VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

19th July 2026

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19th July 2026

Space Sector: Vikram-1 & ISRO

CONTEXT: Vikram-1, India's first privately built orbital rocket, placed multiple tech payloads into a low earth orbit.

Space Sector :

- 124 spacecraft missions
- 400+ satellites from 34 countries
- 4 active launch platforms
- India's Space Economy $8.4 bn ~ 2% of global
- Skyroot Aerospace: first space start-up to successfully launch a rocket into space

Trends :

- Transforming from govt-centric
- Indian Space Policy 2023
- India's space economy $8.4 billion (2022)
    a. Global space economy $1.8 tn by 2035
- >190 space startups emerged 2023–2025 post-regulatory changes

India's Space Journey

- Dr. Vikram Sarabhai established INCOSPAR
- Evolved into ISRO
    a. Vision: use space for national development, not superpower race
- Aryabhata (first satellite) in 1975; designed/fabricated in India
- SLV-3 rocket under Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam: 1980
    a. 6th with indigenous sat launch capability
- PSLV first successful flight in 1994
    a. workhorse
    b. ~92% success rate
    c. Cost-effective; for Chandrayaan-1 (first lunar probe); Aditya-L1 (first solar observatory)
- Successes: Remote-sensing sat (agriculture, water, urban planning); comm sat (telecom/broadcasting)
- Tech evolution: sat miniaturization, sensor improvements, data processing → crop yield prediction, disaster management, natural resource mapping
- Funding model
    a. Space program justify against poverty/health/infra
    b. Frugal innovation culture
        i. Mars Orbiter Mission cost ~$74 million
    c. Private participation limited to component manufacturing and suppliers

Major space agencies

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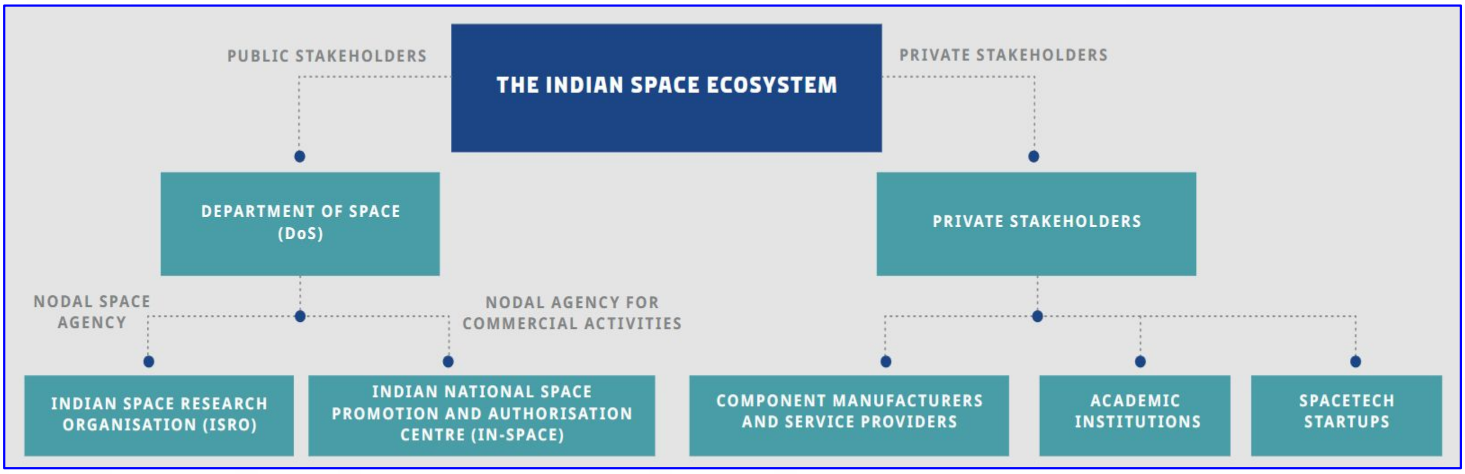

