



Women Pioneers in India's Space and Missile Programmes

Tessy Thomas, known as the “**Missile Woman of India**” and “Agni Putri”, became the first woman scientist to head a major missile project, contributing to the Agni-IV and Agni-V programmes at DRDO. Her career marked a milestone in women's participation in strategic technology.

Other prominent pioneers include **Ritu Karidhal**, associated with Mangalyaan and Chandrayaan-2; **Muthayya Vanitha**, Project Director of Chandrayaan-2; and **Anuradha T.K.**, the first woman to lead an ISRO satellite project, specialising in communication satellites.

APSC Relevance: Women in Science, Space Technology