

NEWSPACE INDIA LIMITED (NSIL)

SYLLABUS: GS PAPER-III (SPACE TECHNOLOGY)

CONTEXT: The Union Cabinet chaired by the PM approved the transfer of 10 in-orbit communication satellites from the government to Newspace India Limited (NSIL).

The **entire GSAT series, except GSAT-7 and 7A, will go to NSIL**, and thereby to companies intending to develop downstream satcom businesses. The new CMS (communication satellite) series is already operated by NSIL.

Increasing the authorized share capital of NSIL from Rs 1,000 crore to Rs 7,500 crore was also approved.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS STEP

Provide Desired Financial Autonomy:

- Transfer of these assets to NSIL will further provide the desired financial autonomy to the company to realize capital intensive programmes/projects and thereby offering huge employment potential and technology spin-off to other sectors of the economy.

Boost Domestic Activity in Space Sector:

- The approval is expected to stimulate domestic economic activity and help India gain a larger share of the global space market.

Facilitate Ease of Doing Business in Space Sector:

- NSIL functioning as a single-window operator will also facilitate the ease of doing business in the space sector.

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Facilitate Ease of Doing Business in Space Sector:

- NSIL functioning as a single-window operator will also facilitate the ease of doing business in the space sector.
- The NSIL Board will now be empowered to price the transponders as per the market dynamics and global trends in the Satellite Communication sector.
- NSIL is also authorized to offer and allocate capacity as per its internal policies and guidelines.
- Under the Space Sector reforms, NSIL was mandated to undertake comprehensive commercial space activities and serve as a full-fledged satellite operator.

ABOUT NEWSPACE INDIA LIMITED (NSIL)

- NSIL is a **Central Public Sector Enterprise** of the Government of India.
- It was established in **2019** under the administrative control of the **Department of Space**.

- NSIL is the **commercial arm of Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** with the primary responsibility of enabling Indian industries to take up high technology space related activities.
- **Headquarters: Bengaluru**

MISSION OF NSIL

- Owning satellites for Earth Observation and Communication applications and providing space-based services
- Building satellites and launching them as per demand
- Providing Launch Services for satellite belonging to customer
- Building launch vehicles through Indian Industry and launch as per satellite customer requirement
- Space based Services related to Earth Observation and Communication satellites on commercial basis
- Satellite building through Indian Industry
- Technology Transfer to Indian Industry

STEPS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT TO PUSH SPACE REFORMS

- Recently, India has opened its space sector allowing private firms and start-ups to build satellites and rockets, besides offering space services to customers in the country and across the world.
- The government has shifted all operational assets of ISRO to NSIL.
- The government formed the **Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe)** as a regulator to ensure a level-playing field for the private sector. IN-SPACe is an independent nodal agency under the DoS that allows Non-Government-Private-Entities (NGPEs) to conduct space activities and use DoS-owned facilities.
- These reforms will allow private industry and start-ups to travel alongside ISRO in this era of space research, assisting the country to become a manufacturing hub for space assets.

UNITED NATIONS ISSUED FIRST GLOBAL POLICY FRAMEWORK ON PROTECTING CHILDREN IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

SYLLABUS: GS PAPER-II (SOCIAL JUSTICE, WELFARE POLICIES)

CONTEXT: The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Georgetown University, and the United Nations University have launched new guidelines to provide the first-ever global policy framework that will help protect, include, and empower children on the move in the context of climate change.

ABOUT THE GUIDELINES

- **The Guiding Principles for Children on the Move in the Context of Climate Change** provides a set of 9 principles that address the unique and layered vulnerabilities of children on the move both internally and across borders because of the adverse impacts of climate change.
- The guidelines note that climate change is intersecting with existing environmental, social, political, economic, and demographic conditions contributing to people's decisions to move.