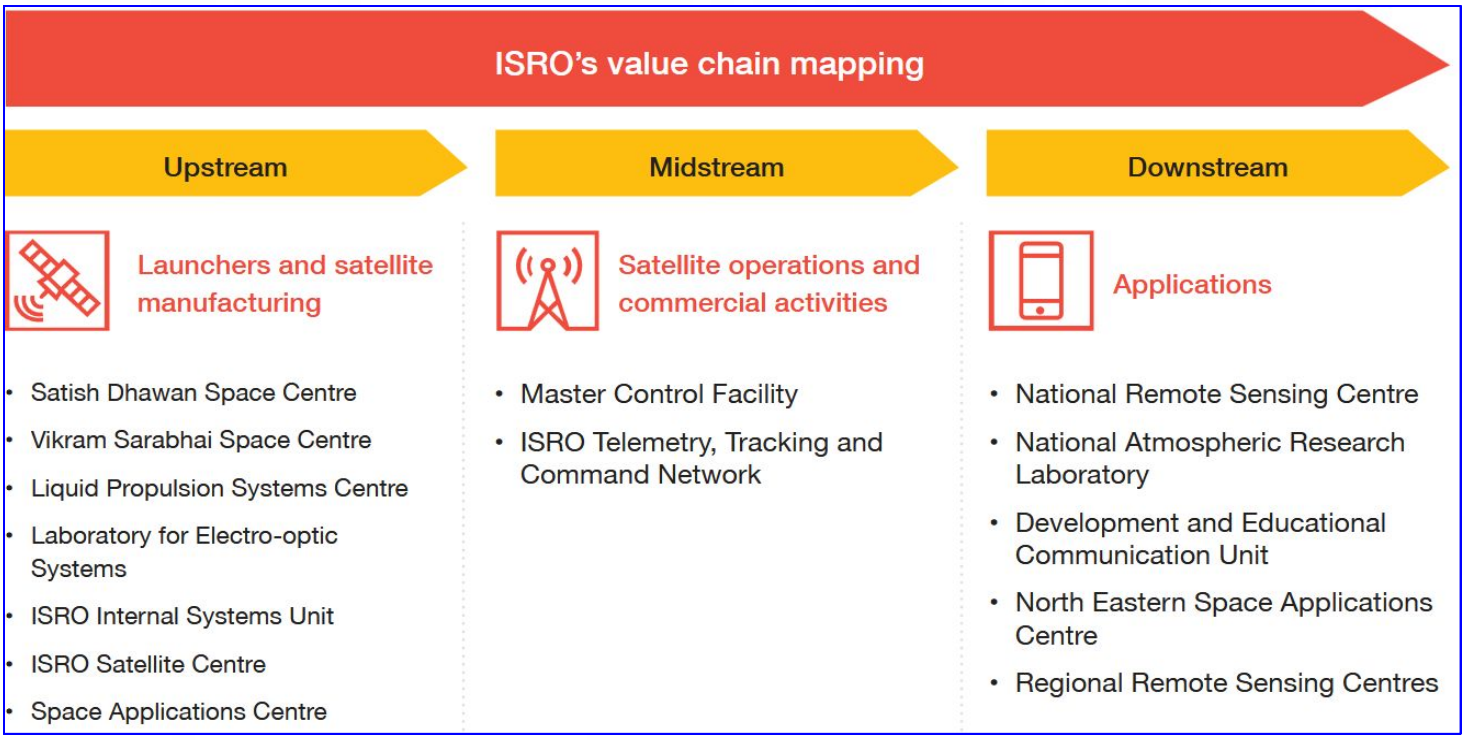

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NAME	FIELD OF EXPERTISE
ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation)	India's national space agency, responsible for planning and executing space missions, developing technology, and promoting space science
NSIL (NewSpace India Limited)	Focuses on scaling up industry participation in Indian space programs and exploiting space resources commercially.
IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre)	Promote, authorize, and monitor private sector activities in the Indian space sector. Regulatory body to private industry's participation and compliance with space-related norms and standards.
National Atmospheric Research Laboratory (NARL)	Conducting basic and applied research in atmospheric and space sciences, leveraging advanced ground-based observational facilities.
Physical Research Laboratory (PRL)	Research in Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space and Atmospheric Sciences, and Geosciences.
Space Applications Center (SAC)	Specializes in designing payloads and developing applications for communication, meteorology, and remote sensing satellites.
Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)	Focuses on the development of satellite launch vehicles and associated vehicle technologies crucial for India's space missions.
Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC)	ISRO's primary launch center. Responsible for satellite vehicle launches and testing, serving as the central hub for ISRO's launching operations.
U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC)	Lead center of ISRO for the design, development, and integration of satellite technology.
Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC)	Center focusing on the development and testing of liquid propulsion systems for space launch vehicles and spacecraft.
National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)	Satellite data acquisition and processing in applications related to agriculture, water resources, urban planning, and disaster management.
Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC)	Develop and implement the technology needed for human spaceflight including the ambitious Gaganyaan project.

