VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

08th May 2025

The Analyst Handout
08th May 2025

Operation Sindoor

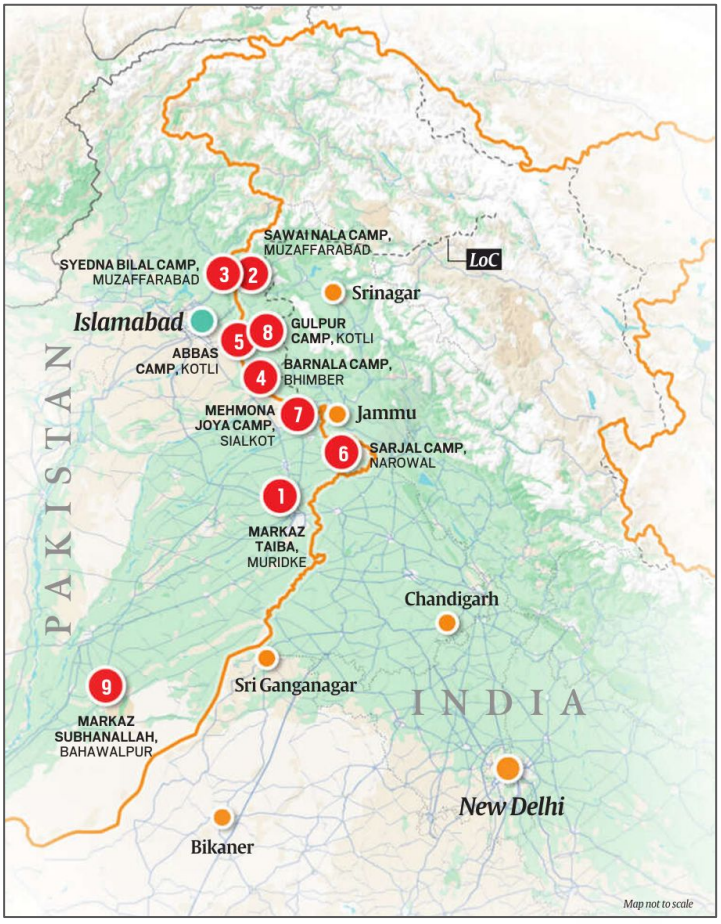
CONTEXT: Understanding **Operation Sindoor** and **India's Military Operations Against Pakistan.**

What is Operation Sindoor?

Understanding Operation Sindoor and India's Military Operation

- **Objective** against terrorist infrastructure
- **Trigger:** April 22, 2025 Pahalgam attack
- **Air, naval,** and **land-based precision strikes** for the **1sttime**

Aspect	Past Ops (2016–2019)	Operation Sindoor (2025)
Scope	Single location (e.g., Balakot camp)	**9 sites across Pakistan/PoK**
Tech	Limited precision strikes	**AI-driven intel + 24 missile/ Kamikaze drones strikes**
Obj've	Retaliation	**Degrade terror logistics & leadership**
Risk	Avoided deep strikes	**Struck deep inside Pakistan**



Weapons & Tactics: Tech-Driven Assault

HAMMER: The Highly Agile and Manoeuvrable Munition Extended Range (HAMMER) air-to-ground precision-guided weapon system for the Rafale fighter aircraft has a range of up to 70 km, and can also be fitted to bombs and various guided systems.

Built by the French aerospace, defence, and security corporation Safran, the HAMMER weapon system is highly versatile, and can be used for precision strikes against a range of targets in medium-range tactical operations.

According to the Safran Group, the system is autonomous and insensitive to jamming, and can be launched from a low altitude over rough terrain.

METEOR: The Meteor is a new-generation Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) system which is effective in dense electronic-warfare environments.

According to its manufacturer MBDA, the missile's solid-fuel 'ramjet' motor provides it with thrust all the way to the target intercept, and thus the largest 'No Escape Zone' of any air-to-air missile system.

BRAHMOS: These supersonic cruise missiles, which have been operationalised in all three defence services, are built by BrahMos Aerospace, a joint venture between India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya.

BrahMos missiles operate at close to Mach 3 speed in the cruise phase, which ensures reduced flight time, lower dispersion of targets, and quicker engagement time and non-interception.

The missile operates on a 'Fire and Forget Principle', adopting varieties of flights on its way to the target. As per its website, cruising altitude could be up to 15 km and terminal altitude as low as 10 metres. The missile carries a conventional warhead weighing 200-300 kg.

The range of some BrahMos missiles for land and ship attacks have been nearly doubled in recent years.

LOITERING MUNITIONS: They are used for surveillance and identification of targets, and can carry out precision strikes, autonomously or otherwise. The Armed Forces in the last few years have been procuring a range of drones, including loitering munitions.

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SCALP: This is an air-launched cruise missile with stealth features, designed for long-range deep strikes. SCALP-EG (*Système de Croisière Autonome à Longue Portée — Emploi Général*), known as Storm Shadow in Britain, can be operated at night and in all weather

The missile, manufactured by the European multinational MBDA, has a range of 450 km, and is difficult to detect due to its low-flying capability when fired from an aircraft.

Its advanced and highly accurate navigation system, which uses Inertial Navigation System (INS), Global Positioning System

Platforms Used:

- **IAF Rafales** (SCALP/HAMMER)
- **Sukhoi-30MKIs** (Air cover + electronic warfare)
- **Naval Surveillance**

India's Key Military Operations Against Pakistan

A. 1965 War

- **Operation Riddle:**
  - **Goal:** Counter Pakistan's **Operation Gibraltar** (infiltration in J&K).
  - **Action:** India attacked **Lahore and Kasur** (Sept 1965).
  - **Outcome:** Pakistan's offensive crippled; led to the **Tashkent Agreement**.
- **Operation Ablaze:**
  - **Pre-emptive mobilization** before the 1965 war.

