



PLUTUS ACADEMY

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1.5,000 remote villages to receive Internet using ISRO satellites

In order to implement the Bharat net project, the BSNL has provided a contract to a private firm Hughes. The firm is to provide internet services to 5000 remote villages using ISRO satellites.

Highlights

The remote villages to receive the internet connection are located in Tripura, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Eastern Ladakh and Manipur. In order to achieve this, the ISRO communication satellites such as GSAT 11 and GSAT 19 are to be used.

What is the plan?

The ISRO satellites will be using a proprietary Jupiter system created by Hughes. It is a very small aperture terminal platform, VSAT platform. It is designed to provide the highest possible efficiency and capacity for satellite broadband implementation. System is currently being used in more than 40 satellites worldwide.

The private firm will also take up Network operations. It will install solar powered user terminals to deliver high speed internet of 10 MBPS to the rural population.

What is satellite internet?

The internet access provided through communication satellites is called satellite internet. In modern days, internet services are provided through geostationary satellites. Also new satellite internet constellations are being developed.

Satellite internet has three main components. They are satellites in geostationary Orbit, ground stations and antennas. The ground stations are gateways that relay internet data from and to the satellite. This is done through radio waves. Usually the antenna used is a VSAT dish antenna with the transceiver.

GSAT 11 and GSAT 19

The GSAT 19 is a communication satellite launched by ISRO in 2017. The GSAT 11 was one of the heaviest satellites launched by ISRO. It is also an Indian geostationary communication satellite. It was launched in 2018.

Bharat Net Project

The national Optical Fibre network that was launched in 2011 was renamed as Bharat net project in 2015. The mission aims to provide broadband connectivity to gram panchayat schools currently the Bharat net project aims to connect all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayat with Internet and provide 100mbps of connectivity.

2. European Union to sanction Russia and Belarus

The European Union agreed to impose sanctions on Russia for poisoning the opposition leader Alexei Navalny. Imposition of sanction was initiated by France and Germany.

What is the issue?

Navalny was an anti-corruption investigator. He was the major political opponent of Vladimir Putin the Russian president. He fell ill on August 20 2020 during a domestic flight. He was then flown to Germany for a treatment and is still recovering there.

The tests conducted by the organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons confirm that he has become a victim of the novichok nerve agent.

What are novichok nerve agents?

Novichok means Newcomer in Russian language. It is a group of Advanced nerve agents that were developed by the Soviet Union in 1970 and 1980. These nerve agents have the capability to escape protection by international inspectors.

What are nerve agents?

They are also called nerve gases. They are organic Chemicals that disrupt the mechanism by which nerves transfer messages to organs. This is done by the chemical by blocking the enzyme acetylCholinesterase.

Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

In 2017 The Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons confirmed destruction of 39967 metric tons of chemical weapons possessed by Russia.

Sanctions on Belarus

The sanctions on Belarus include a travel Ban against Lukashenko. He is the leader who has ruled Belarus since 1994. Belarus is already under sanctions from the UK and us. The previous sanction from European Union was lifted in 2016. Lukashenko had Locked Up most of the opposition candidates and chased the main Contender Svetlana Tikhanovskaya to Lithuania.

Other sanctions

The European Union has agreed to impose sanctions on people and organisations that are involved in the use of chemical weapons. The Syria scientific studies and research centre is also subjected to European Union sanctions for development of chemical weapons.

3. India and Taiwan Think Tanks join hands for Indo-Pacific Cooperation

The National Maritime foundation of India and Taiwan Asia Exchange Foundation recently signed a memorandum of understanding to foster cooperation in the Indo-pacific region. The two groups are major think tanks of the countries.

Highlights

The think tanks will set up a joint task force to deepen the bilateral dialogue in the Indo-pacific region. They will also conduct joint Research and expand cooperation. The Asia exchange Foundation is waiting for the covid-19 travel restrictions to get over in order to send a delegation to India to hold direct talks. The foundation is the organiser of the Yushan Forum.

Taiwan recently named India as one of its new south bound policy target countries.

