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# The Analyst

**CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout**

**19th April 2025**



# India & UNSC expansion

**CONTEXT:** At the intergovernmental negotiations for UNSC reforms, India outlined its vision for an expanded body with new permanent & non-permanent members

## United Nations Security Council

**FACTS ABOUT THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL**

- The UN Security Council is made up of **15 countries**, each with one vote.
- The UN Secretary-General **provides briefings**, but does not preside over the Security Council.
- The decisions of the UN Security Council are generally **legally-binding** for all 193 UN member countries.
- Five permanent members** of the UN Security Council can block resolutions by using the veto.

Maintaining international **peace & security**

Imposing **sanctions**

Authorizing **military interventions**

Issuing **binding resolutions** on member states

<b>Permanent (P5)</b>	China, France, Russia, UK, US	<b>Veto power</b> (can block any resolution)
<b>Non-Permanent (6→10)</b>	Elected for <b>2-year terms</b> (5 replaced yearly)	<b>No veto</b>

## Why is India Demanding UNSC Expansion?

### India's Arguments for Reforms:

**A. Fixing Historical Injustice**

- Africa (55 nations) ?**
- Latin America ?**
- Asia underrepresented** (only China represents 4.7B people).

**B. Making UNSC More Effective**

- Current UNSC is paralyzed** (Russia-China vs. US-EU veto clashes).
- Example:** Ukraine war

**C. UNSC Frozen in 1945 Logic**

- P5 members won WWII—why should they control global security forever?**
- No major expansion since 1965!**

### Roadblocks to Reforms:

**A. Veto Power of P5**

- P5 can veto expansion**

**B. UN Charter Amendment Hurdles**

- 2/3rd majority in UNGA** (129/193)
- Ratification by 2/3rd members** (including all P5).

### INDIA's Credentials

- ✓ **World's largest democracy** (1.4B)
- ✓ **5th largest economy** (soon to be 3rd)
- ✓ **Major peacekeeping contributor**
- ✓ **8-time non-permanent member** (latest: 2021-22)

Opposition	Members	Agenda
<b>Coffee Club</b>	Italy, Spain, Malta, San Marino, Pakistan, South Korea, Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica & Turkey	Blocks G4's bid (fears regional rivals gaining power)
<b>Uniting for Consensus (UfC)</b>		Wants <b>only non-permanent expansion</b> (no new veto powers)





**CONTEXT:** At the intergovernmental negotiations for UNSC reforms, India outlined its vision for an expanded body with new permanent & non-permanent members

## Key Reforms Proposed by India & G4

### A. Expansion of UNSC Membership

Current UNSC	Proposed Expansion	Change
15 members (5P + 10NP)	25-26 members (11P + 14-15NP)	+6 Permanent, +5 Non-Permanent

### B. New Permanent Members (6 Total)

1. **Africa:** 2 seats (Nigeria, South Africa, or AU-backed).
2. **Asia-Pacific:** 2 seats (India + Japan/Indonesia).
3. **Latin America & Caribbean:** 1 seat (Brazil).
4. **Western Europe & Others:** 1 seat (Germany).

### C. New Non-Permanent Seats (4-5 Total)

- 1 Asia-Pacific
- 1 Latin America & Caribbean
- 1 Eastern Europe
- 1-2 Africa

## Why This Model?

- Balances **geographic equity**
- Reflects **economic & political power shifts**



## Alternative Reform Models

### A. "Intermediate Model" (Semi-Permanent Seats)

- **Longer-term seats (8-10 years)** without veto power.
- **Compromise solution** if P5 blocks full expansion.

### B. Veto Restraint Agreement

- P5 voluntarily **limits veto use in mass atrocity cases** (genocide, wars).

### C. Regional Rotation for Permanent Seats

- **Africa, Latin America, Asia** rotate permanent seats among members.

