two rovers that reached the surface of Mars in 2004, have provided valuable information about Mars. More recently, Curiosity, the NASA rover which landed on Mars in August 2012, has triggered a worldwide interest in Mars. Carrying a large array of scientific instruments, it is exploring Mars in a systematic way.



Europe's Mars Express spacecraft
Picture courtesy: ESA

On September 22, 2014, NASA's MAVEN spacecraft entered into an orbit around Mars. **Two days later, India's very first attempt to make a spacecraft to go round Mars became a total success when its Mars Orbiter Spacecraft began circling the Red Planet in the planned orbit.**



Curiosity rover on Mars

Picture courtesy: NASA

Mars: Unending Mysteries Demand Continued Exploration

It is true that robotic spacecraft equipped with many scientific instruments have explored Mars in a detailed way while circling the red planet. Besides, landers which have gently settled down on the surface of Mars have sent breath-taking pictures of the Martian surface. They have also sent weather reports from the surface of Mars and analysed the soil and rock samples of Mars for signs of extinct life or living microorganisms. And, the rovers have explored not only the surroundings of their landing site, but areas which are many kilometres away as well and provided strong evidence about the presence of liquid water on Mars in the past.

But, many mysteries associated with Mars have not yet been resolved. Even today, scientists are very actively pursuing answers to such questions like:



How long was Mars really warm and wet in its history?

Why and how Mars became a dry desert from a watery paradise?

Did Mars have water on its surface continuously for a long time or did bursts of water flow on its surface for brief periods repeatedly?



Did life originate on Mars when it was wet?

Has microscopic life survived today on Mars?

Is there Methane in the atmosphere of Mars and how was it generated?

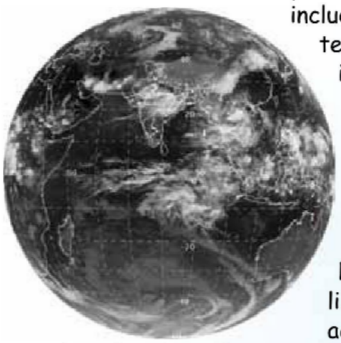
To seek answers for these important questions, further exploration of Mars is very much necessary. This is the reason why humans are continuously launching spacecraft whenever the opportunity comes. India's Mars Orbiter Spacecraft is one amongst them.



India's Strength to Explore Mars

Today, India is considered as one of the few countries with many achievements in space which are quite remarkable. The reason for this is the prominent successes scored by India's giant rockets and satellites, especially the role of satellites in bringing about rapid and revolutionary progress in many essential fields. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) implements the country's space programme.

The valuable services provided by our communication satellites today include simultaneous relay of thousands of telephone calls and countrywide telecasting including the provision of DTH services. Similarly, our meteorological satellites provide valuable information required for generating accurate weather forecasts.



A weather picture from INSAT-3D Satellite

Today, our remote sensing satellites are circling the Earth at hundreds of kilometres height. They offer services like providing information necessary for the accurate crop yield prediction, searching groundwater and minerals, increasing fish catch, estimating our forest wealth, monitoring environmental pollution, and so on.



Artist's concept of a communication satellite telecasting educational programmes

Recently, the country has entered the world of satellite navigation with the successful launch of four navigation satellites (by April 2015). They are part of the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System consisting of seven satellites. Together, they are intended to benefit our transportaion sector, including air transportaion by providing very accurate position, velocity and time information to the vehicles. This can make their journey more safe and efficient.



Southern India and Sri Lanka, as seen by an Indian Remote Sensing Satellite



Chandryaan-1
around the Moon



Los Angeles Times NATION

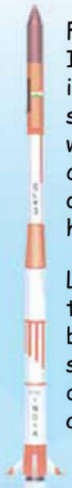
Evidence suggests water exists on the moon

Research teams from Brown University, the University of Maryland and the U.S. Geological Survey used spectroscopic measurements taken of the lunar surface by NASA's Cassini and Deep Impact spacecraft, as well as India's Chandrayaan I satellite. The instruments on

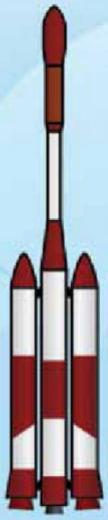
Indian space programme is mainly focused towards the development of space technologies that are mainly intended for the rapid and overall development of the country. But, the scientific satellites and spacecraft like Chandrayaan-1 and Mars Orbiter Spacecraft of our country have made valuable contribution towards further enhancing our knowledge about the universe.

For example, in November 2008, India became the only fourth individual country to reach the surface of the Moon when a probe which was as big as a TV set and carried by Chandrayaan- 1 into an orbit around the moon, successfully hit the lunar surface.

Later, by carefully studying the scientific information sent by Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft, scientists conclusively (without any doubt) discovered extremely small quantities of water on the moon!



Satellite Launch
Vehicle-3 (SLV-3)



Augmented Satellite
Launch Vehicle (ASLV)

Encouraged by the success of Chandrayaan-1, ISRO took up the far more challenging Mars Orbiter Mission. The main goal of this is to demonstrate the country's capability to build, launch and send an unmanned spacecraft to Mars.

Importance of Rockets

The ability of satellites to bring about significant improvements to our lives is without any doubt. But, to enable them to perform their assigned task properly, it is essential that those satellites have to be taken into space and placed in proper orbits around the Earth.

Giant rockets called 'launch vehicles' having many stages, perform that task. But, perfecting the launch vehicle technology is an immensely difficult and challenging task. Thus, only a few countries possess it.



