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New satellites will help Gaganyaan crew

Astronauts can be fully and continuously in touch with mission control throughout their travel

By: Subhash D. Sargam

India plans to bring its own星座 into space in 2025 as part of the Gaganyaan mission. The spacecraft will launch a satellite called the Indian Data Relay Satellite System (IDRSSS).

Relay Satellite

• Help to transfer data between ground and space

IDRSSS

• Under development

• To be in touch with Indian Satellites, especially in low Earth Orbit (1600 km - 2000 km) - limited coverage of LEO Satellites

• First beneficiary of IDRSSS would be crew members of Gaganyaan - IDRSSS would make it 100% visible

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I—(200 marks)

• Current events of national and international importance.

Part B—Main Examination


• Science and Technology developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.

• Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.

• Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements regarding Relay Satellites.

1. They serve as a way to pass along the satellite’s information to the ground station and vice versa.
2. Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System is India’s indigenous relay satellite system.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
A case for including Tulu in the Eighth Schedule

Placing all deserving languages on an equal footing will promote social inclusion and national solidarity

KAMBAR K. KADUR

According to the 2011 Census, Tulu, a Dravidian language spoken by over 10 million people, is ranked 22nd among all the languages of India. Despite its widespread usage, Tulu is not one of the 22 languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. This omission has led to a feeling of neglect among the Tulu-speaking community, creating a sense of marginalization.

Arguments in favor of inclusion:

1. **Social and Cultural Significance:** Tulu is an important language in the Coastal Karnataka region, with a rich cultural heritage. Its inclusion in the Eighth Schedule would recognize the linguistic and cultural identity of the Tulu-speaking community.

2. **Economic Benefits:** The inclusion of Tulu in the Eighth Schedule could lead to better education and employment opportunities for the community, thereby improving the socio-economic status.

3. **Political Stance:** The government's decision on Tulu's inclusion in the Eighth Schedule could set a precedent for recognizing other regional languages, thereby promoting linguistic justice.

Arguments against inclusion:

1. **Economic Feasibility:** Including all 22 languages in the Eighth Schedule could lead to increased administrative costs, which might not be feasible in the current economic scenario.

2. **Balancing Act:** The government has to balance the needs of smaller linguistic communities with the practicalities of managing a diverse linguistic landscape.

3. **Historical Context:** The Constitution of India has been amended several times, and including Tulu now might not align with the principles laid down at the time of its establishment.

**Conclusion:**

While inclusion in the Eighth Schedule is desirable for the Tulu-speaking community, the decision should weigh the benefits against the constraints. A balanced approach considering the needs of smaller linguistic communities and the practicalities of governance is essential.
### LANGUAGES INCLUDED IN EIGHTH SCHEDULE (22)

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**Tulu**

- Dravidian language
- Tulu speakers concentrated in Karnataka (Dakshin Kannada Dist, Udupi Dist) and Kerala (Kasaragod Dist)

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**Editorial**

**Reasons why Tulu should be included in Eighth Schedule:**

- Article 29 of Indian Constitution
  - Right to conserve distinct language, script or culture
- Languages with large number of speakers (Tulu, Bhili, Gondi, Khasi, Oraon, etc) not included when compared to languages like Sanskrit and Manipuri that are included in Eighth Schedule.

- **Tulu → One of the most highly developed languages of the Dravidian family (Robert Caldwell)**
India needs to learn from Yuelu Proclamation

Yuelu Proclamation

- Made by UNESCO in 2018 at Changsha, China
- Protection and promotion of linguistic diversity in the world
  - Crucial to achieve SDGs
  - Requires proactive, accountable and measurable participation of all sectors of the international community
  - Essential to combine with the development of Science and Technology

Conclusion

- Tulu and other deserving languages should be included in the Eighth language; it will
  - Promote social inclusion
  - Promote national solidarity
  - Reduce the inequalities within India

Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Which of the following languages are included in the Eighth Schedule of Indian Constitution?

1. Konkani
2. Gondi
3. Santhali
4. Dogri

Choose the correct answer from the statement given below.

a) 1, 2 and 4 only
b) 1, 3 and 4 only
c) 2, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2 and 3 only
Oil tops $70 as Iran, Trump trade threats
West Asia accounts for almost half of the world's crude production

The International Energy Agency expect 2021 to be the year of oil recovery, with output set to increase by 6 million barrels per day (bpd), or 6.5 percent, to 97 million bpd by the end of the year. This is the highest level in over a decade, marking a major milestone in the global oil market as countries emerge from the pandemic.