## The US suggests increasing the permanent number of members on the UN Security Council

Possible permanent members:  
(without the right of veto)

Brazil India Germany Japan One of the African countries

### The composition of the UN Security Council

Permanent members  
(with veto power)

Russia China  
 US France  
 United Kingdom

Non-permanent members  
(elected for two years)

2 Latin America 3 Africa  
1 Eastern Europe 2 Asia  
2 Western Europe

### Conditions for adopting reforms

- The bill must be approved by a two-thirds of the members of the UN General Assembly
- The bill must be approved in national parliaments
- The presence of all five permanent members is required at a session of the General Assembly, even if they vote against it

Sources: UN, open sources



# India & UNSC expansion

**CONTEXT:** At the intergovernmental negotiations for UNSC reforms, India outlined its vision for an expanded body with new permanent & non-permanent members

### What's Next?

Push for Text-Based Negotiations

India lobbying Africa & Latin America

Germany/Japan working on EU consensus

**Plan B: If Reforms Fail**

- Strengthen alternate forums (G20, BRICS).
- Form "Coalition of the Excluded" (G4 + AU + L69)

### Arguments by UN Envoy (Parvathaneni Harish)

**A. "Reform or Become Irrelevant"**

- Those opposing reforms are on the wrong side of history."

**B. "Expansion Must Include Permanent Seats"**

**C. "Start Text-Based Negotiations Now"**

- IGN (Intergovernmental Negotiations) stuck since 2008.

### UPSC PYQ (M) 2009

The Security Council of UN consists of 5 permanent members, and the remaining 10 members are elected by the General Assembly for a term of

(a) 1 year  
(b) 2 years  
(c) 3 years  
(d) 5 years

### UPSC PYQ (M) 2015

Discuss the impediments India is facing in its pursuit of a permanent seat in the UN Security Council.

### Mains Practise Question

**The UNSC must reform or risk irrelevance. If the P5 (especially China) blocks change, new power structures will emerge—and India must lead them. Comment.**

(15 Marks, 250 words)

### The Most Frequently Elected UN Security Council Members

Non-permanent UN Security Council members with the most terms since 1946\*

Japan	11
Brazil	10
Argentina	9
India	8
Pakistan	7
Colombia	7
Italy	7
Canada	6

\* Including members already elected to serve their two-year terms in 2021. Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and Poland have also been elected 6 times. Source: United Nations

**statista**





# Decarbonisation of logistics sector

**CONTEXT:** Authors argue that India's logistics sector, which is one of the most carbon-intensive in the world, needs to undergo a green transformation.

## Importance of Logistics in India



13-14% of GDP

₹20 lakh crore+ industry  
Add 10M more by 2027

GST reduced logistics costs by 4%

E-commerce growth

- ✓ **Procurement** – Sourcing raw materials.
- ✓ **Transportation** – Moving goods via road, rail, air, or sea.
- ✓ **Warehousing** – Storing inventory.
- ✓ **Inventory Management** – Tracking stock levels.
- ✓ **Last-Mile Delivery** – Final distribution to consumers.



Mode	Share in Freight	Key Challenges	Govt Initiatives
Road	66%	Congestion, high fuel costs	E-highways (Delhi-Jaipur pilot)
Rail	26%	Slow speeds, capacity limits	DFCs (96% complete)
Water ways	3%	Underdeveloped ports	Sagarmala Project
Air	1%	High costs	Drones for last-mile delivery

## Carbon Emissions Breakdown in Indian Logistics

Sector	Share in Logistics Emissions	Key Issues
Road Freight	88% (trucks, lorries)	Diesel dependency, traffic congestion
Rail Freight	~5% (lower due to electrification)	Underutilized capacity
Aviation	4% (domestic flights)	No viable green fuel alternative yet
Shipping	3% (coastal & inland)	Slow adoption of clean fuels
Warehousing	High energy use (cooling, lighting)	Reliance on grid power (coal-based)

## Why Decarbonise Logistics?

- 13.5% of India's emissions
- Net Zero by 2070
- Clean logistics = long-term growth + lower future costs



# Decarbonisation of logistics sector

**CONTEXT:** Authors argue that India's logistics sector, which is one of the most carbon-intensive in the world, needs to undergo a green transformation.