PSLV on the First Launch Pad



GSLV equipped with indigenously developed Cryogenic Upper Stage Magnificiently lifts-off

Till now ISRO has developed five launch vehicles (SLV-3, ASLV, PSLV, GSLV and LVM3 which is also known as GSLV Mk-III) and mastered the technology of rockets that use solid, liquid as well as cryogenic propellants (fuel-oxidiser combination).

Many of our satellites and spacecraft were launched by our own Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV). These include Chandrayaan-1 and Mars Orbiter Spacecraft, which were passengers on-board PSLV.

In fact, PSLV has launched more foreign satellites than Indian ones. This indicates the confidence the outside world has in PSLV. During October 1994-April 2015 period, PSLV has scored 28 successes without a break!

One major milestone of the Indian space programme occurred on January 05, 2014. On that day, the mighty GSLV, standing as tall as a seventeen storey building, roared into the sky from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota island, which is the spaceport of India. In that flight, GSLV's third stage was a 'cryogenic' rocket stage developed by ISRO. It used super cooled rocket propellants. Some 18 minutes after the launch, GSLV placed the GSAT-14 satellite in the intended orbit very accurately.

A cryogenic rocket stage, though extremely complex, works very efficiently. With this success of GSLV, ISRO's mastery of rocket technology was quite complete.

Now, ISRO has taken up many more challenging tasks for the future. This includes the development of LVM3 (GSLV Mk-III), which is more efficient and capable than the GSLV.

The first experimental flight of LVM3 was conducted successfully on December 18, 2014 from Sriharikota. In that flight (LVM3-X), only the two large solid rocket boosters as well as the liquid core (central) stage of the vehicle were successfully tested. The third (cryogenic) stage which is still being developed, was not tested.

LVM3 carried the 3,775 kg 'Crew Module Atmospheric Re-entry Experiment (CARE)' to a height of 126 km in that flight. After that, CARE module successfully re-entered the Earth's atmosphere and safely landed over Andaman Sea with the help of its parachutes.



LVM3-X Lift-off

Mars Orbiter Mission:
Clear-cut Objectives, Tough Challenges

Any major effort undertaken should have a very clear goal or a set of objectives. Throughout human history, we see many examples of this. In the space field, this becomes very crucial because of the careful planning required to allocate the necessary human skill and money to realise the goal with split second accuracy.

The unimaginable speeds achieved and the temperature, forces and risks experienced during the journey of a rocket and a satellite in space make this inevitable. Thus, only a few countries are successful in mastering various technologies necessary for spaceflight. It is a matter of pride that India is one of them.

The main objective or goal of Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) is the demonstration of India's capability to build a spacecraft capable of travelling to Mars and survive in an orbit around the red planet. Thus, the main goal of MOM is mainly technological.

But that does not mean MOM does not have any scientific objectives. The mission also intended to gather useful scientific data about that planet during the spacecraft's journey to Mars, and more importantly, from a suitable orbit around that planet later.

The scientific data which is now being collected, is about the surface of Mars, its very thin atmosphere as well as the space near Mars.

The cost of Mars Orbiter Mission was estimated to be about 450 crore Indian Rupees (about 80 million American Dollars).

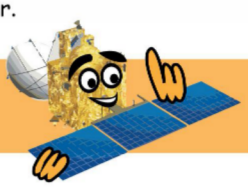


The spacecraft built for realising Mars Orbiter Mission is known as Mars Orbiter Spacecraft.

Compared to many other unmanned spacecraft that have explored Mars in the past, the goals of India's Mars Orbiter Spacecraft look quite modest. But, considering the innumerable difficulties involved in launching a spacecraft towards another planet, as well as India's lack of prior experience in this regard, the challenges that confronted ISRO scientists were very tough indeed.

Nevertheless, the successful entry of Mars Orbiter Spacecraft into a planned orbit around Mars on September 24, 2014 glaringly demonstrated the capability of India's space scientists and engineers to the outside world. After that, the spacecraft successfully completed six months in its Mars orbit. This indicated the total realisation of the primary objective of Mars Orbiter Mission.

In the history of Mars exploration, India is the only country to achieve total success in its very first attempt itself!



You see, I have well defined goals, which are already realised!

Mars Orbiter Spacecraft:
India's First Robotic Messenger to Mars

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on August 15, 2012 about India's intention to send a robotic spacecraft to Mars, Indian space scientists began working with new vigour. They had to build a spacecraft capable of travelling to Mars in about a year or so. This was a great challenge indeed.



Scientists working on Mars Orbiter Spacecraft's structural 'skeleton'

But hundreds of ISRO scientists overcame this challenge by sheer dedication and focussed their skills towards building a reliable Mars exploration spacecraft. Many Centres of ISRO scattered in different parts of India came together and contributed their might. The spacecraft started taking shape at ISRO Satellite Centre in Bangalore.

First, the 'skeleton' of India's Mars Orbiter Spacecraft was made ready. Then, it was taken to a huge 'clean room' and other parts of the spacecraft were brought there and assembled to the spacecraft in carefully planned steps.

A robotic spacecraft like Mars Orbiter Spacecraft functions like a human body in certain respects. It too needs a comfortable temperature range and energy (in this case it is electrical energy) to function properly. Such a spacecraft needs an electronic brain and sensing devices for coordination and stability. It faithfully reports its findings as well as information about its health to Earth through radio.

To change its path or to reorient itself, the robotic spacecraft needs rocket power. And to perform its assigned task, it carries scientific instruments or 'payloads', like a doctor carries a stethoscope and a thermometer.

