



# Countdown Report

[▶ Launch Overview](#)[▶ Launch Preparation Report](#)[▶ Countdown Report](#)[▶ Launch Gallery](#)[▶ Press Releases](#)[Special Site Top > Countdown Report](#)

## Countdown Report

Please reload this page for the latest on the launch.

Launch result of the Global Change Observation Mission 1st - Water "SHIZUKU" (GCOM-W1) and the Korea Multipurpose Satellite-3 "Arirang 3" (KOMPSAT-3) by the H-IIA Launch Vehicle No. 21 .

May 18, 2012 05:10 JST

Please refer to the [news page](#).

Separation of "SHIZUKU" (GCOM-W1) confirmed

May 18, 2012 03:40 JST

The separation of "SHIZUKU" (GCOM-W1) has been confirmed. Updated status of "SHIZUKU" after the separation from the launch vehicle is available at any time on JAXA's website. This is the end of our countdown report. Thank you for visiting our website.

Separation of "Arirang 3" (KOMPSAT-3) confirmed

May 18, 2012 01:55 JST

The separation of "Arirang 3" (KOMPSAT-3) has been confirmed. For your information, our report to confirm the separation of 'SHIZUKU' (GCOM-W1) is scheduled to start at about 4:00 JST.

X+1'00"

May 18, 2012 01:40 JST

H-IIA F21 is flying smoothly at present.

Liftoff

May 18, 2012 01:39 JST

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) has launched the H-IIA Launch Vehicle No. 21 carrying "SHIZUKU" and "Arirang 3" at 01:39 on May 18, 2012 JST from the Tanegashima Space Center.



[Click image to enlarge](#)



[Click image to enlarge](#)

Liftoff of H-IIA F21 (2)

### Automatic countdown sequence to start

May 18, 2012 01:34 JST

It is 4 minutes and 30 seconds before liftoff. The automatic countdown sequence has started.

### X-30 minutes

May 18, 2012 01:09 JST

It is 30 minutes before launch. You can enjoy the live launch webcast on JAXA's website.

### X-60 minutes

May 18, 2012 00:39 JST

It is 60 minutes before launch. The final countdown operation has started. "JAXA Broadcast" (live launch webcast) will start at around 1:10.

### Third Go/No Go Decision

May 18, 2012 00:30 JST

The green light has been given to the X-60 minutes terminal countdown operation.

### Attitude control system flight slew test completed

May 17, 2012 23:58 JST

The second attitude control system flight slew test has been completed.

### Radio frequency system checked up

May 17, 2012 22:01 JST

The radio frequency system between H-IIA F21 and the ground stations has been checked up.

### First stage and second stage liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen tanks fully loaded

May 17, 2012 20:55 JST

It has been confirmed that the first- and second-stage liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen tanks have been fully loaded.



[Click image to enlarge](#)

H-IIA F21 – Both liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen tanks fully loaded

### Attitude control system flight slew test completed

May 17, 2012 19:39 JST

By running programs of the guidance and control system mounted on H-IIA F21, it has been confirmed that all devices for flight attitude control are working as expected.

### Access restrictions to start within a radius of 3,000 meters from launch pad.

May 17, 2012 18:55 JST

Access will now be restricted within a radius of 3,000 meters from the launch pad.

### Pre-cooling operation for ground facilities to start

May 17, 2012 17:54 JST

Pre-cooling operation for the ground liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen systems has started.

### Terminal countdown operation to start

May 17, 2012 16:10 JST

Terminal countdown operation has started. Access will now be restricted within a radius of 400 meters from the launch pad.



[Click image to enlarge](#)

Terminal countdown operation has started

### Second Go/No Go Decision –'Go'

May 17, 2012 15:37 JST

Final checks have been made for operational conditions of the launch vehicle, satellites, launch facilities, and tracking and control systems, as well as weather conditions. We now have gotten a go-ahead for loading the propellant, such as liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen, into the launch vehicle. Propellant loading preparations are going to start.

### H-IIA F21 to arrive at launch pad

May 17, 2012 12:56 JST

H-IIA F21 has arrived at the launch pad. The launch vehicle is going to be connected to the pad facilities.



[Click image to enlarge](#)

Snapshot of launch site



[Click image to enlarge](#)

H-IIA F21 on the way to launch pad



[Click image to enlarge](#)

H-IIA F21 has arrived at launch pad



[Click image to enlarge](#)

H-IIA F21 has arrived at launch pad

## H-IIA F21 on the way to launch pad

May 17, 2012 12:30 JST

H-IIA F21 carrying "SHIZUKU" and "Arirang 3" has left for the launch pad. H-IIA F21, mounted on a mobile launcher, will travel approximately 500 meters from the Vehicle Assembly Building to the launch pad. This will take about 30 minutes.

This is an updated launch countdown report on the Global Change Observation Mission 1st – Water "SHIZUKU" (GCOM-W1) and the Korea Multipurpose Satellite-3 "Arirang 3" (KOMPSAT-3) which will be launched using the H-IIA No. 21 Launch Vehicle (H-IIA F21). After the weather conditions checked out, the green light has been given for H-IIA F21 carrying "SHIZUKU" and "Arirang 3" to leave the Vehicle Assembly Building for the launch pad. The scheduled launch time zone is May 18, 2012 01:39 – 01:42 JST.