## Global Best Practices India Can Adopt

### A. Freight Roads to Rail

- China: 50% freight via e-rail
- USA: Rail freight emits 75% less CO<sub>2</sub> than trucks.
- India's Potential:
  - Only 27% freight moves by rail (despite 90% electrification).
  - Double rail's share to 40-50% by 2030

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### SAF & Warehousing

- SAF: Biofuels from agricultural waste (still expensive).
- Solar Warehouses: Rooftop solar panels + AI energy management

### E-Highways & E-Trucks

- Delhi-Jaipur E-Highway Pilot: Overhead electric wires for trucks.
- Benefits:
  - Zero tailpipe emissions.
  - Lower operating costs than diesel

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### Green Maritime Transport

- IMO Target: 50% cut in shipping emissions by 2050.
- India's Opportunity:
  - LNG-powered vessels for coastal shipping.
  - Solar-electric boats for inland waterways

Economic & Environmental Benefits	CO <sub>2</sub> Redn Potential	Economic Impact
Rail Freight (40% share)	50M tons/year	Lower logistics costs
Electric Trucks (30% penetration)	25M tons/year	Cheaper than diesel in long run
Green Warehouses	10M tons/year	Lower electric bills

## India's Decarbonization Strategies

### A. Policy Interventions Needed

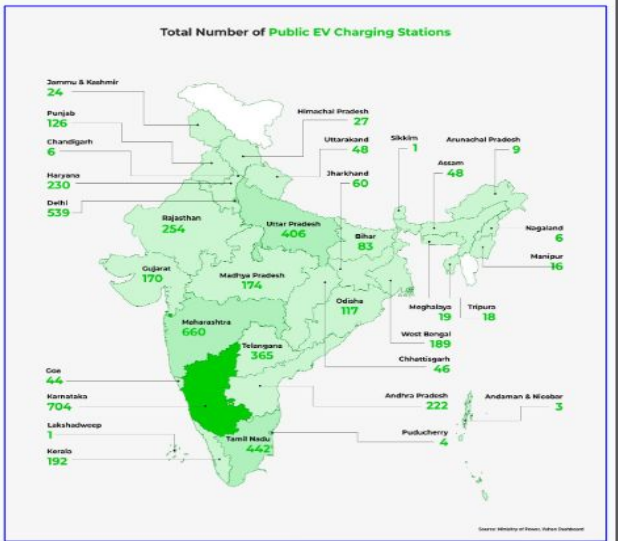
- Mandate Rail Freight Share (40% by 2030 via incentives).
- Subsidize Electric Trucks & Charging Infrastructure.
- Tax Diesel Trucks Higher
- Green Warehousing Certification

### B. Technological Shifts

- Hydrogen Trucks
- AI-Driven Route Optimization
- Smart Grids for E-Highways.

### C. Private Sector Role

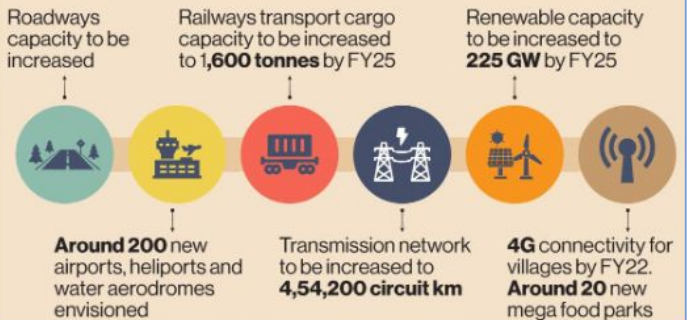
- Flipkart, Amazon, JSW Steel adopting electric fleets.
- Adani Ports testing hydrogen-powered cranes.



## Mains Practise Question

**India's carbon-heavy logistics sector must go green through rail expansion, cleaner fuels, electric trucks, and renewable-powered warehouses – to balance growth with sustainability. Discuss.**  
(15 Marks, 250 words)

## GATI SHAKTI MASTER PLAN





# 1st Atmospheric Monitoring Station



**SYLLABUS : Prelims : Indian & World Geography GS 3 : Indigenization of technology Newspaper : The Indian Express Page Number : 1**

## First Atmospheric Monitoring Station for Cloud Microphysics – Udhampur, J&K



The centre was established by the Central University, Jammu, in collaboration with the Ministry of Earth Sciences

Feature	Details
Institution	Central University of Jammu + Ministry of Earth Sciences + ETH Zurich
Focus Area	Ice Nucleating Particles, cloud dynamics, precipitation, atmospheric chemistry
Global Collaboration Goal	Become part of <b>WMO's Global Atmosphere Watch</b> network

"The climate centre is meant to carry out many kinds of observations related to weather and climate, but the study of INPs is surely going to be its USP (unique selling point)," says Shweta Yadav, the centre in-charge and associate dean of international affairs at the Central University in Jammu.