B. 1971 War

- **Operation Cactus Lily:**
  - **Meghna Heli Bridge:** IAF airlifted troops to **Dhaka**, bypassing Pakistani defenses.
  - **Result:** Accelerated **Bangladesh's liberation**.
- **Operation Trident & Python (Navy):**
  - **Target:** Karachi's port (Pakistan's economic hub).
  - **First Use of Anti-Ship Missiles** in the region.

C. 1984: Operation Meghdoot (Siachen Glacier)

- **Why?** Pakistan allowed foreign expeditions to claim Siachen.
- **Action:** India **preemptively occupied** key heights.
- **Legacy:** India controls **Siachen Glacier** to this day.

D. 1999 Kargil War: Operations Vijay & Safed Sagar

- **Operation Vijay (Army):**
  - Recaptured peaks like **Tiger Hill** from Pakistani intruders.
  - **Key Figure:** Capt. Vikram Batra ("Yeh dil maange more!").
- **Operation Safed Sagar (IAF):**
  - **First high-altitude airstrikes** since 1971.
  - Used **Mirage-2000s** for precision bombing.

E. 2016 Surgical Strikes (Unnamed)

- **Trigger: Uri attack** (19 soldiers killed).
- **Action: Para-SF crossed LoC**, destroyed terror launch pads.
- **Impact:** Introduced **"proactive retaliation"** doctrine.

F. 2019: Operation Bandar (Balakot Airstrike)

- **Trigger: Pulwama attack**
- **Action:** IAF bombed **Jaish-e-Mohammed camp in Balakot**.
- **Significance:** First air strike **inside Pakistan since 1971**.

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India-Pakistan Relations: A Deteriorating Dynamic

Past peace efforts	Shimla Agreement, Lahore Declaration
Doctrine Shift	*(Cold Start Doctrine)* to preemptive strikes
Diplomatic Isolation of Pakistan	UN, FATF / **China's Role**
Changing Regional Power Equations	**India can act without US/West approval**
Impact on SAARC & BIMSTEC	Eroded **SAARC** / Strengthened **BIMSTEC**

China calls Operation Sindoor 'regrettable', urges India & Pakistan to 'exercise restraint'

ThePrint

Pakistan's Proxy War: Observations

State-backed terror groups	Ops: training camps, funding hubs, and leadership
Deep State	*Pakistan's military-ISI complex*
Use of Technology in Counterterrorism	**Kinetic strikes** (military) + **info warfare** (global narrative control)
Funding of Terrorism	**Hawala Networks & NGOs**
India's Countermeasures	ED & NIA / FATF

FESTERING PROXY-WAR CATALYSED BY PAKISTAN IN KASHMIR SINCE 1989 AND THE HIDDEN DESIRE TO UPGRADE IT TO K-2 (KASHMIR-KHALISTAN) REMAIN SERIOUS THREATS. PAKISTAN HAS TRIED TO KEEP ALIVE THE BOGEY OF NUCLEAR RED-LINES COUPLED WITH HYBRID WAR

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Ethical Dimensions

Just War Theory Debate	**UN Charter** (Article 51)
State Sovereignty vs. Counterterrorism	*"Terror havens are legitimate targets" (Osama Bin Laden)*
Ethics of Funding & Proxy Wars	**e.g.,** US aid diverted to LeT CPEC investments fund Army
Funding of Terrorism	**Hawala Networks & NGOs**
India's Moral High Ground	"Zero Tolerance for Terror" at **G20, UNGA**

Just War Criteria

Jus ad bellum (when it is right to go to war)	***Jus in bello*** (how a war should be fought
✓ **Last Resort** – all other methods must tried first ✓ **Right intention** - the intention of war is to right a wrong ✓ **Just Cause** - there must a good reason for going to war ✓ **Right authority** – only public authorities are legitimate, terrorist organisations are not enough ✓ **Comparative justice** – the suffering caused must be less than the suffering that exists ✓ **Probability of success** – there is no point in fighting and wasting lives if you're not going to win	✓ **Discrimination** – acts of war should be directed at the combatants not civilians ✓ **Minimum force** – death and destruction should be limited ✓ **Proportionality** – the force used must be proportional to the wrong endured and to the possible good that may come

UPSC PYQ (M) 2018

What is "Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD)",sometimes seen in the news?

a) An Israeli Radar System
b) India's indigenous anti-missile programme
c) An American anti-missile system
d) A defence collaboration between Japan and South Korea

UPSC PYQ (P) 2024

Operations undertaken by the Army towards upliftment of the local population in remote areas to include addressing of their basic needs is called:

a) Operation Sankalp
b) Operation Maitri
c) Operation Sadbhavana
d) Operation Madad

Mains Practise Question

Operation Sindoor represents a paradigm shift in India's security strategy. Discuss its implications for India-Pakistan relations, counterterrorism, and ethical dimensions of international strikes. (15 Marks, 250 words)