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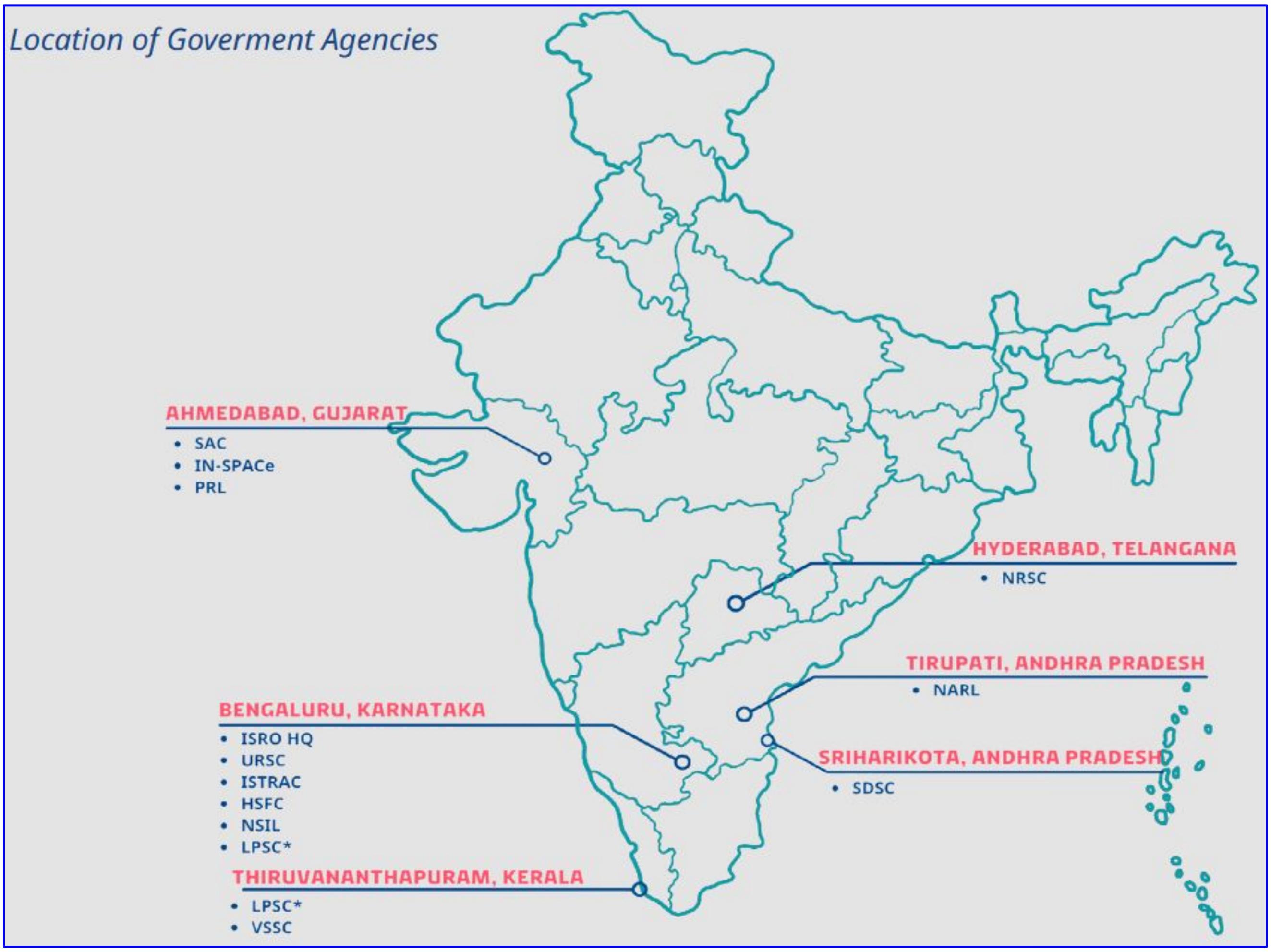

NAME	FIELD OF EXPERTISE
Pixxel Space	Nanosatellite constellation for hyperspectra imagery and data analysis tools
Dhruva Space	Small satellite platforms
Skyroot	Space-launch vehicle design and building, especially small-lift launch vehicles
Bellatix Aerospace	Propulsion systems for satellites
Agnikul Cosmos	3D-printed small-lift launch vehicles

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CONTEXT: Vikram-1, India's first privately built orbital rocket, placed multiple tech payloads into a low earth orbit.