The structure 'subsystem' of the Mars Orbiter Spacecraft resembles the skeletal system of the human body. It was built using various alloys and a special plastic material called 'Carbon Fibre Reinforced Plastic' or CFRP for short. CFRPs have high strength and are relatively lighter compared to metals.



Mars Orbiter Spacecraft during its construction at ISRO Satellite Centre

To enable the spacecraft to work in a safe temperature range, many coverings, special mirrors, paints, tapes and heaters were used. Of these, the one which is glaringly visible is the golden coloured 'thermal blanket' which resembles a chocolate wrapping!

Three solar panels of the spacecraft generate the electric power by converting sunlight to electricity. And, the large dish antenna of the spacecraft essentially helps it to communicate with the earth. Folded to the sides of the spacecraft during its journey in PSLV, these are deployed (made to spread out) in space.

Like any electrical device, say, a mobile phone, Mars Orbiter Spacecraft needs electrical power to work. Its three solar panels generate about 800 Watts of life giving electrical power near Mars (They generated more power near the Earth, which is much nearer to the Sun!). A rechargeable Lithium-Ion battery supplies power to the spacecraft when sunlight is not falling on the solar panels.

The 7 ft dish shaped antenna of the spacecraft essentially acts as its sensitive ear and mouth. It can transmit the information about the health of the spacecraft as well as the gathered scientific information and receive the radio commands sent from the Earth. The antenna also sends information that help scientists to accurately find out the position and movement of the spacecraft in during its Mars Odyssey.

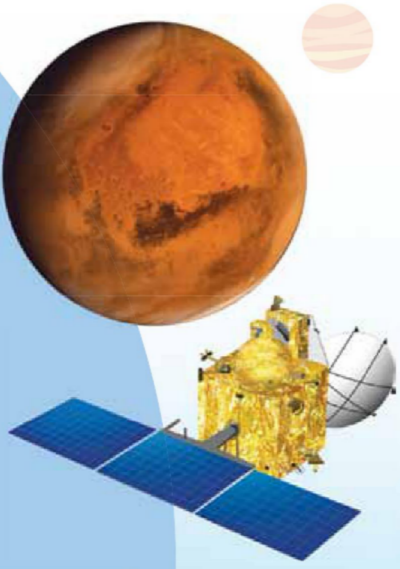


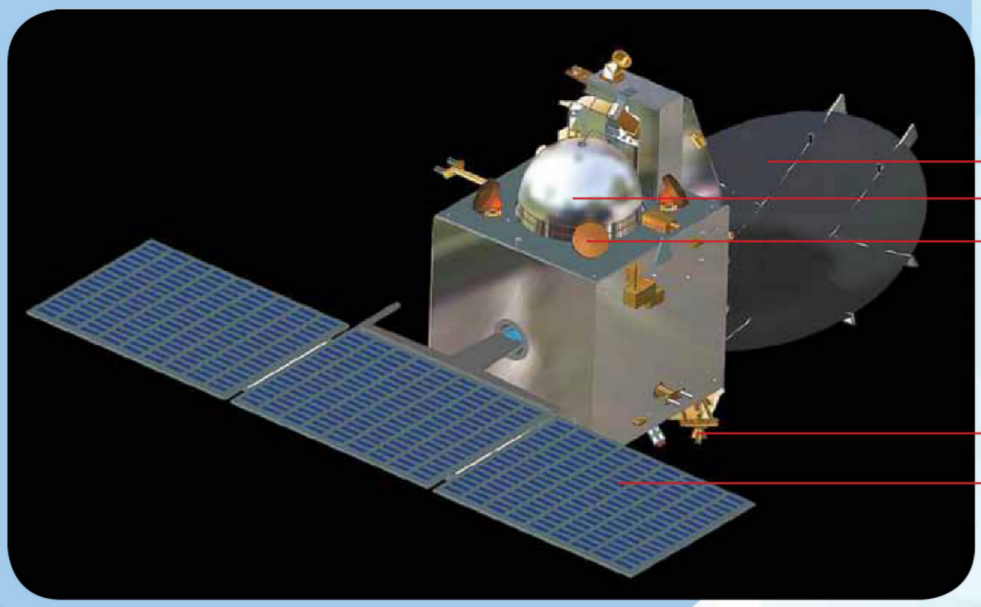
Scientists readying Mars Orbiter Spacecraft for a test at ISRO Satellite Centre, Bangalore

We humans stand upright and walk on two legs. This orientation is properly maintained by a mechanism in the inner ear of the human body. Similarly, to perform its assigned tasks properly, the Mars Orbiter Spacecraft needs to orient its various faces towards Earth, Mars and Sun. Electronic devices called Sun sensors and Star Sensors as well as gyroscopes provide the necessary reference information for this important task.

Using this information, the electronic brain of the Mars Orbiter Spacecraft does the necessary but highly complex calculations to perform the job of properly orienting the spacecraft. Besides, that brain instructs the four rapidly spinning wheels ('reaction wheels') in the spacecraft or the spacecraft's small rocket engines called 'thrusters' to actually perform that task.

One important feature of Mars Orbiter Spacecraft is its ability to take certain decisions on its own to maintain its working status. This is needed because of the difficulty of the scientists on the ground to immediately identify a problem on the spacecraft and to take suitable action very quickly. This is what they normally do in the case of artificial satellites.