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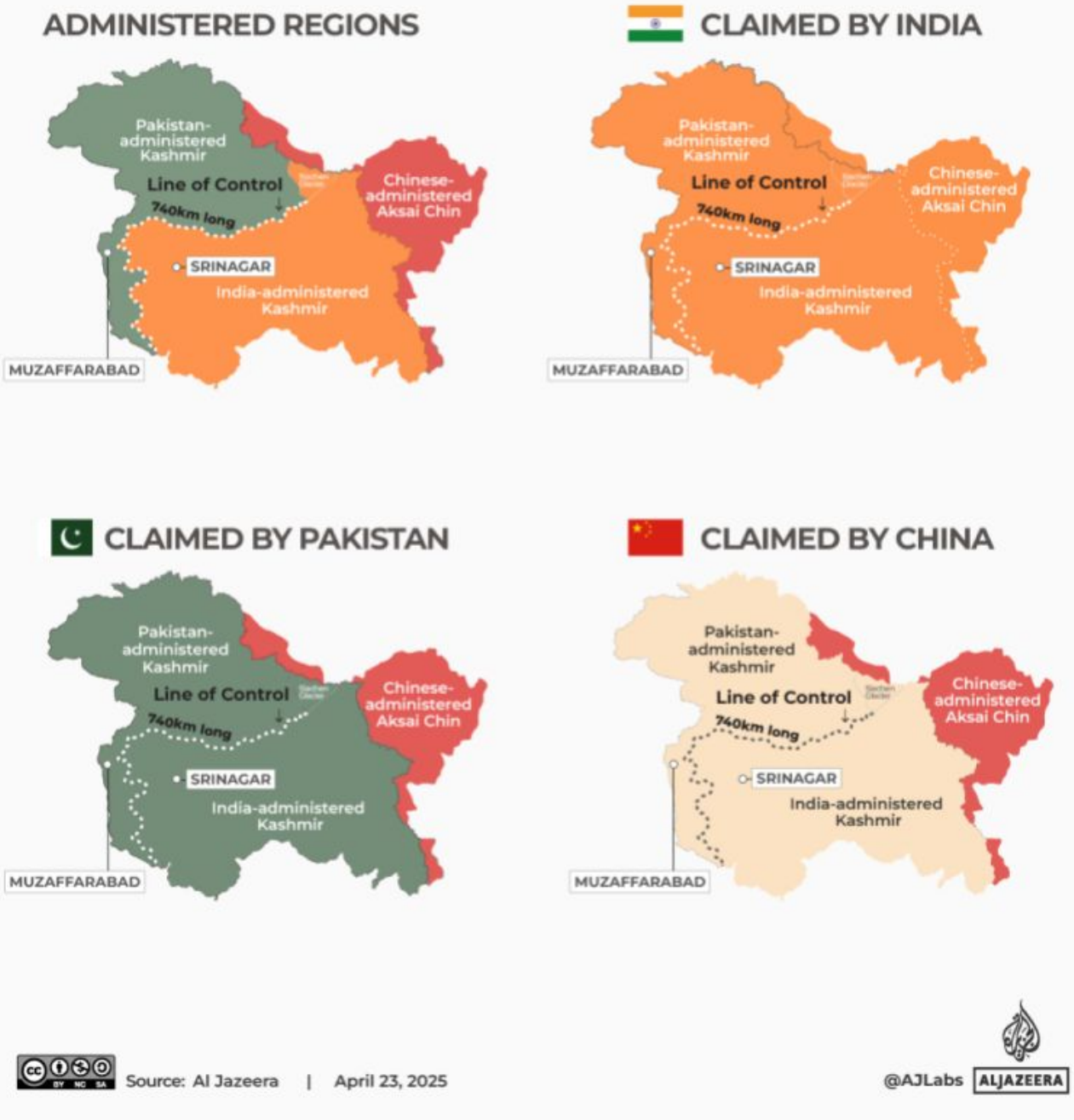
KASHMIR

Territorial claims

India, Pakistan and China each claim parts of Kashmir.



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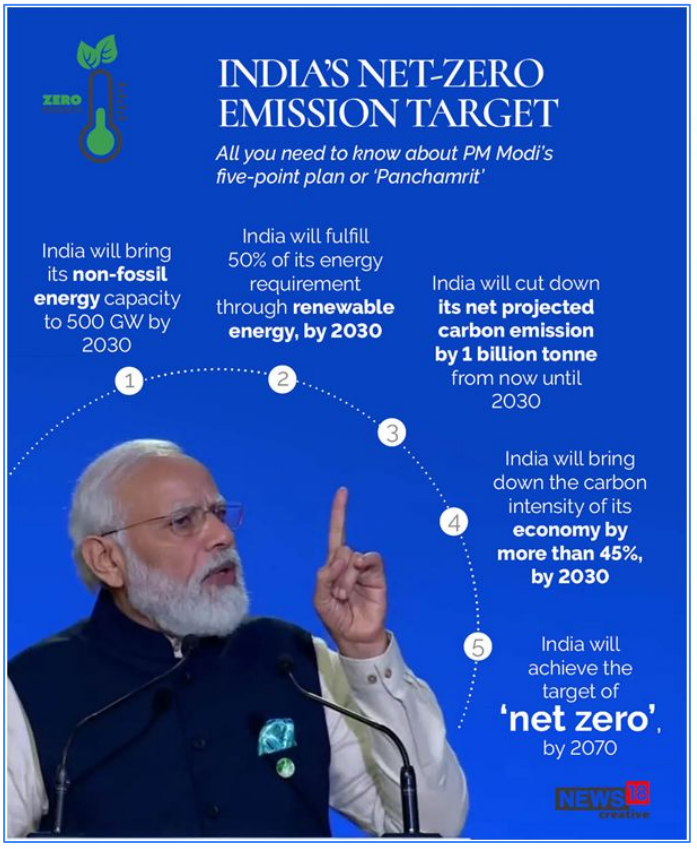
India-US Energy Future

CONTEXT: U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance signaled *enhanced strategic cooperation with India in energy* and defense.

India and the U.S. are deepening their partnership in **energy security & technology wrt**:

- **Critical Minerals**
- **Nuclear Energy**

Strategic Synergies: Why This Matters	
Energy Transition	**India** = reliable tech and materials; **U.S. companies** = access to a large energy market.
Supply Chain Security	**Reduce dependence on China**
Strategic Partnership	Deepens India–U.S. alignment in the Indo-Pacific
Green Tech Leadership	Positions both as leaders in low-carbon technologies and climate diplomacy.