"At these locations, the clouds literally come to you. So, it is much easier to run your experiments and make observations. The alternative would be to send the instruments on an aircraft into the clouds. That is costly and yields only short-term measurements," says Vijay Kumar Soni, the head of the environment monitoring research centre at India Meteorological Department.

## Ice Nucleating Particles?

Aspect	Details
What are they?	Tiny particles (dust, bacteria, soot, etc.) in the air that <b>help water freeze</b>
Why important?	Help form <b>ice crystals in clouds</b> which eventually lead to <b>rain/snow</b>
Without INPs	Water droplets in clouds may <b>stay liquid even below freezing temperatures</b>
How they affect climate	Influence <b>cloud lifetime, precipitation intensity, and rainfall location</b>

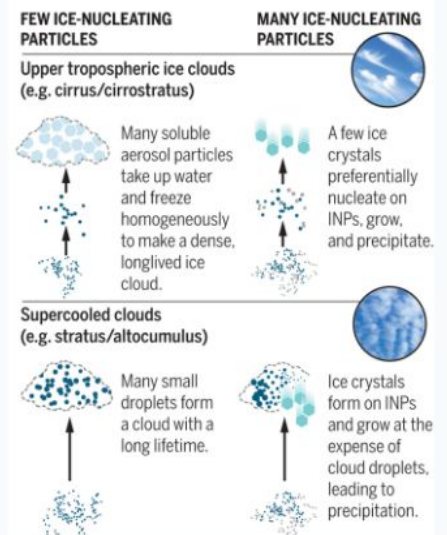
### How Do Clouds Form via INPs?

Water vapour → Supercooled droplets → INPs trigger ice crystals → Crystals grow → Rain/Snow

Clouds form when water vapour in the atmosphere rises up and cools down, condensing on small particles like dust to make water droplets or ice crystals. Once the water droplets coalesce and become bigger, this process can, on its own, result in rainfall. However, in most situations, INPs enter the picture to facilitate and speed up this process.

INPs, which can be mineral dust, soot or biological particles like bacteria or pollen, have some special properties that help in the conversion of water droplets in clouds into ice crystals. Their structure is similar to ice crystals, and their surface is able to attract and hold water molecules.

Without the intervention of INPs, water droplets in clouds would remain in liquid form even at temperatures of -35 degrees Celsius. INPs ensure the formation of ice crystals at -5 to -10 degrees Celsius. Ice crystals are heavier and grow faster by accumulating surrounding water droplets. This results in speeding up of the precipitation process, leading to more widespread rains. In the absence of INPs, water droplets in clouds can hang around for much longer without causing rainfall.



**SYLLABUS : Prelims : Indian & World Geography GS 3 : Indigenization of technology**  
**Newspaper : The Indian Express Page Number : 1**

## Impact and significance

Area	Impact
 Weather Forecasting	Better cloud models → Improved forecasting of rainfall, snow, extreme events
 Scientific Research	Understanding <b>ice formation in clouds</b> , cloud chemistry, precipitation mechanisms
 Global Role	Step towards joining <b>WMO's GAW network</b> – improves India's global scientific presence
 Himalayan Monitoring	Fills a key gap in the <b>weather observation network in J&amp;K and the Himalayan region</b>
 Scientific Talent	Boosts academic research and hands-on training in <b>climate and environmental sciences</b>

"Our current cloud models make certain assumptions about the role of INPs based on our existing understanding. A thorough study of INPs can tell us whether these assumptions are correct or need to be modified. These insights will help us improve our models, which in turn will improve our ability to forecast rains or snow more accurately," says M Ravichandran, a Secretary in the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

The Udhampur centre is important for many other reasons too. India does not have a well-distributed weather and climate observation network in Jammu and Kashmir – and the Himalayan region in general – which is a major shortcoming since the Himalayas are one of the biggest global climate hotspots. This centre will ensure real-time continuous measurements of weather and environmental parameters,

The idea is to eventually make this centre a part of Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) network of World Meteorological Organisation (WMO). The GAW programme seeks to create a standardised and unified dataset of atmospheric processes through a network of laboratories across the globe that make continuous observations of greenhouse gases, ozone, solar radiations, aerosols and other parameters. Though India does participate in and contribute to GAW, it does not have a global GAW station as of now.