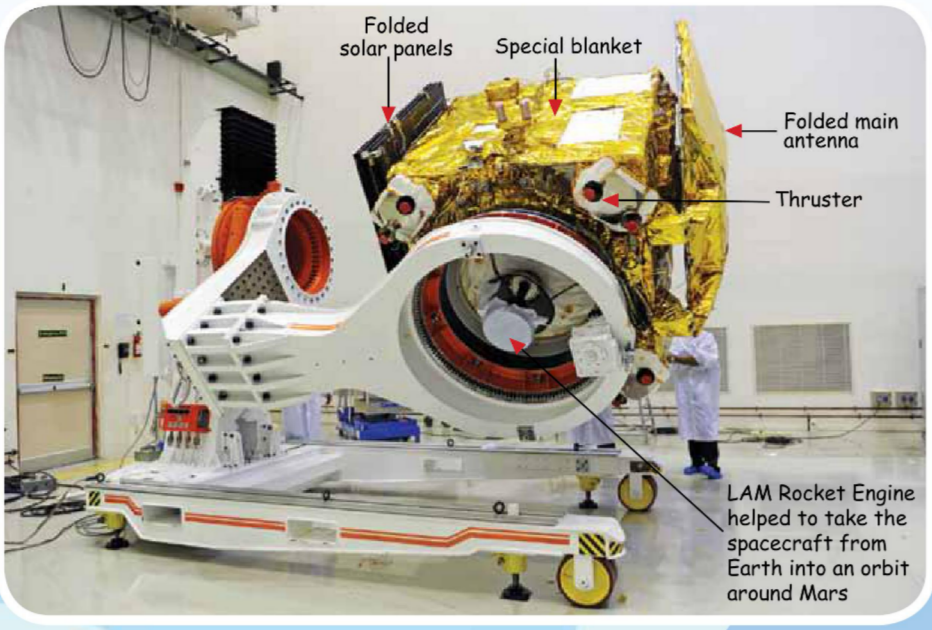




Mars Orbiter Spacecraft details

But, the enormous distance that separates Mars Orbiter Spacecraft and Earth results in considerable delay in the reception of the information sent by the spacecraft through radio. Same thing happens to the radio instructions sent by scientists to the spacecraft. This is the reason why ISRO scientists have put certain 'artificial intelligence' features into the electronic brain of the Mars Orbiter Spacecraft. This makes the spacecraft quite 'autonomous'.

With this feature, the spacecraft is able to identify some of its 'health problems' and can take corrective actions on its own immediately.



Mars Orbiter Spacecraft in a clean room in Sriharikota before its launch

PSLV-C25 rocket that launched Mars Orbiter Spacecraft only carried it into a large egg shaped orbit around the Earth (not Mars!). From there, the job of taking the spacecraft to distant Mars and to make it to circle the red planet was assigned to the spacecraft's main rocket engine known as LAM.

The liquid propellants (fuel-oxidiser combination) needed for LAM as well as its eight thrusters were stored in the spacecraft itself. It was mainly LAM, supported by the eight 'thrusters', that was responsible for the successful entry of the spacecraft into an orbit around Mars on September 24, 2014.

At the time of its launch, Mars Orbiter Spacecraft weighed 1,337 kg. Of that total weight, 850 kg was of propellants. The rocket propellants stored inside the spacecraft are Mono Methyl Hydrazine or MMH and Mixed Oxides of Nitrogen or MON-3.

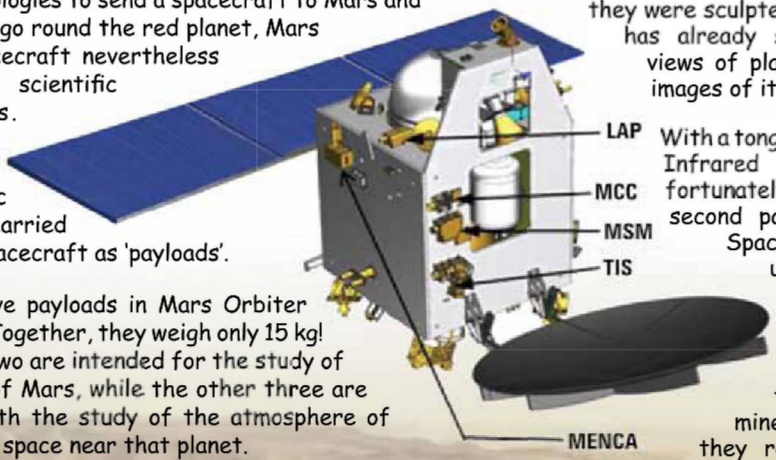
In this way, Mars Orbiter Spacecraft, which is a confluence of various 'subsystems' (like nervous system, digestive system or circulatory system), functions as a 'system' (human body in many respects).



Scientific Instruments of India's Mars Spacecraft

Despite being a spacecraft built mainly to demonstrate Indian technologies to send a spacecraft to Mars and to make it to go round the red planet, Mars Orbiter Spacecraft nevertheless carries five scientific instruments. Scientists refer to the scientific instruments carried by robotic spacecraft as 'payloads'.

There are five payloads in Mars Orbiter Spacecraft. Together, they weigh only 15 kg! Of the five, two are intended for the study of the surface of Mars, while the other three are concerned with the study of the atmosphere of Mars and the space near that planet.



The first payload of Mars Orbiter Spacecraft is 'Mars Colour Camera'. As the name itself indicates, this camera was built to take the pictures of the Martian surface. By looking at those pictures, scientists can study various events taking place on the surface of Mars. They can also study the surface features of Mars and try to understand the way in which they were sculpted by nature. This camera has already sent many breathtaking views of planet Mars as well as the images of its two natural satellites.

With a tongue twisting name 'Thermal Infrared Imaging Spectrometer', fortunately shortened as 'TIS', the second payload of Mars Orbiter Spacecraft helps us study and understand the minerals on the surface of Mars.

