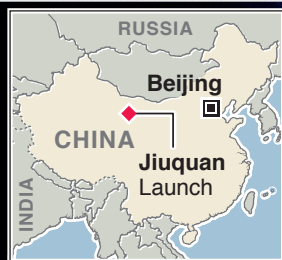


China sends first woman astronaut into space

Three Chinese astronauts, including 34-year-old *Liu Yang* (right) will live and work on a space station for a week, a key step towards China's goal of becoming only the third nation with a permanent base orbiting Earth



TIANGONG-1
Weight:
8 tonnes
Length: 9m

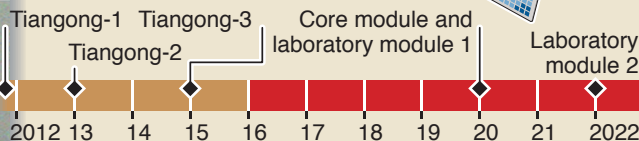
Experiment module:
Two astronauts will live inside to test life-support systems – third will remain in capsule to deal with unexpected emergencies

Resource module: Contains fuel, air, water and other support equipment

LAUNCHER
Long March 2F
Height: 62m
Payload: 8.5 tonnes

SHENZHOU-9
Second craft to dock with Tiangong 1 space station, and first manned docking

Mission will feature China's first attempt at manual space docking



FUTURE CHINESE SPACE STATION