STRENGHTS

- Cost-effective innovation that can fill the gap in the Indian space sector
- Access to India's large engineering talent pool
- Strong focus on satellites - especially development of nano - and micro satellites
- Lower cost for developing and launching satellites
- Application in other areas, in terms of satellites, minimissing the digital divide in India

WEAKNESSES

- Most Indian companies operate at tier- 2 and 3 levels
- Demand for components providers, products and systems for present and upcoming space missions - with 70% - 80% imported showing reliance on other countries
- Lack of sufficient domestic expertise in manufacturing electronic components and systems
- Demand for semiconductors as a result of the demand fro satellite-enabled services.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Increasingly favouritable policy environment
- Application in other areas - in terms of satellites - minimising the digital divide (area of expertise for majority of start-ups)
- International recongnition on the Indian star-up ecosystem
- Lower cost for developing and launching satellites (area of expertise for majority of start-ups)
- Start-ups can fill out gaps within the space sector by innovative solutions and cost effectiveness of a specific product
- Understanding of gaps in the local market

THREATS

- Lack of access to capital
- Preference for investment in the downstream segments
- Perception of long gestation period of investment
- Lack of diverse bussiness models
- Start-up ecosystem is still in an early phase

Global shifts

- US shift to commercial partnerships in 1990s
- NASA's COTS program (2006)
- SpaceX's first successful launch (2008)
- Europe: ESA TTP in 1990s
- France and Luxembourg dedicated space laws in 2000s
- Restructured Roscosmos
- China: LandSpace, iSpace
- Technological disruptions: "smaller, faster, cheaper" satellites; 3D printing; component standardization
- Reusable rocket technology (SpaceX)

Indian challenges

- ambiguities on private rights/responsibilities → risk-averse investment
- FDI rules unreformed; restrictive tech transfer mechanisms; facility/testing infrastructure access
- Capital intensive; gestation
- Talent Drain & Competition
- Space Debris and Environmental Challenges

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Challenges in ISRO

- DoS memo tightened exit rules for scientists
  - not allowed to leave through VRS or resignation as a matter of routine
  - Every request referred to DoS
- Implementation of Gaganyaan & others
- Reverses a 2020 delegation of powers
  - allowed ISRO centre directors to independently approve
- highly specialised expertise not replaceable immediately through fresh recruitment
- Private cos: Better salaries, faster career progression, opportunities to lead ambitious programmes, access to stock options

Space Reforms

ISP 2023: framework for governance, commercialization

- Legal definitions: "space activity," "space object," "orbital resource," "non-government entity (NGE)"
- Vision: capabilities, commercial ecosystem, leverage space for socio-eco development, env, security
- Advanced R&D, open procurement of space services, stable regulation
- NGEs permitted end-to-end activities
- IN-SPACe
  - single-window agency authorizing all space activities
  - safety/security/liability guidelines
  - industry clusters, tech transfer
  - Equitable infra access
- Data policy: open access to remote sensing data
- NSIL handles commercial deployment
- DoS retains policy formulation

Amended FDI policy aligned with ISP 2023

- Up to 74% automatic route for sat manufacturing/operations
- Up to 49% for launch vehicles and spaceports
- Up to 100% for space components manufacturing

Impact of Space Reforms

- Explicit NGE support across full value chain (manufacturing, launch, operations, resource utilization, asteroid mining)
- Open market for space services
- Equitable access to ISRO infrastructure/data via IN-SPACe
- Private startups
  - Digantara: space surveillance satellite tracking objects as small as 5 cm
  - Bellatrix Aerospace: propulsion solutions; satellite for Ultra-LEO
  - Astrome: satellite-based 5G connectivity solutions

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- Public sector achievements post-reforms
    - Chandrayaan-3 lunar south pole landing (Aug 2023)
    - Aditya-L1 reached solar observation destination
    - SPADEX space docking demonstration
- IN-SPACe streamlined authorizations; launched Satellite Bus as a Service (SBaaS)
- Upcoming ISRO-JAXA LUPEX mission: analyze lunar water ice
- ISRO adopting "Make-in-India" chips
- Defense/security priority: 100–150 satellites in next 3 years
- Global cos shifting supply chains

Suggestions

Strategic Alignment
- Synchronize ISP objectives
- Sat data sharing

Bridging Research and Commercialization
- Industry transfer mechanisms
    a. Intermediary structures
- Expand ISRO's Space Technology Cells

Testing and Validation Infra
- Unified model for accessing across CSIR, ISRO, DRDO, IITs
    - Industry access protocols
    - clear fee structures, technical support, geographic spread
- Survey & centralized database
- ISRO's POEM and SMiLE platforms as orbital testbeds for startups

Govt as Anchor Customer
- National Geospatial Policy 2022
    - procurement targets for startups
- Value-based procurement models
    - quality cum cost-based selection
    - outcome-linked payments