1. Critical Minerals: The Hidden Foundation

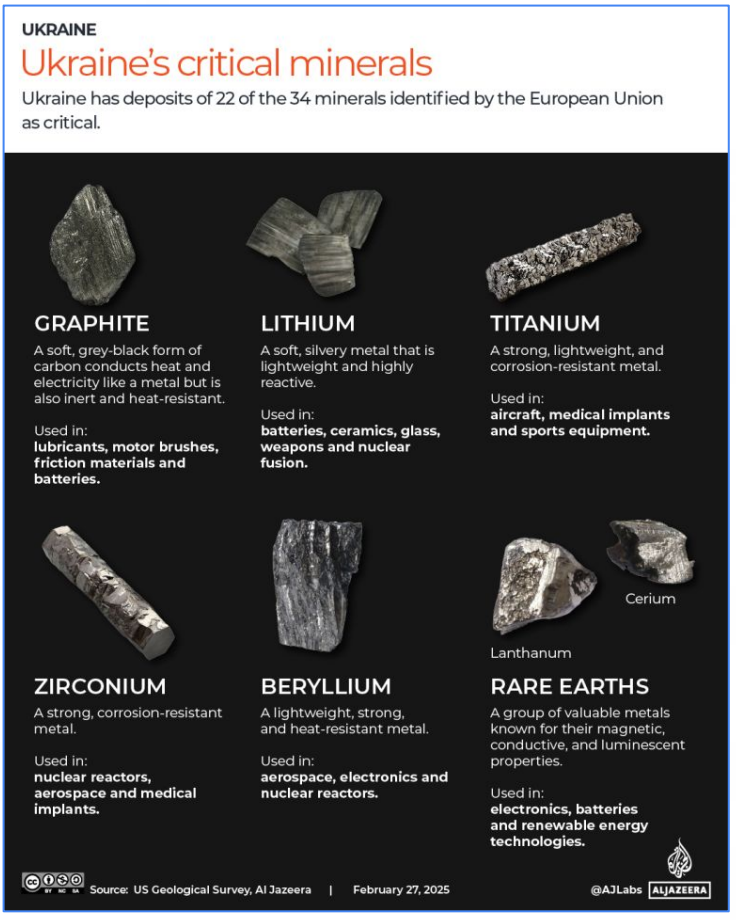
Why Do They **Matter**?

India-U.S. Collaboration: Key Steps

✅ **2024 MoU**: Diversify supply chains from China.

✅ **Three Guiding Principles**:

- Cross-Sector Approach
- Global Partnerships
- Long-Term Vision (Mines take 12–16 years to develop—plan for 20+ years)



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2. Nuclear Energy: The Next Frontier

India's Ambitious Goals

- **Target**: 100 GW nuclear capacity by 2047 (8 GW today).
- Net-Zero by 2070 may require 200+ GW nuclear power.

Challenges

⚠ **Slow Deployment**: Current reactors take **9+ years** to build.

⚠ **Funding Gap**: Needs **$180 billion** by 2047—requires private investment.

⚠ **Liability Law**: India's **2010 Nuclear Damage Act** deters private players.

Proposals for India-US Energy future

Critical Minerals

✅A **Mineral Exchange platform** (real-time trade, investment, blockchain traceability).
✅A **Critical Minerals Consortium** to co-invest globally (Africa, South America, Southeast Asia).
✅**Use of Quad grouping** (India, U.S., Japan, Australia) as a multiplier.

Nuclear Energy

✅ **Small Modular Reactors**
✅ **Policy Reforms**

- Faster approvals, standardized designs.
- Fix liability law to attract private capital.

✅ **New Applications**

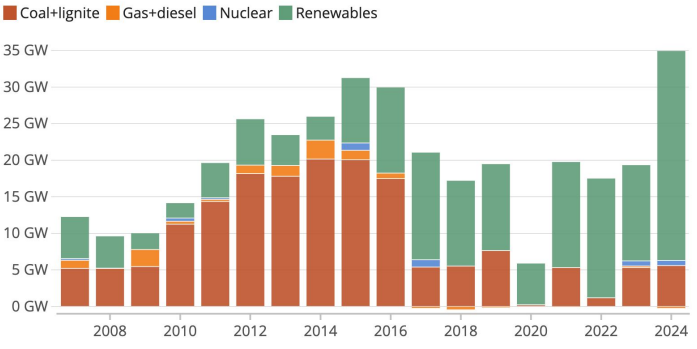
- Use nuclear for green steel
- Powering AI data centers

Mains Practise Question

"A resilient energy future needs a long-term vision, not just short-term wins." Discuss in India's context.
(15 Marks, 250 words)

India registers record capacity additions in 2024

Annual net additions of power capacity in India, in gigawatts (GW)



Source: Global Integrated Power Tracker (coal, oil+gas net additions), Central Electricity Authority (renewables + nuclear net additions) • "Renewables" for the purposes of this briefing follows the definition of the Central Electricity Authority to include solar, wind, large and small-scale hydropower, and bioenergy.

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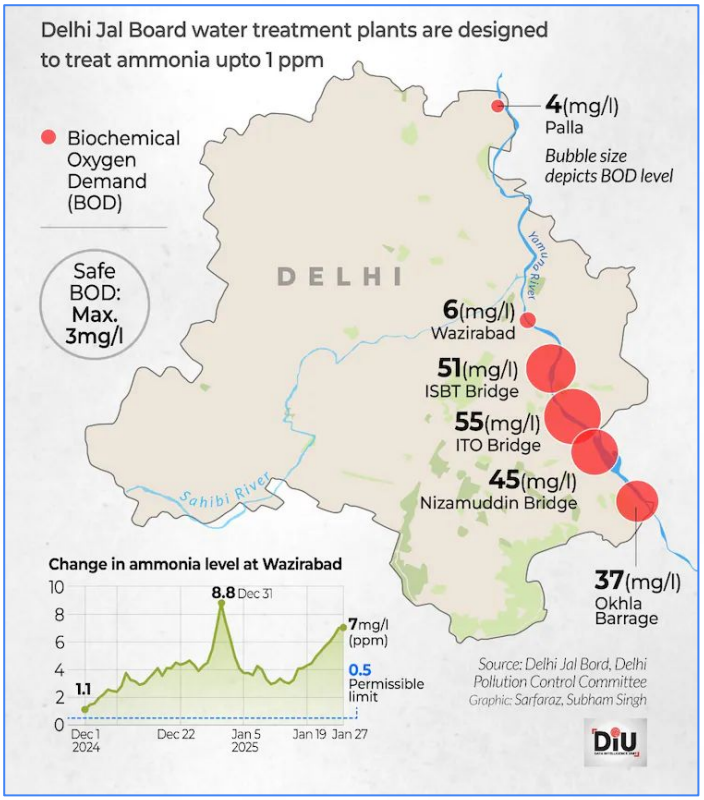
River Cleanup Proposal

