

China's Tianzhou-1 set for lift-off

China is planning to launch its first cargo spacecraft, Tianzhou-1, which will deliver supplies to the orbiting Tiangong-2 laboratory as part of efforts to develop a permanent Chinese space station by 2022

LONG MARCH-7 Y2

Tianzhou carrier rocket.
Height: 53m

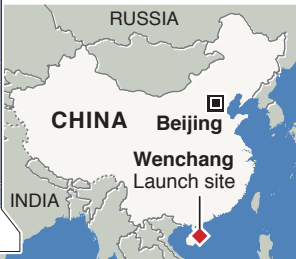
TIANZHOU-1

Uncrewed freighter will demonstrate in-orbit cargo transfer needed to resupply future Chinese space station.
Length: 10m
Weight: 13.5 tonnes (includes six tonnes of cargo)

TIANGONG-2: No crew on board for Tianzhou mission.
Hatches between two craft will remain closed

Docking: Tianzhou will dock three times to transfer fuel to Tiangong's tanks. Mission will also test six-hour fast rendezvous procedure

At end of five-month mission, Tianzhou will be de-orbited and burn up in Earth's atmosphere



FUTURE SPACE STATION