Refocusing Startup Priorities
- Most funded Indian startups focus upstream
    - satellite manufacturing/launch
- Global: downstream applications
    - ~70% of commercial space activities
- Untapped potential for agri, disaster, resource monitoring

Engaging Large Conglomerates
- ISP more successful with startups
- Learn from defense sector: JVs with global
- Policy incentivizing
    - Op Sindoor

Global Models
- China's dual-use approach
    - larger markets
    - Commercial space sector ~40% from dual-use
- ESA's ARTES 4.0 program (sat comm)
    - govt shares development risks

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Legislative Foundation

- Comprehensive Space Activities Bill
    - legal certainty for long-term private investments
- Luxembourg, Japan, UAE

Market Awareness and Adoption

- IN-SPACe's space technology awareness workshops (collab with CII and FICCI)
- IN-SPACe's Pre-Incubation and Entrepreneurship (PIE) initiative

Early-Stage Funding

- Insufficiency of IN-SPACe seed fund cap (₹1 cr per startup)
- Technology Adoption Fund with ₹25 cr for non-dilutive capital for tech validation
    - flexible evaluation criteria

Quantifying the Space Economy

- IN-SPACe's standardized framework
- Targeted policy interventions
- Specific opportunities in downstream

Mains Practise Question :

India's space sector has undergone a significant transformation through policy reforms aimed at enhancing private sector participation, commercialization, and global competitiveness. Discuss the major challenges facing India's space sector. Examine the space sector reforms introduced in recent years, and suggest measures to strengthen India's position in the sector.

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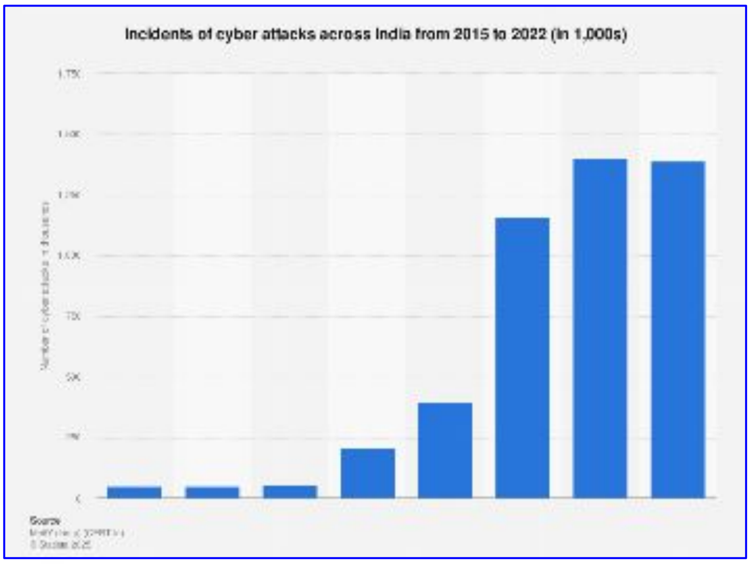
Data Breach at Kudankulam

CONTEXT: A data breach has leaked info linked to Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant.

Cybercrimes

- **Cyber espionage** - intruding to steal info
- **Cyber Crimes** - electronic fraud
- **Cyber attacks** - interrupt digital services or systems
- **Cyber war** - large scale digital attack on critical infra
- Common cyber crimes - identity theft, social engineering, Phishing, PUPs



Challenges

- **Recent Cyber Attacks**
    - Ransomware attack on a defence unit
    - ICMR data leak
    - Loss of Rs 1.24 lakh crore in 2020
- **Vulnerability of Critical Infrastructure -** Ukraine, Stuxnet (2010 Iran nuclear), Petya (EU banks)
- **Under-Preparedness -** CERT-In guidelines
- **Limited Private Sector Participation**
- **Added Complexity:**
    - AI, ML, data analytics, cloud computing, IoT, techno-legal issues.
    - 5G and quantum computing - potency of malicious software.
- **Financial Vulnerability**
    - SWIFT system
- **Personal Data sold on Dark Web**
- **New Threats -** Digital Arrests, IoT risk

Institutional Setup

- **National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) -** apex agency - NCSC
- **National Information Board (NIB) -** NSA
- **National Cyber Coordination Centre** (NCCC) - by CERT-In, under NIB
    - cybercrime prevention strategy, investigation training, review of outdated laws
- **National Crisis Management Committee** (NCMC) - CS
- **CERT-IN -** monitors cyberspace, coordinates alerts, warning, detection
- **NCIIPC** - under NTRO, 2014
- **Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)**
- **Initiatives**
    - **Cyber Surakshit Bharat Initiative**
    - **Cyber Swachhta Kendra**
    - **PMGDISHA**

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CONTEXT: A data breach has leaked info linked to Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant.