It is interesting to note that scientists recognise the existence of various minerals by studying the way they reflect or emit infrared waves.



The Martian moon Phobos, seen by Mars Colour Camera as a pebble against the background of Mars



This takes color pictures of Mars



Mars Color Camera (MCC)

This helps us to study the minerals on Mars



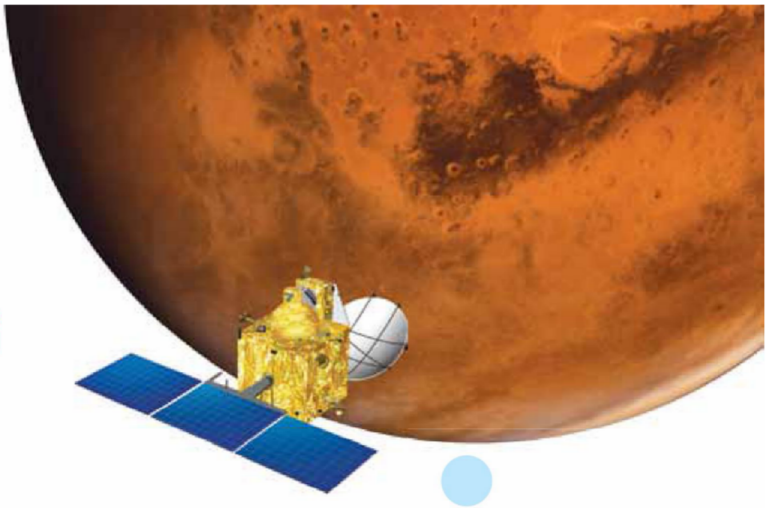
Thermal Infrared Imaging Spectrometer (TIIS)



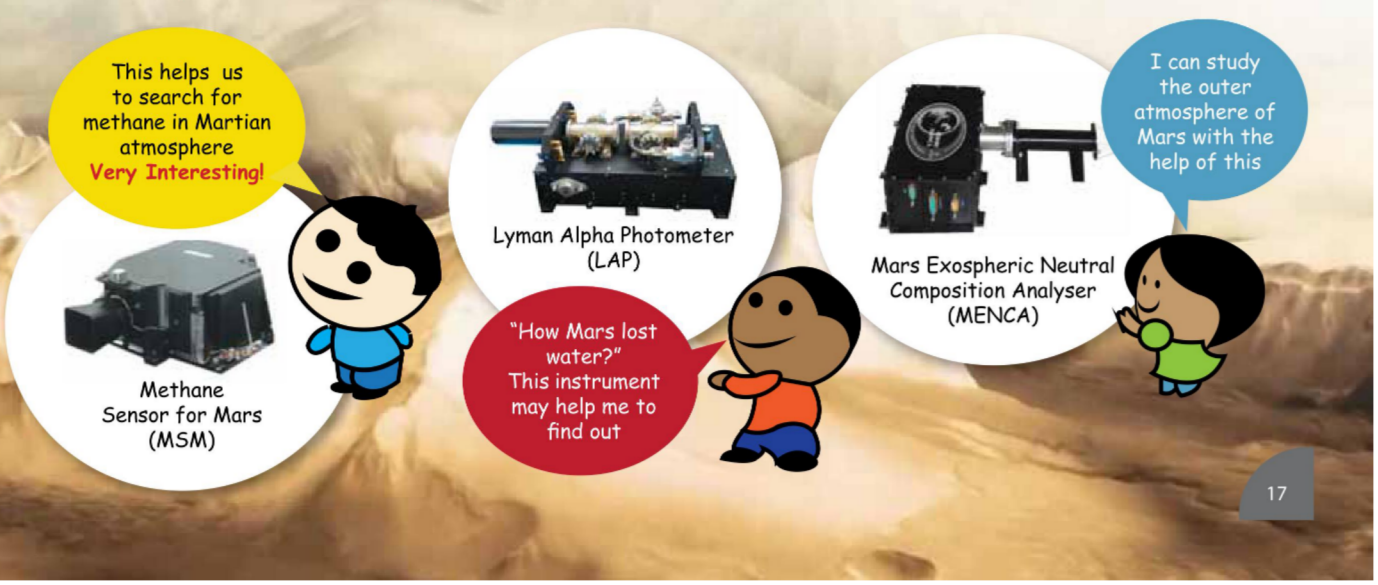
The third payload on India's first Mars spacecraft is called 'Methane Sensor for Mars'. This highly sensitive instrument is built to sense the extremely minute quantities of Methane gas possibly present in the thin atmosphere of Mars. At the same time, this scientific instrument may help us identify the source of that Methane. This is very important since Methane can be generated through geological as well as biological processes.

One of the questions haunting scientists today is about the loss of water from Mars. Lyman Alpha Photometer or LAP for short, the fourth payload of Mars Orbiter Spacecraft, may help scientists to understand the way water was lost from the Martian atmosphere in the past.

The fifth scientific instrument of Mars Orbiter Spacecraft is yet another payload with a tongue twisting name 'Mars Exospheric Neutral Composition Analyser'. Its name is also shortened as 'MENCA'. This instrument will study neutral atoms in the outer atmosphere of Mars. It is expected that MENCA may help us understand as to how most of the once thick atmosphere of Mars escaped gradually.



In this way, the five scientific instruments carried by Mars Orbiter Spacecraft have been chosen for the purpose of understanding the history of Mars, especially the way it changed over time and allow us to make an attempt to indirectly probe the possibility of microscopic life there.