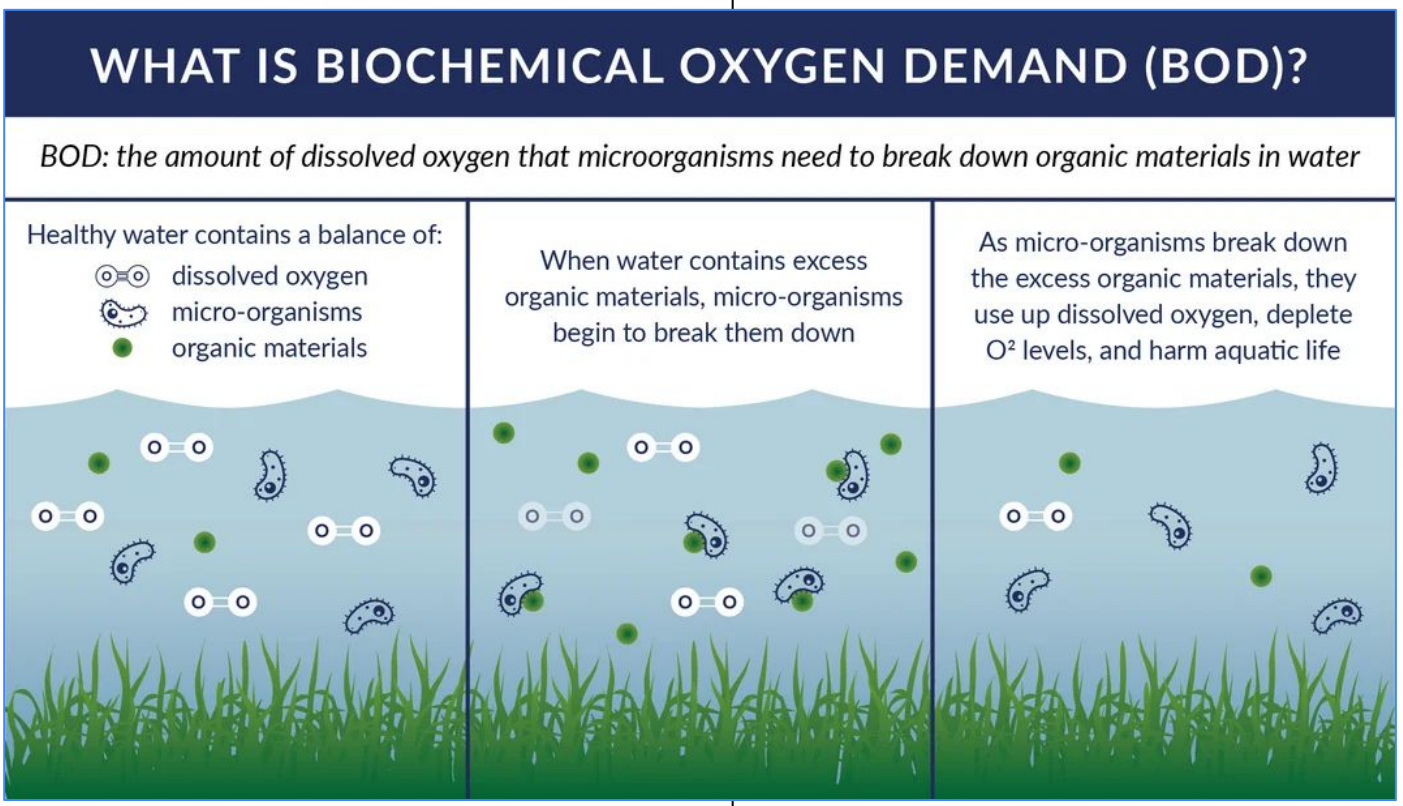
SYLLABUS: GS Paper 3: Environmental pollution and degradation
Prelims: General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity & climate change
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No : 5**

Yamuna River Pollution



Current Problems:

❌ **Untreated sewage** from slums/villages
❌ **Open defecation & unhygienic conditions**
❌ **Delhi's STPs can't handle all sewage** (792 MGD generated vs. 712 MGD treated).



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Project Highlights

Cost	₹3,104.57 crore
Funding Scheme	**AMRUT 2.0** (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation)
Timeline	3-month planning + 18-month execution (excluding monsoon delays)
Coverage	416 unauthorised colonies + 115 villages = **~35 lakh residents**
Infrastructure	40 DSTPs + extension of sewer lines + 10 MGD STP at Delhi Gate Phase-III
Execution Oversight	Project Management Consultant (PMC) + dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU)

AMRUT 2.0

Total incentive allocation: ₹2.77 lakh cr

Will target universal coverage of water supply

Provide household tap connections in all 4,378 statutory towns

100% coverage of household sewerage/ septage mgmt in 500 AMRUT cities

scheme. It proposes a three-month planning period followed by 18 months of execution, excluding monsoon delays. For 2025-26, an amount of Rs 613.4 crore has been earmarked.

Benefit	Impact
Yamuna Rejuvenation	Major step towards *reducing direct discharge* of untreated sewage
Urban Sanitation	Better sewerage = improved hygiene, **reduced vector-borne diseases**
Inclusive Urbanisation	Addresses long-neglected unauthorised colonies and villages
Decentralised Model	Reduces load on trunk infrastructure, improves treatment efficiency

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New Skilling Initiatives by Cabinet

SYLLABUS: GS Paper 3: Inclusive growth and issues arising from it
Prelims: Economic & Social Development
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No : 12**

🏗️ Cabinet Approves Expansion of Five New IITs & ₹60,000 Crore Scheme to Upgrade ITIs

🏛️ Why These Measures?