International Initiatives
- Budapest Convention on Cybercrime
- Global Centre for Cyber security

Need for restructuring
- **Fragmented cybersecurity ecosystem**
  - MEITY, MHA, MoD, NTRO own cybersecurity units.
  - Additional specialised units include the CERT, I4C
- **No unified agency**

Laws Related to Cyber Security in India:
- Information Technology Act, 2000
- National Cyber Security Policy, 2013
- Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023

Suggestions
- Statute
- Agency
- National Cyber Security Strategy
- Offensive capabilities - deterrence, software to intercept attacks
- Air gapping
- Big data analytics, Cloud computing capabilities
- International Cooperation

ous documents purportedly linked to the plant — including engineering drawings, inspection records, minutes of meetings, technical reports and official correspondence — have been circulating on the dark web after it was leaked by ransomware group World Leaks.

The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL), which operates the plant, has downplayed the leak, maintaining that documents relate only to non-critical facilities outside the 'reactor island' and pose no risk to nuclear safety.

the intrusion to DTrack malware, which was linked to the North Korea-backed Lazarus

Group, "an umbrella name that typically describes hacking activity which advances Pyongyang's interests".

According to cybersecurity analysts, Dtrack belongs to the same family of malware that was linked to the 2016 cyberattack on an Indian private

bank's ATM network. It spread across the banking system and forced the replacement of an estimated 2.9-3.2 million compromised debit and credit cards. The Dtrack malware reportedly targeted the 'domain controller' of KKNP's online network, exposing credentials such as passwords.

A domain controller is a central server that acts as the 'gatekeeper' of a network and verifies the authenticity of all the other devices on the network. Following the intrusion, Seoul-based IssueMakersLab, an expert group of malware analysts, had claimed that the attack was meant to steal information on India's thorium-based nuclear power, a technology which Indian scientists have been working on for dec-

Data Breach at Kudankulam

CONTEXT: A data breach has leaked info linked to Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant.

MAINS PRACTISE QUESTION

Discuss the major challenges India faces in ensuring cybersecurity. Evaluate the existing institutional architecture and strategy to tackle cyber threats and suggest measures to strengthen India's cyber resilience.

Mains PYQ 2017

Discuss the potential threats of Cyber-attack and the security framework to prevent it.

Mains PYQ 2020

Discuss different types of cybercrimes and measures required to be taken to fight the menace.

Mains Value Addition

Newspaper : ***The Indian Express*** **Page Number :** ***11***

SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act

- 37 offenses
  - patterns or behaviors inflicting criminal offenses and breaking the self-respect and esteem of the scheduled castes and tribes community, denial of economic, democratic, social rights, discrimination, exploitation, abuse of the legal process
- Cognizable
- Section 18 - no anticipatory bail
- Section 4 - Public servant neglecting duties deliberately
- Special Courts

SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities (Amendment) Act, 2015

- More instances of “atrocities” as crimes against SCs and STs
- special courts and special public prosecutors
- defined ‘wilful negligence’ - registration of complaint to dereliction of duty
- accused acquainted with the victim

Kashinath Mahajan case

- advance bail if there is no merit in a complaint
- “Preliminary enquiry” before registration of FIRs
- Arrest safegaurds

2018 amendment - Section 18A

Prathvi Raj Chauhan case, 2020

- upheld the Constitutional validity of section 18-A.
- pre-arrest bail - extraordinary situations where miscarriage of justice
- Anticipatory bail - exceptional cases

Tenkasi Settlement

SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : History of India
Newspaper : Indian Express **Page Number : 10**

Tenkasi Settlements

- Banks of Vaippar river, Tenkasi district, TN
- **Site:** Malayadipatti, near Karivalamvanthanallur
- **Evidence**
  - Earliest: Tiny microlithic stone tools from region's earliest inhabitants
  - Later: Expansive Sangam-era brick structures, iron-working evidence, craft-production debris
- **Cultural trajectory**
  - Northern TN clear Microlithic → Neolithic → Iron Age transition
  - Karivalamvanthanallur bypasses Neolithic and Chalcolithic phases
  - Mirrors discoveries at Mangudi, Sivagalai, and Adichanallur
  - Not just inhabited; functioned as a manufacturing/production centre
- **Initial recognition**
  - Century ago, Roman coins reported
  - Early surveys: Tirunelveli DC L. A. Cammiade
  - 1932-33: Madras Museum annual report documented glass beads and burial urns

