

## GPS GOES DESI

# Indian firm's UTRAQ to receive NAVIC signals

Mobiles and automobiles will soon get signals from ISRO satellite

### OUR BUREAU

New Delhi, September 21

UTRAQ, a system to receive signals from NAVIC, the Indian equivalent of the GPS system, designed and controlled by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), was launched here on Friday.

Speaking to mediapersons, Shivang Luthra, Managing Director, RamaKrishna Electro Components, said the company will roll-out samples in October and will start commercialisation a few months later.

### A joint effort

Currently, most devices such as mobiles or automobiles are designed to receive signals from GPS (Global Positioning System) owned by the US government, or from Russia's GLONASS. There are barely any players making a system that can receive NAVIC signals.

The system was jointly designed by RamaKrishna Elec-

tro Components, a Chinese company Shanghai Mobiletek Communications, and ST Microelectronics of Switzerland.

UTRAQ is owned by REC and manufactured by Shanghai Mobiletek in China. Mass production will begin in India after the successful penetration in the Indian region under the Make In India Programme.

**Shivang Luthra, Managing Director, RamaKrishna Electro Components, said the company will roll out samples in October and will start commercialisation a few months later**

According to a source, the Indian space agency is looking for more domestic industries to come forward to make a system that can receive NAVIC.

### Regional system

NAVIC (NAVigation with Indian Constellation) is the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System developed and controlled by the Indian Space Research Organisation. It covers India and a region extending 1,500 km around it, with further plans for extension.

It operates at L5 and S frequency band and positioned in the geostationary orbit. This means it has high visibility, better signal and, hence, is more accurate compared to the existing navigation systems.