- Expanding high-end engineering research
- Bridging the skilled labour gap

Aligns with initiatives like:

- *National Education Policy 2020*
- *Skill India Mission*
- *Make in India*
- *Viksit Bharat @2047*

📦 IIT Expansion Plan: Scope & Details

🏫 Target IITs:

- **IIT Tirupati** (Andhra Pradesh)
- **IIT Palakkad** (Kerala)
- **IIT Bhilai** (Chhattisgarh)
- **IIT Jammu** (Jammu & Kashmir)
- **IIT Dharwad** (Karnataka)

Component	Details
🧾 **Cost**	₹11,828.79 crore over 4 years (2025–29)
🏗️ **Focus**	Phase B of construction – expanding academic blocks, hostels, labs
👨‍🏫 **Faculty**	Creation of **130 new professor-level posts**
🔬 **Research Parks**	One **research park** at each of the five IITs to promote **industry-academia collaboration**
🎓 **Student Strength**	Will increase by 6,576 students — from current **7,111** to **13,687**

🛠️ National Scheme to Upgrade ITIs

Contributor	Share
Centre	₹30,000 crore
States	₹20,000 crore
Industry	₹10,000 crore
International Co-financing	50% of Central share by **World Bank + ADB**

Feature	Explanation
🏫 **Target**	Upgrade **1,000 Government ITIs** in **hub-and-spoke model**
🧵 **Industry Alignment**	Curriculum aligned with industry needs and revamped trades
🏛️ **NSTIs Support**	Capacity expansion of 5 **National Skill Training Institutes**
🏢 **Centres of Excellence**	5 **National Centres of Excellence for Skilling** will be set up
👨‍🎓 **Targeted Beneficiaries**	**20 lakh youth** to be trained over 5 years
🤝 **Governance**	Institutes to be **government-owned, industry-managed**, promoting PPP

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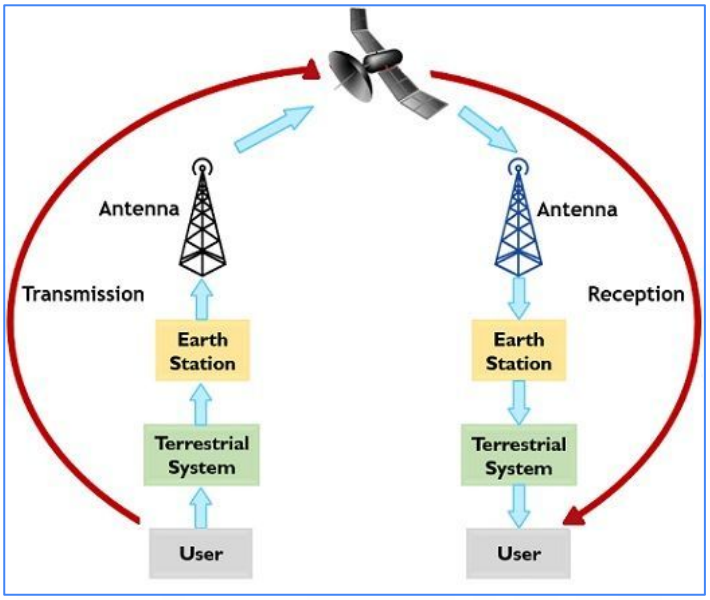
Satellite Internet Services

SYLLABUS: GS Paper 3: Awareness in the fields of IT
Prelims: General Science
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No : 19**

📡 What is Satellite Communication (Satcom)?

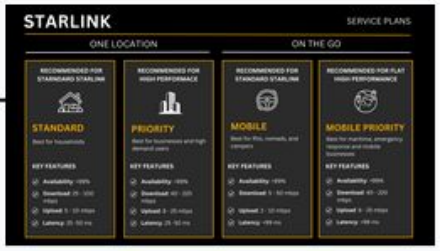


Satellite communication services rely on an array of satellites in orbit to offer connectivity to homes and businesses on the ground. They are an alternative to ground based communication, called terrestrial networks, such as cable, fibre, or digital subscriber line (DSL), and they don't require wires to transmit data. Starlink operates the world's largest satellite constellation, with around 7,000 satellites in orbit.

points: wider coverage, and a more resilient network. Even though the latency of satcom services can at times be higher than terrestrial broadband networks, they can cover vast swathes of areas with very little physical equipment needing to be installed.

Basics

- **Use of orbiting satellites**
- **Services:** internet, voice, and data
- **Main USP:** remote and rural regions
- **Low Earth Orbit:** Starlink (SpaceX), OneWeb (Eutelsat + Bharti), and Kuiper (Amazon)



🏛 Guidelines — Strategic and Regulatory Context

Securing Indian Space

- DoT mandates 29 security conditions for satcom players
- For first time, rules notified for satcom mobility services
- Rules applicable to all existing and upcoming satcom firms
- Firms need to ensure provisioning for NavIC in a time-bound manner
- Websites blocked in India need to be blocked on satellite services too
- **Network control and monitoring centre has to be located in India**
- Inter satellite communications links allowed but traffic has to route through Indian gateways only
- Satcom firms need to provide real time monitoring of services

Local Manufacturing & Indigenisation

Phased Indigenisation	Companies must submit a **year-wise plan** to localise at least **20% of their ground infrastructure** (user terminals, gateways) within **5 years**.
Ground Segment	Includes antennas, ground stations, and user terminals — critical for domestic value addition and supply chain resilience.

Data Localisation & Cyber Sovereignty

No Offshore Routing	Indian user data must not be routed via **gateways or PoPs outside India**.
No Mirroring/Decryption Abroad	Companies must **not copy or decrypt** telecom data outside India.
India-Based Data Centres & DNS	All DNS and storage functions must be conducted **within Indian territory**.
Monitoring Infrastructure in India	All core monitoring/control systems, including **lawful interception** facilities, must be based in India.