The Udhampur station fulfils a key requirement of being a global GAW station that other institutions in the country lack – a remote and quiet location. Global GAW stations are supposed to be located away from human disturbances and sources of pollution.

India's closest global GAW station is in Nepal. The Udhampur centre, regardless of whether it develops into a GAW station, is an invaluable asset for India's atmospheric scientists and offers a big opportunity for India to take the lead in improving the understanding of Himalayan ecosystems.

## UPSC PYQ (M) 2022

Consider the following statements:

1. High clouds primarily reflect solar radiation and cool the surface of the Earth.
2. Low clouds have a high absorption of infrared radiation emanating from the Earth's surface and thus cause warming effect.

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





**SYLLABUS : Prelims:** Economic & Social Development **GS 3 :** Indian Economy  
**Newspaper :** The Indian Express **Page Number :** 16

## Concepts Explained

### 1 Adam Smith's "Absolute Advantage" (1776)

*The Wealth of Nations (1776)*

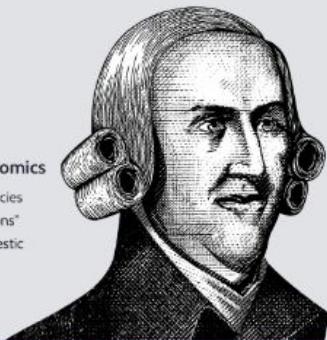
**Countries should produce and export what they can make more efficiently than others.**

**Smith's view = Free trade benefits everyone.**

#### Adam Smith

Born: 1723  
 Died: July 17, 1790

- Founder of Modern Economics
- Advocated for laissez-faire policies
  - Author of "The Wealth of Nations"
  - Created concept of gross domestic product (GDP)



### 2 David Ricardo's "Comparative Advantage" (1817)

*On the Principles of Political Economy and Taxation (1817)*

**Even if one country is better at everything, it should specialize in goods it is relatively better at (lower opportunity cost).**

**Ricardo's idea = Everyone gains from trade**

#### David Ricardo

Born: April 18, 1772  
 Died: September 11, 1823

- Classical Economist and Politician
- Best known for his theories of comparative advantage, economic rents, and the labor theory of value and his 1817 book, "Principles of Political Economy and Taxation"
  - Held company with other influential economists of the time including Thomas Malthus and James Mill
  - Was a member of the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland



## From Globalisation to Protectionism

**US Policy Shift:** began questioning free trade.

### Focus shifted to:

- **Self-sufficiency** in critical sectors (like semiconductors).
- **High tariffs** on imports to protect domestic industries.
- Huge **government subsidies** to boost local manufacturing.

### Why Move Away from Ricardo-Smith Ideas?

- **Over-dependence** on other countries
- **Supply chains** (COVID-19 and Russia-Ukraine war)
- Rising fear of **geopolitical tensions** (China-Taiwan conflict).

**This is strategic autonomy, not just economics!**

## GLOBAL MARKET SHARE OF TOP SEMICONDUCTOR MAKERS

COMPANY	COUNTRY	% SHARE
TSMC	Taiwan	56.7
Samsung	South Korea	8.5
UMC	Taiwan	7.7
GlobalFoundries	US	6.6
SMIC	China	5.4
Powerchip Technology	Taiwan	2.4
Hua Hong Semiconductor	China	1.6
Tower Semiconductor	Israel	1.5
VIS	Taiwan	1.5
All Others	—	8.1

'U.S.-Taiwan Relations in a New Era', Independent Task Force Report No. 81, CFR (2023), 2021 data

### Industrial Policy Return:

The US passed **CHIPS and Science Act** in 2022.