Southbound policy

Under the new South Bound policy, the Government of Taiwan is to enhance cooperation with 18 South Asian, Southeast Asian countries and Australia. The aim of the policy is to make Taiwan less dependent on the China mainland. It was officially launched in 2016

Taiwan Asia exchange Foundation

it is the first policy-based think tank of Taiwan. It focuses on South Asia and South East Asian countries. The goal of the organisation is to promote comprehensive ties between ASEAN countries and Taiwan.

National Maritime Foundation

It is a Non-governmental think tank that aims to study and analyse issues of maritime domain. Organised by the national Maritime Foundation. It is considered as a knowledge partner of Indian Navy. It was established in 2005.

Indo Pacific regional dialogue

It was first conceptualized in 2018. The main objective of the dialogue is to review India's opportunities and challenges in the indo-pacific region

India-Taiwan

India has not formally recognised Taiwan so far. This means that India is formally adhering to One China policy. However, in May 2020 India attended the newly elected president of Taiwan Tsai's swearing in ceremony. Also, in July 2020 India appointed A top career diplomat as its new envoy to Taiwan.

4. India to attend Seventh Justice Ministers Meet of SCO

The Union Minister of law and Justice Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad is to attend the seventh meeting of ministers of justice of Shanghai cooperation organisation.

Highlights

The ministers during the meet will share the knowledge on creating a conducive environment to promote dispute resolution mechanism, forensic activities and other legal services. Also, the ministers will discuss the action plan of the working groups of experts on legal services and forensic activities. Justice ministers from the member countries of the organisation such as China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, Pakistan are to participate in the meet.

Importance of SCO for India

SCO is a part of India's policy of "multi alignments". RATS is a regional Anti-terror structure of SCO. Accessing information and intelligence from RATS will help India learn about non-Pakistan centred Counter Terrorism.

India aims to reach Central Asia through SCO. Central Asia is an extended neighbourhood of India. India has enormous potential to enhance ties with these countries in terms of security, investment, economy, connectivity, energy and capacity development. As India does not share a common land border with these countries it is highly important for India to use the SCO platform to reach these countries. The TAPI gas pipeline is one such example of a mutually beneficial project between India and SCO countries.

Also, SCO will help India in the construction of the international North South Corridor. India has finalized a deal with Uzbekistan in 2019 for a long-term supply of Uranium.

What is the multi alignment policy of India?

India was initially following a non-alignment policy. It has now shifted towards multi alignment. Under Non-alignment India will not take sides when there is a conflict between countries. Rather it will preach them to adopt peace. Under multi alignment policy India will align with both the parties or all the parties.

5 Jal Jeevan Mission: Lab on Wheels launched

The state government of Haryana launched “Lab on Wheels” to test the water quality in the state. The water quality of Haryana is mainly affected by fluoride, iron, nitrate and alkalinity. Lab on Wheels is a mobile laboratory. The mobile laboratory has been launched under Jal Jeevan Mission.

About lab on wheels

The mobile laboratory will test for alkalinity, hardness, chlorine, nitrate, zinc, turbidity, PH and other microbiological tests. The mobile water testing laboratory has been loaded with latest technological features such as e GPS enabled Location tracking, power backup, sample data transmission and smart reporting devices with the ability to send the result directly to a central server. The lab also carries a LED display that will display the result immediately after analysis.

Significance

Through this initiative water testing facilities can be provided even to the remotest corner of the state.

Jal Jeevan Mission

The mission aims to provide clean drinking tap water to every rural household in the country by 2024. Currently the scheme is being implemented on full scale as it is also providing employment opportunities to the migrant workers. The infrastructure of the scheme is being developed with the help of migrant workers. As the implementation of the scheme solved both the purposes of rural development and providing livelihood opportunities to the migrant workers the scheme was implemented in a wide scale throughout the country during covid-19 times.

Recently the state of Goa became the first state in India to provide clean drinking tap water connection to all the households in the state.

The scheme aims to provide 55 litres of clean tap water per day per person. The scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Jal Shakti. In order to obtain clean water, erecting water cleaning Infrastructures is essential. This is also achieved through the mission. Also, the available source of water in the region should be tested. The lab on wheels will solve the problem of lack of testing infrastructure in remote rural areas.