Findings

- Hematite used for iron extraction, iron implements
- Large quantities of glass beads, shell bangles, terracotta beads, coral beads, a gold bead
- **Pottery:** Graffiti-marked pottery, black-and-red ware, red-slipped burial pot, black-painted lidded vessels, perforated bowls
- **Other artefacts:** Terracotta figurines, hopscotch pieces, terracotta spindle whorls (weaving), terracotta discs, rectangular gaming pieces, copper coins
- Red-slipped burial pot decorated with painted peacocks on shoulder
  - Molar and premolar teeth recovered outside vessel; a black-and-red ware pot placed beneath it → served as burial urn
  - Similar vessels at Harappa, Hulas, Bhirrana depict peacocks with human figures enclosed within bodies – ritual significance
  - Sangam literature (Akananuru) refers to decorating memorial stones with peacock feathers
- Large brick structure – descending steps
  - Either underground granary or rainwater harvesting tank
  - Brick dimensions/style resemble Keeladi, Alagankulam → belongs to Early Historic/Sangam period
- Sophisticated water management despite proximity to Vaippar river

Significance

- "Technological sophistication, artisanal excellence and economic vitality" of ancient society
- Remarkably continuous human occupation sequence across thousands of years
- **Trade connectivity:** Located on ancient route linking eastern and western coasts; combined habitation, manufacturing, and commerce
- **TN archaeology:** regional antiquity – Keeladi pushed Sangam era further back via carbon dating; Sivagalai yielded iron implements dated to 3345 BC

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India's 3 inflations

SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Economic and Social Development
Newspaper : Indian Express **Page Number : 15**

- Inflation data 3 measures – CPI, WPI, and PPI
- **Common theme**
    - Faster price rise in June vs May
    - driver: higher food inflation, fuel prices
        1. Weak rains; West Asia war

Data
- CPI inflation (headline, household-relevant): 4.38% from 3.93% in May
- WPI inflation (wholesale, y-o-y): 9.87% from 9.68%
- Output PPI inflation: 9.57% from 9.38%
- RBI target: headline CPI inflation at 4%
    - >4% in June: first time in 17 months
- Core inflation (CPI ex-food & fuel): Unchanged at 3.9%
    - Rationale for core inflation
        1. Food and fuel are volatile
        2. households no drastic change in consumption
    - Economists' view: consumption is subdued
    - Trend (6 months): rose only 20 bps from 3.7% in January
    - Narrow core (ex-gold & silver jewellery): Edged up to 2.5%

How did core inflation fall from 2023 to 2026 despite 7+% GDP growth?
- Answer: investment-driven growth
- Last 4 fiscal years: GFCF growth > private consumption growth – productive capacity grew > consumption demand
- **Subdued discretionary demand:** Moderation in vehicle sales, auto loans, CC loans, durable goods loans after GST cuts of 2025
- **China factor:** Falling prices of Chinese goods pull down narrow core inflation
    - China PPI: Negative: 2022 to February 2026 – India imported 'deflation'
    - Goods imports from China >$130 bn pa, ~3.5% of India's GDP
- **GST rate cuts:** Price reductions explain subdued core inflation

Impact
- **Dining out inflation:** Part of core that rose sharply since WA war – restaurant/cafe inflation from 2.73% in Feb to 6.94% in June
    - Higher commercial LPG prices passed on
    - Mitigating factor: Cut in cylinder prices now
- **Manufacturing sector response:** absorbed increased input prices as weak demand
    - Manufacturing output PPI: Declined 0.3% in June from May
    - Manufacturing input PPI : 2.1% increase
    - margin pressure
    - Takeaway: Consumption still needs monetary policy support
- **Broader price divergence (Feb-June):** All-commodity WPI rose 6.9%, but CPI rose only 2.3%
    - Inflation impact of May hike in petrol/diesel prices will be seen for next 12 months

Bar Council of India

SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Indian Polity and Governance
Newspaper : The Hindu **Page Number : 11**

Bar Council of India
- statutory body
  - regulate and represent the Indian bar
- Advocates Act, 1961
  - Reco of All India Bar Committee
- Objective: safeguarding rights, interests, privileges of advocates

Functions
- prescribing standards of professional conduct and etiquette
- disciplinary jurisdiction over the bar
- standards for legal education
  - recognition to Universities
- conducts AIBE
- funds welfare schemes for EWS and physically handicapped advocates
- recognizes on a reciprocal basis foreign qualifications in law

Composition
- members elected from Each State Bar Council
  - elected for five years
- Attorney General of India
- Solicitor of India
- Power to choose its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman
  - serve for two years

issued a comprehensive circular prescribing strict standards for the use of social media by advocates, law students and legal interns.