- \$280 billion support package.
- Bring chip manfg **back to America**.
- Intel and TSMC funded



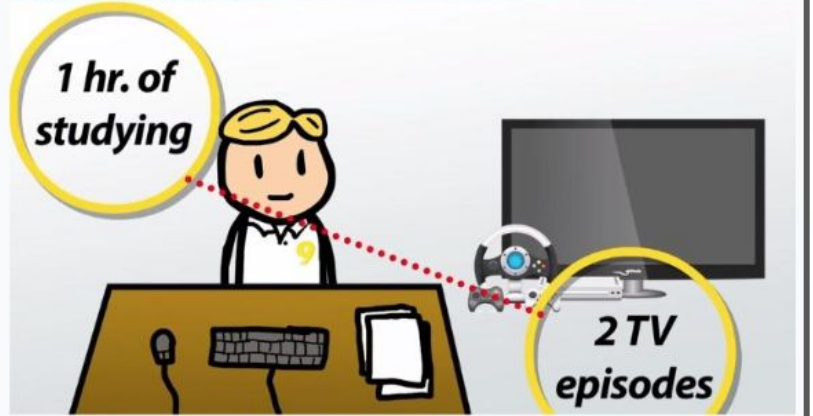
**SYLLABUS : Prelims:** Economic & Social Development **GS 3 :** Indian Economy  
**Newspaper :** The Indian Express **Page Number :** 16

**UPSC PYQ (M) 2018**

**If a commodity is provided free to the public by the Government, then**

- A. the opportunity cost is zero.
- B. the opportunity cost is ignored.
- C. the opportunity cost is transferred from the consumers of the product to the tax-paying public.
- D. the opportunity cost is transferred from the consumers of the product to the Government.

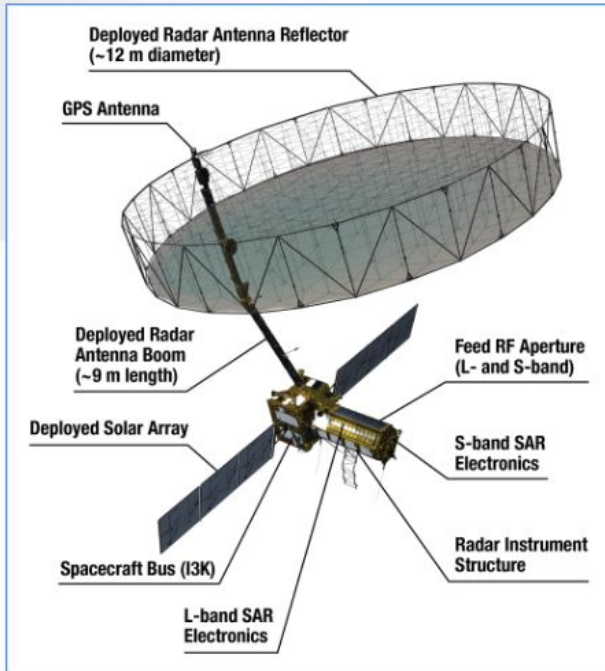
**COST OF EVERYTHING**





**SYLLABUS : Prelims : General Science GS 3 : Awareness in the fields of Space Newspaper : The Indian Express Page Number : 5**

## NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar



- **Launch:** March 2024 (planned; **delayed**)
  - ISRO using its **GSLV** from India
  - @*Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota*
- **Mission Life:** 3 years
- **Orbit:** 747 km (Sun-synchronous LEO)
- **Key Feature: First dual-frequency radar satellite (first-of-its-kind globally)**
  - One radar is from **NASA** (L-band).
  - One radar is from **ISRO** (S-band).

### Benefits of NISAR

NISAR is meant to make extremely granular observations of the Earth at regular intervals. The satellite is powerful enough to capture changes as small as one centimetre in size during its repeated observations over the same terrain. It will therefore be able to study the dynamic processes happening on Earth's surface, like retreat of glaciers, changes in vegetation and forest cover, and even the movements during earthquakes and volcanoes. Scientists expect this satellite to provide new insights into our understanding of processes like climate change or natural hazards.

## Other key updates for Prelims

THE LONG-AWAITED NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Satellite) mission, a first-of-its-kind collaboration between the space agencies of India and the US, may finally be launched in June.

Narayanan informed the minister that the NISAR satellite, which has faced problems during the assembly stage, will be launched on a GSLV rocket sometime in June. The exact date has not yet been announced.

Before NISAR, ISRO has lined up two other crucial missions in May. One of them is the launch of the earth observation satellite **EOS-09**, which will capture high resolution images during day as well as night. The other is the launch of the **test vehicle D2 (TV-D2) mission of the Gaganyaan programme**. TV-D2 is designed to simulate the abort scenario of the Crew Escape System on Gaganyaan, India's first human spaceflight mission.