Trump threatens Iraq with sanctions

U.S. President Donald Trump has threatened "major retaliation" if Iran avenges the killing of Qasem Soleimani, a key military commander, and warned of massive economic sanctions against all of Iraq if the country expels U.S. troops based there. He added that a forced departure of U.S. troops from Iraq would prompt sanctions even worse than those already imposed on Iran's economy. "If they do ask us to leave—we do it in a very friendly basis—we will change them sanctions like they've never seen before," Mr. Trump said. "It will make Iranian sanctions look somewhat tame."

On Sunday, Iraqi parliamentarians voted in favour of expelling U.S. forces from the country.

Markets panic over war fears in West Asia

Special Correspondent

Tensions in West Asia washed up on Indian shores as markets panicked fears of a war, with major indices plunging sharply and the rupee breaching the 72-mark to the dollar.

The Sensex suffered its worst fall in a year, losing 787.08 points as crude oil prices rose by over a dollar to a barrel, setting off a flood of inflation and worries over the fiscal deficit.

As many as 28 constituents of the 30-share Sensex ended the day in the red, with shares of HDFC, HDFC Bank, Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank, the State Bank of India and Tata Steel, among others, shedding more than 2% each.

The broader Nifty fell below the psychological 12,000-mark.
**Part A—Preliminary Examination**

**Paper I - (200 marks)**
- Current events of national and international importance.
- Economic and Social Development

**Part B—Main Examination**

**PAPER-II**

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.
- History of the world

**PAPER-III**

General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
- India and its neighborhood-relations.
- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.
- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India’s interests, Indian diaspora.

**PAPER-IV**

General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management
- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment.

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- Assassination of Qassem Soleimani and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis → by US Troops
  - drone attack

**Consequences**

- Attack seen as declaration of war on Iraq and Iran

  - Iraqi Prime Minister
    - act of aggression against Iraq
    - would start a war

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**DEFINITION OF AGGRESSION**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 3314 (XXIX)
14 December 1974

Article I

Aggression is the use of armed force by a State against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of another State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations, as set out in this Definition.

Explanatory note: In this Definition the term "State":

(a) Is used without prejudice to questions of recognition or to whether a State is a member of the United Nations;
(b) Includes the concept of a "group of States" where appropriate.
• Iraqi Parliament → "America Out, Baghdad remains free"
  ➔ voted to expel the U.S. troops stationed in Iraq - denying airspace, land or water

• USA → threatened Iraq, with sanctions - if troops are forced to pull back

• Three-cornered crisis → US, Iraq, & Iran

• Iraq Parliament → Iraq P.M. → formal compliant to the UN against USA

• Serious violations + Breaching of Iraqi Sovereignty

• Author's view → China and Russia likely to table resolution in UN for,
  ➔ Calmness of the region + criticizing USA
  ➔ Will be vetoed by USA

---

• Possible retaliation by pro-Iranian groups across region
  ➔ from Lebanon (Hezbollah) to Afghanistan (Liwa Fatemiyoun)

• Soleimani
  ➔ "muse that holds Resistance Axis together"

• Detrimental to US troops and personnel

• 'WAR'
  ➔ Awakening of patriotism in Iran
     ➔ People asking for revenge

  ➔ Sign on war → Red flag hoisted on a significant Mosque in Qom city, Iran

  ➔ Hezbollah leader → Turning point in the history of 'region' - start of new U.S. war in the 'region'

• USA does not have support on the international arena

• Brazen killing of officials → shocked the allies.

• President of USA → USA will strike "52 Iranian Sites" including cultural sites
  ➔ flagrant war crime.
### Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy

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<td>1. Rise in oil prices</td>
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<td>2. Impact on oil supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Strait of Hormuz could be blocked by Iran</td>
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<td>- If sanctions imposed by USA on Iraq affect supply of oil, Iraq 2nd largest producer in OPEC.</td>
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<td>3. India</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Depreciation of rupee</td>
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<td>- Sensex fell</td>
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<td>- Fear of inflation + fiscal deficit</td>
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<th>Possible Solution</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. USA withdrawing its troops without creating problem</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Interference of international entities</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Europe: good ties with Iran and USA using diplomatic relations to hold back USA from doing any reckless actions</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Pacifying Iran to prevent war</td>
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Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements.

1. Iraq and Iran share border with each other and also with Turkey, Syria and Lebanon.
2. Tropic of Cancer passes through Iran and Iraq.
3. Strait of Hormuz links the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Aden.