PSLV: The Muscle Power to Lift Mars Orbiter Spacecraft from the Mother Earth

Do you know which is the most challenging phase of the journey of a spacecraft like our Mars Orbiter Spacecraft travelling from Earth to Mars? It is the journey from the surface of the Earth to an orbit around it!

To leave the mother Earth is not easy. For that, the spacecraft has to oppose the tremendous gravity of the Earth that continuously attracts objects towards its centre. Besides, the spacecraft has to pass through Earth's thick atmosphere which also opposes the movement of a vehicle through it.

Rockets are the only known vehicles capable of opposing the mighty gravitational force of the Earth and travel in the vacuum of space. Thus, they are utilised for launching satellites as well as manned and unmanned spacecraft to Earth orbit and beyond.

The giant rocket, to be more precise, the 'launch vehicle' that lifted Mars Orbiter Spacecraft from the surface of the Earth and put it into a 'parking orbit' around the Earth was Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle or PSLV. Before launching Mars Orbiter Spacecraft, this 'trusted work horse' of ISRO had scored 23 successes continuously.

As the 15 storey high PSLV stood majestically on the First Launch Pad at Sriharikota Island, it looked like a giant pencil from a distance. Placed on top of one another were the four stages of PSLV. The 1,337 kg Mars Orbiter Spacecraft was placed over the fourth stage of PSLV and was covered by the heat shield of the rocket. This would protect the spacecraft as PSLV sliced through the Earth's atmosphere at tremendous speed.





Mars Orbiter Spacecraft mounted on top of PSLV-C25 fourth stage

Beautiful sight of PSLV-C25 lift-off

On November 05, 2013 at 2:38 pm in the afternoon, the twenty fifth flight of PSLV (named as PSLV-C25) began. As the first stage of the rocket roared into life, it magnificently soared into the sky. In the next 9 minutes that followed, the first three stages of PSLV as well as its six smaller rockets called 'strap-ons', worked perfectly and separated from the rest of the rocket at the assigned time. In between, once the PSLV cleared thick atmosphere, the heat shield was also discarded and Mars Orbiter Spacecraft was exposed to space.

Then, for nearly 24 minutes, PSLV continued its journey without any power. Later, the two engines of the PSLV fourth stage started firing right on time. Ultimately, about 44 minutes after lift-off, PSLV provided the necessary speed (to be more precise, velocity) to Mars Orbiter Spacecraft to go round the Earth in a 'parking orbit' and separated. This speed was about 35,000 kilometres per hour!

In this highly oval shaped orbit, the spacecraft was at a distance of only 248 km from the Earth's surface at its nearest point, but 23,553 km at its farthest point. And, it took some six hours to circle the Earth once.

Two Indian ships stationed on the vast Pacific Ocean – Yamuna and Nalanda – equipped with dish shaped radio antennas, monitored the performance of the PSLV fourth stage as well as the successful entry of the spacecraft into its 'Earth Parking Orbit'.





An Indian ship carrying dish antenna to monitor the flight of PSLV-C25

Thus, the most difficult phase of the journey of Mars Orbiter Spacecraft was successfully accomplished, thanks to the highly reliable PSLV, which scored yet another sweet success!

Spacecraft's Odyssey from Earth to Mars

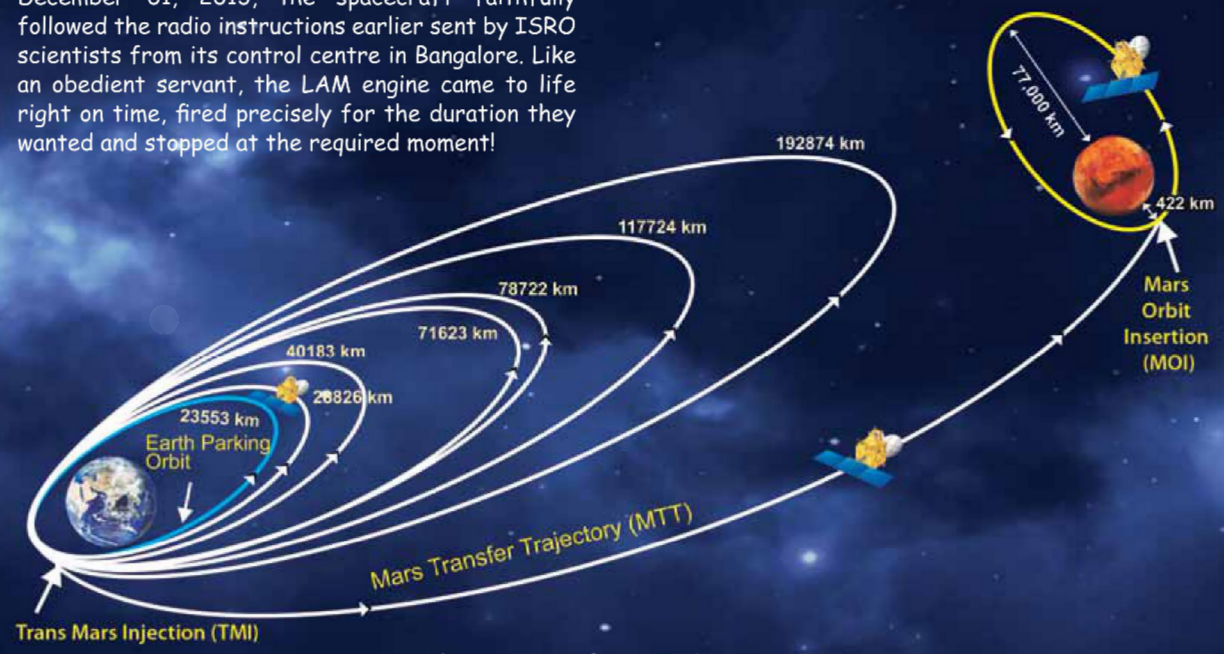
Following the successful completion of the first phase of its long journey to Mars, the Mars Orbiter Spacecraft was ready for the next step. That was known as 'orbit raising'.