## Why was the mission delayed?

- The satellite was mostly assembled in the **US**, with ISRO sending its radar and other parts.
- It arrived in **Bengaluru** (India) in 2023 for final testing.
- **12-metre antenna** was found to need improvements.
- It had to be **shipped back to the US** for upgrades.
- Now, it's finally ready and **expected to launch in June 2025**.



**SYLLABUS : Prelims : General Science GS 3 : Awareness in the fields of Space Newspaper : The Hindu Page Number : 10**

**The International Space Station (ISS)**  
A collaboration between the US, Russia, the European Space Agency, Japan and Canada. In orbit since the first module's launch in 1998 and continuously occupied since 2000. It will be deorbited after 2030.

Modules have been gradually added to reach its current mass of 444,615kg

Components built by:  
■ US ■ Europe  
■ Russia ■ Canada  
■ Japan

### Why is the ISS Important?

<b>Scientific Research</b>	Microgravity studies (DNA, robotics, human health).
<b>Human Health in Space</b>	Tests on radiation effects, disease formation.
<b>International Cooperation</b>	Rare example of <b>US-Russia-EU-Japan collaboration.</b>
<b>Economic Growth</b>	Businesses test tech (e.g., 3D printing, satellite repairs).
<b>Future Space Missions</b>	<b>Moon/Mars colonization.</b>

<b>Low Earth Orbit</b>	<b>Piece-by-piece!</b>
<b>Operational until at least 2030</b>	<b>40+ missions</b>

**Where they are**

Both orbit at approximately 27,500km per hour, circling the Earth 16 times in a day

Sources: Nasa; National Space Centre; ESA; FT research © FT

### Other Space Stations

Country	Space Station	Year	Status
USSR	Salyut 1	1971	Decom.
USA	Skylab	1973	Burnt in 1979
Russia	Mir	1986-2001	Crashed into Pacific
China	Tiangong (fully operational)	2022	Active
Future	NASA's Lunar Gateway	~2028	Planned
India	Bharatiya Antriksh Station	2035 (target)	Planning

**WHAT IS AXIOM-4**  
Axiom 4 or Ax-4 is a private spaceflight mission to the ISS. The mission is operated by Axiom Space, a US-based space-infrastructure development company.

**CREW MEMBERS**  
**COMMANDER:** Peggy Whitson (US)  
**PILOT:** Shubhanshu Shukla (India)  
**MISSION SPECIALISTS:** Stawosz Uznanski-Wisniewski (Poland), Tibor Kapu (Hungary)

	Ax-1	Ax-2	Ax-3
<b>WHEN</b>	April 2022	May 2023	January 2024
<b>DAYS IN ORBIT</b>	17	8	18

Network 18 creative

### UPSC PYQ (M) 2016

**The Mangalyaan launched by ISRO**

- is also called the Mars Orbiter Mission
- made India the second country to have a spacecraft orbit the Mars after USA
- made India the only country to be successful in making its spacecraft orbit the Mars in its very first attempt

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

### UPSC PYQ (M)

**Q. What is the main task of India's third moon mission which could not be achieved in its earlier mission? List the countries that have achieved this task. Introduce the subsystems in the spacecraft launched and explain the role of the 'Virtual Launch Control Centre' at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre which contributed to the successful launch from Sriharikota. (2023)**

**Q. What is India's plan to have its own space station and how will it benefit our space programme? (2019)**





# Memory of the World Register



**SYLLABUS : Prelims :** Current events of National & International importance **GS 3 :** Indian Culture  
**Newspaper :** The Indian Express **Page Number :** 7

**What is UNESCO's Memory of the World Register?**

1992 (Cultural loss)

**Key Principles**  
 Universal Access  
 Prevent "Collective Amnesia"

**Governance**  
 International Advisory Committee – 14 experts  
 Regional/National Committees

✓ 570 entries globally (74 new in 2025)  
 ✓ 14 from India

Country	Notable MoW Entries
Egypt	Pyramid Texts
Germany	Gutenberg Bible
China	Confucian Classics

