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LEADING THE NEWS

Nair Named Head Of International Academy Of Astronautics.

India's [Khabrein.info](#) (8/31) reported, "ISRO chief Madhavan Nair has been appointed the chief of chairman of the International Academy Astronautics. It is a big achievement for any Indian scientist." In listing Nair's accomplishments, the article notes Nair's "focus has always been to achieve self-reliance in the high technology areas and to bring the benefits of space technology to the national development, specially targeting the needs of the rural and poor sections of the society." India's [IANS](#) (8/31) noted Nair is the "first Indian and first non-American to hold the post. He will formally take over Oct 16," an unnamed official stated.