- The Guiding Principles have been developed to **safeguard the rights and well-being of children** moving in the context of climate change, and are as follows:
 - a. Principle 1: Rights-based approach
 - b. Principle 2: Best interests of the child
 - c. Principle 3: Accountability
 - d. Principle 4: Awareness and participation in decision-making
 - e. Principle 5: Family unity
 - f. Principle 6: Protection, safety, and security
 - g. Principle 7: Access to education, health care and social services
 - h. Principle 8: Non-discrimination
 - i. Principle 9: Nationality
- These Guiding Principles are intended to be used by local and national governments, international organizations and civil society groups working with children on the move in the context of climate change.
- They are based on existing international law as well as operational guidelines or frameworks which have been developed by a variety of stakeholders.
- The principles are derived from the Convention on the Rights of the Child and do not create new international legal obligations.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND CHILDREN

- In 2020 alone, **10 million children were displaced in the aftermath of weather-related shocks.**
- With around one billion children – nearly half of the world’s 2.2 billion children – living in 33 countries at high **risk** of the impacts of climate change, millions more children could be on the move in the coming years.
- Such children may be **exposed to a variety of risks** such as abuse, trafficking, exploitation, and other forms of maltreatment.
- **36% of all deaths among children** (aged 0-14 years) are, in part, caused by **environmental factors.**
- **14% of the total migrant population** were children in 2019.

PRELIMS FACTS

JOHAR GREETING

- The **15th President of India, Draupadi Murmu**, assumed office Monday with a ‘Johar’ greeting to the country.
- ‘Johar,’ which means ‘**salutation and welcome,**’ is used **within the tribal communities of Jharkhand, and in parts of Chhattisgarh and Odisha.**
- According to several tribal leaders from Jharkhand, **the word ‘Johar’ also means ‘paying respect.’**
- Tribal communities are nature worshippers and follow the Sarna religion code, although it is not an official religion.

INDIA DESIGNATES 5 NEW RAMSAR SITES

- India has designated five (5) new wetlands of international importance, which include:
- **Pallikaranai Marsh Reserve Forest (TN):** It is a freshwater marsh in Chennai. It is the only surviving wetland ecosystem in Chennai and the last remaining natural wetlands of South India.
- **Kari Kili Bird Sanctuary (TN):** Located in the Kancheepuram District of Tamil Nadu
- **Pichavaram Mangrove (TN):** It is located near Chidambaram in the Cuddalore District of Tamil Nadu. It could be counted among the largest mangrove forests in the country (more than 1100 hectares).
- **Pala wetland (Mizoram):** It is the largest natural wetland in Mizoram. The wetland is surrounded by green woodlands.
- **Sakhya Sagar (MP):** This lake is an integral part of Madhav National Park in Shivpuri, Madhya Pradesh.
- The Ramsar sites have been increased from 49 to 54 Ramsar sites

LIGHT MANTLED ALBATROSS

- Asia's first sighting of the Light-Mantled Albatross, **a sea bird native to Antarctic Sea**, was recorded near **Rameswaram coast (Tamil Nadu)**.
- Light-mantled albatrosses spend most of their lives in flight. A juvenile may spend many years at sea before returning to breed.
- The Light-mantled Albatross, with broad pelagic habits, maintains a **circumpolar distribution in the Southern Ocean**.
- **IUCN Status:** Near Threatened

DEFENCE ACQUISITION COUNCIL (DAC)

- The DAC has approved the arms procurement proposal worth Rs 28,732 crore under **Buy Indian-IDD (Indigenously Designed, Developed & Manufactured)** categories to boost 'Aatmanirbharta' in Defense.
- The Defense Acquisition Council is the **highest decision-making body in the Defense Ministry for deciding on new policies and capital acquisitions for the three services (Army, Navy, and Air Force) and the Indian Coast Guard**.
- The **Minister of Defense is the Chairman of the Council**.
- It was formed, after the Group of Ministers recommendations on '**Reforming the National Security System**', in **2001, post Kargil War (1999)**.

MODEL TENANCY ACT

- Over a year since the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry passed the Model Tenancy Act (MTA) (June 2021), only four States had revised their tenancy laws to be in line with the MTA.
- **These states are:** - Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Assam have revised Tenancy Acts on the lines of MTA.
- **Aim of MTA:** To balance the rights of tenants and landlords and to "create an accountable and transparent ecosystem for renting of premises in a disciplined and efficient manner".
- **Status:** There are over 1.1 Cr houses lying vacant (census 2011), still there is a scarcity of tenant housing in major cities and rents remain high.