During that phase, the main liquid rocket engine (LAM) of the spacecraft was fired six times. This was done during November 7th to 16th of 2013, when the spacecraft was at its nearest point to earth. Each time when LAM was fired, the farthest point of the orbit climbed higher and higher, finally reaching almost 193,000 km!

And now, the time was ripe for yet another important step. In the early morning hours of December 01, 2013, the spacecraft faithfully followed the radio instructions earlier sent by ISRO scientists from its control centre in Bangalore. Like an obedient servant, the LAM engine came to life right on time, fired precisely for the duration they wanted and stopped at the required moment!

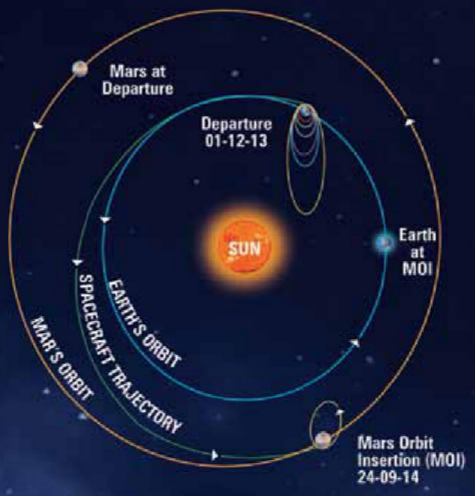
With this precise rocket firing, Mars Orbiter Spacecraft acquired sufficient energy to escape from circling the Earth and followed a path ('Mars Transfer Trajectory') that would take it near Mars on September 24, 2014.

A few days after its escape from the Earth orbit, as it crossed a distance of about a million kilometres from the Earth, the spacecraft left Earth's sphere of influence. In the following 300 days or so, it would have to travel a distance of about 667 million kilometres (nearly 67 crore kilometres) to reach Mars.



The progress of Mars Orbiter Mission

As it sped towards its target point in deep space, scientists who built that spacecraft thoroughly tested it. Besides, its scientific instruments (remember, they are referred to as 'payloads' by scientists) were also checked out thoroughly. On April 09, 2014, Mars Orbiter Spacecraft successfully crossed half way mark in its journey to Mars.





Shri Narendra Modi, Honourable Prime Minister of India, addressing from the Spacecraft Control Centre after the successful Mars Orbit Insertion on September 24, 2014

By September 15, 2014, India's Mars Orbiter Spacecraft had covered about 653 million kilometres (65.3 crore kilometres) from Earth in its curved path around the Sun. This was 98% of its total travel distance to Mars. On that day, a radio message from Earth to spacecraft took about 12 minutes to reach it and again the same time to reach the Earth back!

So, after saying 'hello' to the spacecraft through radio, one had to wait for about 24 minutes to receive the acknowledgement of that 'hello' from the spacecraft on that day!

On the early morning of September 24, 2014, the spacecraft was made to slowly turn and orient its LAM in the required direction. This was to ensure that the firing of LAM would put a break to the speed of the spacecraft.

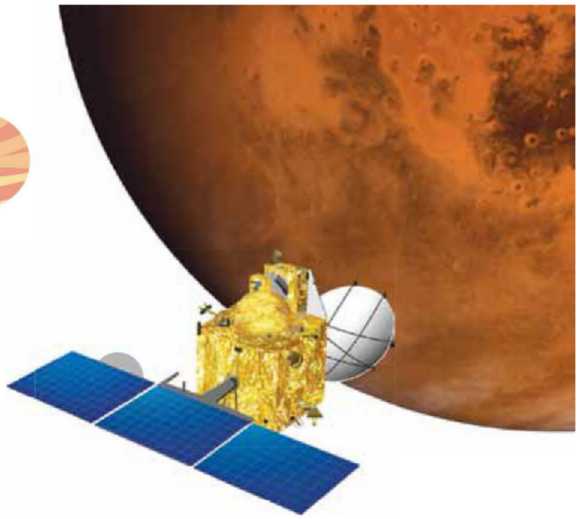
Then at 7:17 am IST on that day, as the spacecraft passed close to Mars, its main rocket engine (LAM) fired once again, right on time!. Along with it, eight 'thrusters' of the spacecraft also fired.

This LAM firing, which lasted for about 24 minutes, slowed down the spacecraft sufficiently and allowed the weak gravity of Mars (compared to Earth) to 'capture' the spacecraft in a highly oval shaped orbit around that planet.