The circular, issued on July 17, prohibits advocates interns and law students from creating or circulating social media content that sensationalises court proceedings, judicial hearings, chambers or professional work.

Advocates have been directed to refrain from "making reels, videos, photographs or promotional content inside Court premises, courtrooms, corridors, Bar rooms, chambers or judicial buildings in a manner inconsistent with dignity and decorum."

The circular also bars lawyers from "clipping, editing or circulating live-streamed proceedings with captions, music, commentary, thumbnails or voiceovers that ridicule, mock, distort, sensationalise or scandalise the conduct of Judges, counsel, litigants or witnesses."

The BCI has further prohibited lawyers from creating or circulating AI-generated images, deepfake videos, voice-cloned recordings or other synthetic content. It also warns

National Medical Commission

SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Indian Polity and Governance
Newspaper : The Hindu **Page Number : 11**

- NMC Act, 2019
- Replaced MCI
    - Regulates medical education, medical professionals
    - Recognition of medical qualifications
    - Accreditation to medical schools
    - Registration to medical practitioners
    - Monitors medical practice
    - Assesses medical infrastructure
- Headquarters: New Delhi

Functions

- policies for quality, standards in medical education; regulations
- policies for regulating institutions, research
- assess requirements in healthcare: HR, infra
- Compliance by State Medical Councils
- Appellate jurisdiction wrt decisions of Autonomous Boards
- Codes for professional ethics

Composition

- 33 members including Chair (medical professionals only), 10 ex-officio, 22 part-time
- Medical Advisory Council
    - platform for States to put their views and concerns before NMC
    - advises NMC on measures for minimum standards of medical education
- Four autonomous boards
    - UG Medical Education Board
    - PG Medical Education Board
    - Medical Assessment and Rating Board
    - Ethics and Medical Registration Board

National Medical Commission

SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Indian Polity and Governance
Newspaper : The Hindu **Page Number : 11**

	Medical Council of India	National Medical Commission
Members	**100+**	**25**
Tenure	**5 yrs**	**4 yrs** (part-time members 2 yrs)
Appointment	**70%** Elected	Majority nominated
Extension	Could be renominated/ reelected	Those nominated by Centre cannot be renominated
Quorum	**15 of 100+** members	**13 of 25** members
Meeting mandate	At least once a year	Every quarter

mission (NMC) will no longer process "routine" requests from faculty members and medical colleges seeking to determine the eligibility of candidates for appointment, promotion, or designation to teaching positions, accord-

More complicated cases must be referred through an institution, accompanied by a fee of ₹25,000. Shifting the responsibility primarily to the appointing authority, the medical institution, university, or any other competent authority, the PGMEB maintained that the NMC will no longer issue eligibility certificates or clarifications in routine cases where the eligibility can be determined directly using the provisions of the Medical Institutions (Qualifications of Faculty) Regulations, 2025.

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Daily Quiz

Q1. With reference to the Tenkasi Settlements discovered in Tamil Nadu, consider the following statements:

1. The site is located at Malayadipatti on the banks of the Vaippar River in Tenkasi district.
2. Archaeological evidence includes microlithic stone tools & Sangam-era brick structures.
3. The cultural sequence shows a clear transition from the Microlithic to Iron Age.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 2 only
d) All of the above

Answer: d

Q2. Which of the following statements regarding the Bar Council of India (BCI) is Not correct?

a) The Bar Council of India is a statutory body established under the Advocates Act, 1961.
b) It was constituted on the recommendation of the All India Bar Committee.
c) One of its functions is to prescribe standards of professional conduct and etiquette for advocates.
d) The Bar Council of India conducts the All India Judicial Service (AIJS) examination for recruitment of judges.

Answer: d

Q3. With reference to the National Medical Commission (NMC), consider the following statements:

1. The National Medical Commission consists of 33 members, including the Chairperson.
2. The Chairperson of the NMC must be a medical professional.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: **c**

Q4. With reference to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, consider the following statements:

1. The Act identifies 57 specific offences as atrocities against members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
2. Offences under the Act are non-cognizable in nature.
3. Section 18 of the Act bars the grant of anticipatory bail to a person accused of committing an offence under the Act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: **c**

Q5. With reference to the inflation measures used in India, consider the following statements:

1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures inflation from the perspective of households and is the inflation indicator targeted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
2. Wholesale Price Index (WPI) measures changes in prices at the wholesale level.
3. Producer Price Index (PPI) measures price changes received by producers for their output.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

a) Only One
b) Only Two
c) All Three
d) None

Answer: c

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