**Some of India's Entries in the MoW Register**

Entry Name	Location (Institution)	Year
<i>I.A.S. Tamil Medical Manuscript Collection</i>	Institute of Asian Studies, Chennai	1997
<i>Archives of the Dutch East India Company</i>	Multiple locations: - Madras Record Office (India)	2003
<i>Shaiva Manuscript in Pondicherry</i>	French Institute of Pondicherry	2005
<i>Rigveda</i>	Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune	2007
<i>Tarikh-e-Khandan-e-Timuriyah</i>	Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Library, Patna	2011
<i>Laghukālachakratantrārājatīka Vimalaprabhā</i>	The Asiatic Society, Kolkata	2011
<i>Shāntinātha Charitra</i>	Laibhai Dalpatbhai Museum, Ahmedabad	2013
<i>Gilgit Manuscript</i>	National Archives of India, New Delhi	2017
<i>Maitreyavarakarana</i>	Asiatic Society, Kolkata	2017

## Why Were the Bhagavad Gita & Natyashastra Added?

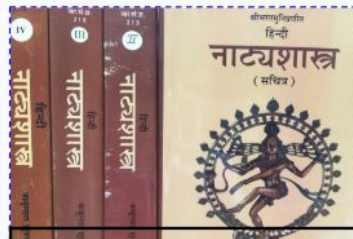


**Key Themes:**

- **Dharma (Duty)**
- **Yoga Paths** – Karma (action), Bhakti (devotion), Jnana (knowledge).

**Global Influence:**

- Translated into **100+ languages**.
- Studied by thinkers like **Einstein, Thoreau, Gandhi**



**2,000-year-old Sanskrit text by Bharata Muni.**

**Key Contributions:**

- **Defines classical Indian arts** (dance, music, theatre).
- Concepts like **Rasa (aesthetic emotions), Abhinaya (acting techniques)**.

**Legacy:**

- Foundation for **Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Odissi** dances.
- Influenced **Southeast Asian performance arts** (e.g., Balinese dance).

Describing the inclusion as “a proud moment for every Indian across the world”, Prime Minister Narendra Modi posted on X, “The inclusion of the Gita and Natyashastra in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register is a global recognition of our time-less wisdom and rich culture. The Gita and Natyashastra have nurtured civilisation, and consciousness for centuries. Their insights continue to inspire the world.”



# Memory of the World Register



**SYLLABUS : Prelims :** Current events of National & International importance **GS 3 :** Indian Culture  
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## UPSC PYQ (M) 2024

Consider the following properties included in the World Heritage List released by UNESCO:

1. Shantiniketan
2. Rani-ki-Vav
3. Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas
4. Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodhgaya

How many of the above properties were included in 2023?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four





**Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the United Nations Security Council (UNSC):**

1. The UNSC is responsible for maintaining international peace and security, including imposing sanctions and authorising military interventions.
2. Only the permanent members (China, France, Russia, UK, and US) have veto power and can block any resolution.
3. Non-permanent members of the UNSC are elected for one-year terms.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Answer: a**

**Q2. Consider the following statements regarding India's first Atmospheric Monitoring Station for Cloud Microphysics:**

1. It has been established in Udhampur, Jammu & Kashmir, by the Central University of Jammu in collaboration with the Ministry of Earth Sciences and ETH Zurich.
2. The station focuses on studying ice nucleating particles, cloud dynamics, precipitation, and atmospheric chemistry.
3. One of its goals is to become part of the World Meteorological Organization's Global Atmosphere Watch network.

**How many of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer: c**

**Q3. Consider the following statements regarding classical theories of international trade:**

1. According to Adam Smith's theory of Absolute Advantage, countries should produce and export goods they can make more efficiently than others, advocating for free trade.
2. David Ricardo's theory of Comparative Advantage suggests that even if one country is better at producing all goods, it should specialize in those it can produce at a lower opportunity cost.

**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. Consider the following statements regarding the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission:**

1. NISAR is the world's first dual-frequency radar satellite, featuring one L-band radar from NASA and one S-band radar from ISRO.
2. The satellite will be launched by ISRO using a GSLV rocket from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.
3. It will operate in a geostationary orbit and has a mission life of 50 years.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Answer: a**

**Q5. Consider the following statements regarding UNESCO's Memory of the World Register:**

1. The register was launched in 1992 to prevent cultural loss and preserve documentary heritage through universal access.
2. It is governed by an International Advisory Committee composed of experts, along with regional and national committees.

**Which of the statements given above is/are NOT correct?**

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

**Answer: d**





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