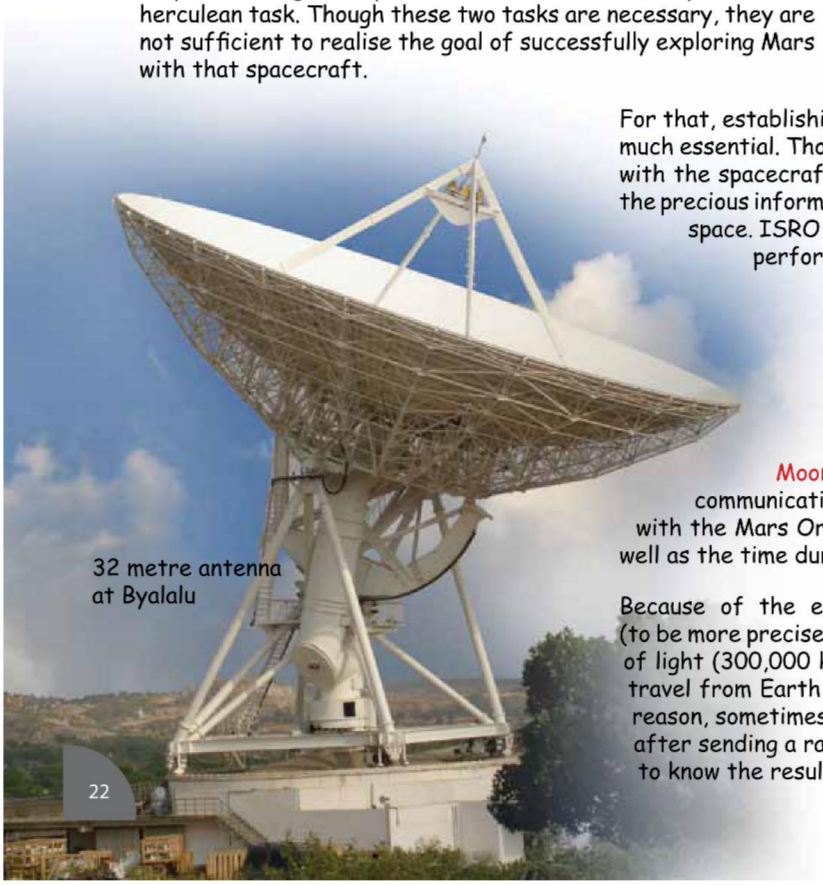
Thus, India achieved a roaring success in its very first attempt to put a spacecraft into an orbit around Mars. The Prime Minister of India was present at the satellite control centre to witness this momentous event.

Later, ISRO scientists began the observation of Mars in a methodical way with the help of the spacecraft's five payloads.

Ground Facilities:
The Vital Link Between the Spacecraft and Earth



Building a spacecraft capable of travelling to planet Mars and explore the red planet while circling it, is undoubtedly a complex task indeed. Besides, perfecting a giant rocket capable of very accurately launching that spacecraft into Earth orbit as a first step in sending the spacecraft towards Mars, is yet another herculean task. Though these two tasks are necessary, they are not sufficient to realise the goal of successfully exploring Mars with that spacecraft.



32 metre antenna at Byalalu

For that, establishing well-equipped ground facilities becomes very much essential. Those facilities should be capable of communicating with the spacecraft, controlling it as well as receiving and storing the precious information sent by that spacecraft from the depths of space. ISRO has well established ground facilities capable of performing these tasks. They had proved their worth during Chandrayaan-1, India's first mission to explore the Moon. And, those facilities were suitably upgraded for the Mars Orbiter Mission.

Remember, even at its nearest, Mars is about 150 times as far from the Earth as the Moon is! This complicates the task of building radio communication equipment that can help us to be in touch with the Mars Orbiter Spacecraft during its journey to Mars as well as the time during which it circles Mars.

Because of the enormous distance involved, even radio waves (to be more precise, in this case microwaves) travelling at the speed of light (300,000 kilometres per second!) take tens of minutes to travel from Earth to a spacecraft orbiting Mars. Because of this reason, sometimes ISRO Scientists have to wait up to 42 minutes after sending a radio instruction to the Mars Orbiter Spacecraft to know the result of their action!



ISRO scientists at Mars Orbiter Spacecraft Control Centre

For communicating with the Mars Orbiter Spacecraft, ISRO scientists have been mainly using a giant dish shaped radio antenna which is 32 metre (105 feet) wide. This was conceived and built by Indian Engineers.

Equipped with special mirror like devices, this ground antenna acts as the 'sensitive ear' to listen to the faint radio signals 'whispered' by Mars Orbiter Spacecraft. Those unbelievably faint radio signals carry information about the health of the spacecraft as well as the precious information gathered by the spacecraft's scientific instruments.

Besides, this antenna behaves like a 'loud mouth' to transmit radio instructions to that spacecraft. This huge antenna is situated in a place called Byalalu, about 35 km from Bangalore. Another nearby antenna which is 18 metre wide was also used for this work. These two antennas are part of what is known as 'Indian Deep Space Network'.

Besides these antennas, Byalalu has yet another important facility. This obtains, processes, systematically stores and distributes the precious scientific information from Mars Orbiter Spacecraft received by ground antennas.

It is called Indian Space Science Data Centre. This sophisticated digital 'library' also contains the precious data (scientific information) sent by the earlier Chandrayaan-1 during its active life in 2008-09.

The 'nerve centre' of all the important activities of Mars Orbiter Mission is a very high tech Spacecraft Control Centre situated at Peenya, in North Bangalore.

Engineers who guide and control Mars Orbiter Spacecraft work there 24 hours a day and seven days a week! They cautiously monitor the health of Mars Orbiter Spacecraft as well as the progress of its flight and maintain it safely in space.

Thus, ISRO has a set of highly capable ground facilities as well to realise the goals of Mars Orbiter Mission.



A view of Indian Space Science Data Centre

Having patiently struggled to make Mars Orbiter Mission a success, ISRO is now filled with a sense of immense satisfaction after the safe entry of Mars Orbiter Spacecraft into the desired orbit around planet Mars on September 24, 2014 and the spacecraft's successful completion of six months in that orbit.

This is understandable since ISRO has achieved grand success in its very first attempt to send a robotic spacecraft to the distant Mars as well as to make it to go round the red planet.

Undoubtedly, Mars Orbiter Mission is one of the greatest achievements of modern India. This should inspire our younger generation to take up more challenging space endeavours in future.