Which among the above statements is/are incorrect?

a) None of the above  
b) 1 and 2  
c) 1 and 3  
d) All the above

Previous Year Question – Mains 2018

Q. In what ways would the ongoing US-Iran Nuclear Pact Controversy affect the national interest of India? How should India respond to its situation? (15 marks, 250 words)
ICAR plans innovation fund to help farmers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU:

A system will soon be put in place to scientifically validate, scale up and propagate the innovations of progressive farmers as the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is poised to set up a Farmers’ Innovation Fund. “We are confident that the fund will become operational by the next financial year,” ICAR Director-General Trishan Mulpuru told mediapersons at the Farmers Science Congress in Bengaluru on Monday.

As part of this system, an innovation centre would be established in New Delhi where the innovations would be scientifically validated, he said. Farmers would also be allowed to pursue research under the system. Pointing out that innovations of farmers were being documented by the Krishi Vigyan Kendras, he said the additional system would encourage farmers to continue their work. The intention was to link farmers and farming with science and to ensure that their farm practices were science-based, Dr. Mulpuru said. “If you do not apply the principles of science to agriculture, then we will fail.”

Various revolutions in agricultural and allied sectors, including green revolution, happened because of scientific approach and use of technology, he said. To encourage use of technology in the farm sector, a linkage had been created between 105 start-ups with farmers.

News

The Farmer’s Science Congress

• inaugurated as a part of Indian Science Congress (107th Edition)
  - Theme of Indian Science Congress: “Science & Technology: Rural Development”

• Farmers Innovation Fund and Innovation Centres will be set up in fiscal 2020-21, under NARS - to encourage innovations by farmers

• 1st time in history of Indian Science Congress - a farmer centric event has been organized.

Farmer’s Innovation Fund

• will be a dedicated fund for farmer’s innovation
  - will facilitate:
    - innovation
    - creation of modern tools
    - systems of farming through
      - financial support
      - innovation validation
      - market linkage facilities

• an innovation Centre in New Delhi to scientifically validate the innovations of farmers
Objectives of Farmers Innovation Fund

1. To link farmers and farming with science.

2. To ensure that their farm practices are science-based

Eg: Green revolution of 1960s in India

NARS

• National Agricultural Research System
• One of the largest agricultural research systems in the world
• Under Dept. of Agri. Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

• an autonomous organisation under DARE
• established in July, 1929 as a Registered Society under Societies Registration Act, 1860, in the name of "Imperial Council of Agricultural Research"
• After independence, got renamed into Indian Council of Agricultural Research
• HQ: New Delhi
• Functions: To coordinate, guide and manage Research and Education in Agriculture including Horticulture, Fisheries and Animal Sciences in the entire country.

KVKS

• Krishi Vigyan Kendra [Farm Science Centre]  
• 'Agricultural Extension Centres' in India
• 100% financed by Govt. of India
• Functions as knowledge and Resource Centre of Agricultural technology at district level.
• Conducts training of farmers on improved technologies related to Agri. and allied fields.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to “National Agricultural Research System (NARS)” in India.

1. It is under the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers’ Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

2. NARS constitutes ICAR institutes at the national level and the Agricultural Universities at the state level and the system engages in research and education relating to agriculture and allied areas.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
PRACTICE QUESTIONS DISCUSSION

Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Relay Satellites.

1. They serve as a way to pass along the satellite's information to the ground station and vice versa.

2. Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System is India's indigenous relay satellite system.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims

Q2. Which of the following languages are included in Eighth Schedule of Indian Constitution?

1. Konkani
2. Gondi
3. Santhali
4. Dogri

Choose the correct answer from the statement given below.

a) 1, 2 and 4 only
b) 1, 3 and 4 only
c) 2, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2 and 3 only

Languages Included in Eighth Schedule

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Practice Question – Prelims

Q3. Consider the following statements.

1. Iraq and Iran share border with each other and also with Turkey, Syria and Lebanon.
2. Tropic of Cancer passes through Iran and Iraq.
3. Strait of Hormuz links the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Aden.

Which among the above statements is/are incorrect?

a) None of the above
b) 1 and 2
c) 1 and 3
d) All the above
Practice Question – Prelims

Q4. Consider the following statements with reference to “National Agricultural Research System (NARS)” in India.

1. It is under the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers’ Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

2. NARS constitutes ICAR institutes at the national level and the Agricultural Universities at the state level and the system engages in research and education relating to agriculture and allied areas.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Practice Question – Prelims

Answers

Q1. Option ‘a’ – 1 only
Q2. Option ‘b’ – 1, 3 and 4 only
Q3. Option ‘d’ - All the above
Q4. Option ‘b’ - 2 only
Previous Year Question – Mains 2018

Q. In what ways would the ongoing US-Iran Nuclear Pact Controversy affect the national interest of India? How should India respond to its situation? (15 marks, 250 words)