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Satellite Internet Services

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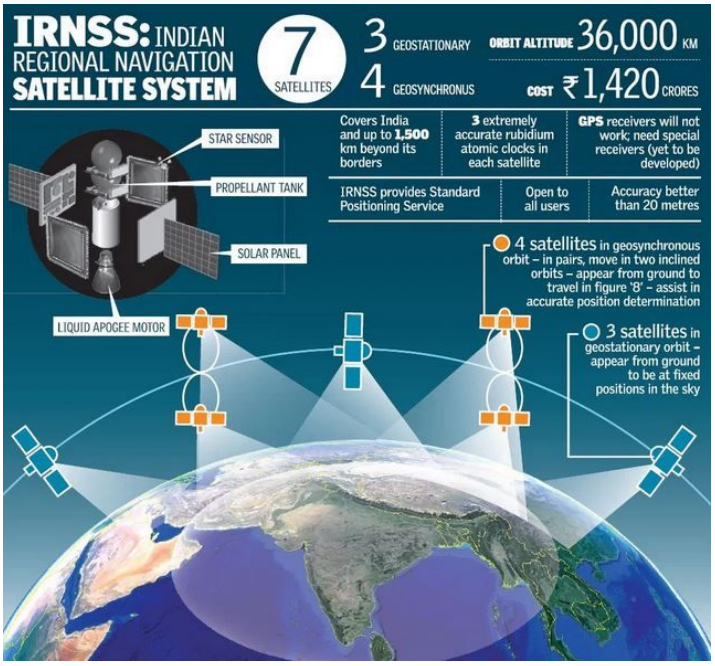
Guidelines — Strategic and Regulatory Context

NavIC Adoption

NavIC-based Terminal Support	Companies must enable India's indigenous navigation system (**NavIC**) on their user terminals on a **"best effort" basis**, with full transition by **2029**.
Strategic Autonomy	Reduces over-reliance on GPS (USA), GLONASS (Russia), or Galileo (EU) and boosts India's **Atmanirbhar** tech base.



UPSC PYQ 2018

Why is Indian Regional Navigational Satellite System (IRNSS) needed? How does it help in navigation?

National Security & Law Enforcement Provisions

Special Monitoring Zones	50 km radius near **international borders and coastal EEZ** demarcated for **real-time user monitoring**.
Live Location Sharing	Service providers must offer **real-time geolocation data (lat-long)** of user terminals to LEAs when demanded.
Service Restriction During Hostilities	Operators must be able to **disable services** in specific areas or for specific users during **emergencies/conflicts**.
Security Clearance	Separate clearances required for **data and voice services**, ensuring compliance with **national security norms**.

UPSC PYQ 2018

With reference to the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), consider the following statements:

1. *IRNSS has three satellites in geostationary and four satellites in geosynchronous orbits.*
2. *IRNSS covers entire India and about 5500 sq. Km beyond its borders.*
3. *India will have its own satellite navigation system with full global coverage by the middle of 2019.*

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None

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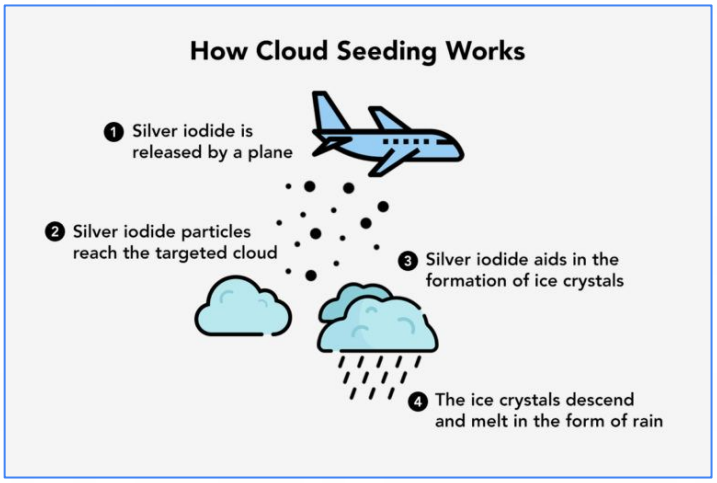
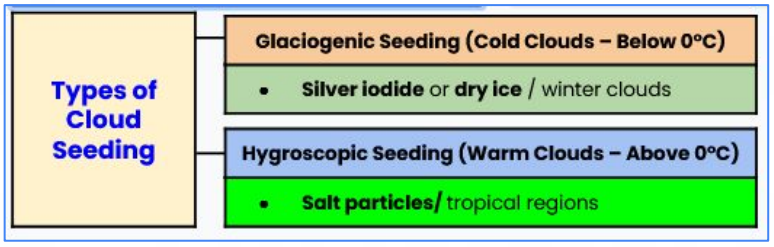
Artificial Rain Pilot in Delhi

SYLLABUS: GS Paper 3: Environmental pollution and degradation
Prelims: General Science
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No :**



Steps Involved	
1. Identify Suitable Clouds	**Cumulus** (rain-bearing) clouds
2. Choose Seeding Method	**Aircraft, Drones, or Ground-Based Generators** release seeding agents.
3. Disperse Seeding Agents	Common agents: **Silver Iodide, Potassium Iodide, Dry Ice (CO_2), or Salt.**
4. Nucleation Process	Particles act as **"seeds"** for ice crystals or water droplets to form around.
5. Growth & Precipitation	Droplets merge, become heavy, and fall as **rain/snow**.



Why is Cloud Seeding Needed?
✅ ***Drought Mitigation*** – in dry regions.
✅ ***Agriculture Boost***
✅ ***Hail Suppression*** – Reduces crop damage
✅ ***Water Reservoir Management*** – Enhances snowfall in mountains to feed rivers.
✅ ***Forest Fire Prevention***

In a bid to combat air pollution and water scarcity, the Delhi Cabinet on Wednesday approved a project worth ₹3.21 crore to conduct five cloud seeding trials across the Capital.

On Wednesday, Mr. Sirsa said that each trial will cost ₹55 lakh, and ₹2.75 crore had been set aside for five trials. He added that the government will spend ₹46 lakh to cover aircraft calibration, chemical storage, logistics, and other costs involved in the preparations.

ferred to the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, which has been tasked with implementing the project by overseeing aircraft deployment, chemical dispersal, scientific modelling, planning, and operational logistics.

UPSC PYQ 2019

In the context of which of the following do some scientists suggest the use of cirrus cloud thinning technique and the injection of sulphate aerosol into stratosphere?

(a) Creating the artificial rains in some regions
(b) Reducing the frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones
(c) Reducing the adverse effects of solar wind on the Earth
(d) Reducing the global warming

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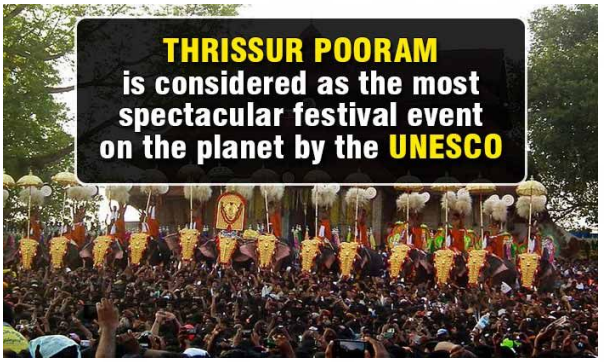
Thrissur Pooram

SYLLABUS: GS Paper 1: Indian culture
Prelims: Festivals of India
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 7**

Aspect	Details
Nature	Annual **Hindu temple festival** in **Thrissur, Kerala**
Timing	Held in **Medam month** (April–May) When star Pooram rises
Temples Involved	Ten temples, led by **Paramekkavu and Thiruvambady**
Signature Events	**Elephant parade** with ***golden caparisons*** (nettipattam), ***percussion shows*** (ilanjithara melam), and ***grand fireworks***
Founder	Started by **Sakthan Thampuran**, Maharaja of Cochin (1790–1805)
Cultural Value	Called the **"Mother of All Poorams"**, symbolizing **Kerala's cultural identity, syncretism, and temple arts tradition**

Regulation	Explanation
Parade Duration	Elephants should not be paraded for more than **3 hours at a time** — to reduce physical and mental stress.
Mandatory Rest	Minimum **3-day rest** between two public events per elephant — ensures recuperation.
Spacing Norms	At least **8 meters** between elephants in parades — for safety and comfort.
Daytime Road Parades Prohibited	Aims to reduce heat stress and traffic risk.
Enforce 2012 Rules Strictly	Existing **state rules** for elephant welfare to be rigorously implemented.
Religious Use Not Compulsory	Court held that no religion mandates the use of elephants — thus regulation doesn't violate religious freedom.



The Hindu Bureau
THRISSUR

As many as 42 people were injured when an elephant went on a rampage during the Thrissur Pooram celebrations in Kerala on Wednesday. The incident occurred around 2.15 a.m. at the Pooram venue where hundreds had gathered to witness the fireworks.

The elephant, Uttoly Raman, suddenly turned aggressive and ran amok through the Swaraj Round. Panic erupted as people scrambled for safety. The elephant squad quickly intervened and managed to bring the elephant under control.

The injured were rushed to the Thrissur District Hospital. Five people requiring advanced care were shifted to the Government Medical College Hospital. Revenue Minister K. Rajan, who was present at the venue, personally led the rescue operations.

Festive scene: The *kudamattam* ceremony of Thiruvambadi wing during the Pakal Pooram on Wednesday. K.K.NAJEEB

UPSC PYQ 2002

Chapchar Kut is a festival celebrated in the state of:

a) Arunachal Pradesh
b) Assam
c) Mizoram
d) Sikkim

The Analyst Handout

08th May 2025

Daily Quiz

Q1. Match the following Missile systems with their correct descriptions:

Missile Systems	Descriptions
A. Hammer	1. Supersonic Cruise Missile
B. Meteor	2. Air to Ground Precision Guided Weapon
C. Scalp	3. Beyond Visual Range Air to Air Missile
D. BrahMos	4. Air Launched Cruise Missile with Stealth Features

Select the correct match using the codes below.

a) A-2, B-3, C-4, D-1
b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
c) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3
d) A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2

Answer: a

Q2. Regarding India's Net-Zero Emission Targets and Panchamrit plan, consider the following statements:

1. India aims to bring its non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030.
2. India has committed to fulfilling 75% of its energy requirements through renewable sources by 2030.
3. India has announced achieving net-zero emissions by 2070 as part of its climate pledge.

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: c

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Satellite Communication:

1. Satellite communication provides internet, voice, and data services.
2. Unlike terrestrial networks, satellite communication requires extensive underground cabling.
3. Starlink by SpaceX and Kuiper by Amazon are satellite internet constellations operating in Low Earth Orbit.

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

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

Answer: b

Q4. Regarding Cloud Seeding, consider the following statements:

1. It involves the dispersal of seeding agents like Silver Iodide, Potassium Iodide, Dry Ice, or Salt.
2. The process stimulates precipitation by nucleating ice crystals or water droplets.
3. It is a form of geoengineering often used in drought-prone areas.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: d

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Thrissur Pooram festival:

1. Thrissur Pooram is an annual Hindu temple festival held in Kerala.
2. It is celebrated in September–October when the Pooram star rises.

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: a

VAJIRAM & RAVI

Institute for IAS Examination

A unit of Vajiram & Ravi IAS Study Centre LLP

9-B, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar,
New Delhi - 110060 • Ph.: 41007400, 41007500

New No. 62, P Block, 6th Avenue, Anna Nagar,
Chennai - 600040 • Ph.: 044-4330-2121
Visit us at : www.vajiramandravi.com