

CURRENT AFFAIRS

27 OCTOBER 2022



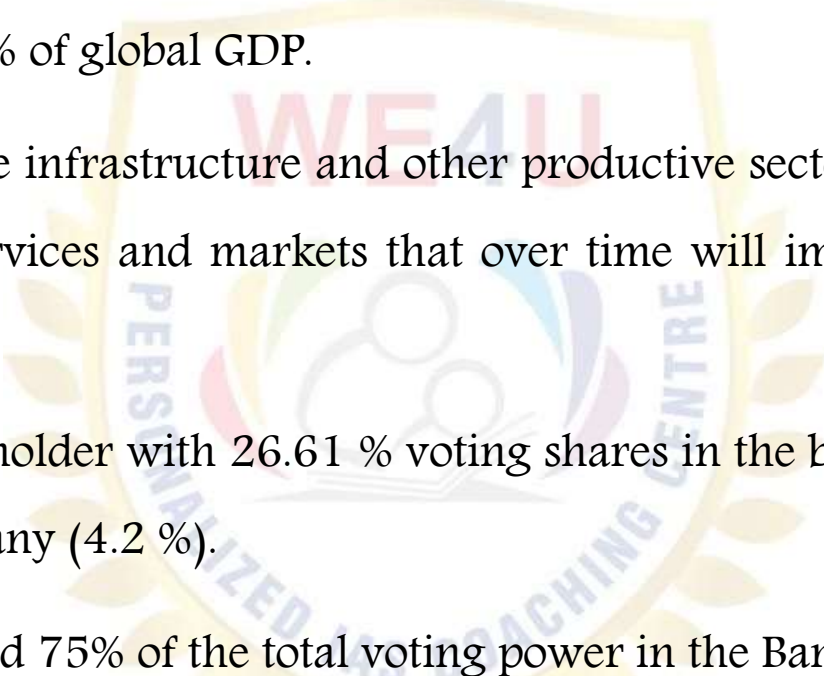
TOPIC: INTERNATIONAL BODIES

‘AIIB must scale up clean energy, infra investments’

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a multilateral development bank with a mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia.

It is established by the AIIB Articles of Agreement (entered into force Dec. 25, 2015) which is a multilateral treaty.

It is headquartered in Beijing and began its operations in January 2016.

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- ✓ By the end of 2020, AIIB had 103 approved Members representing approximately 79% of the global population and 65% of global GDP.
 - ✓ By investing in sustainable infrastructure and other productive sectors in Asia and beyond, it will better connect people, services and markets that over time will impact the lives of billions and build a better future.
 - ✓ China is the largest shareholder with 26.61 % voting shares in the bank followed by India (7.6%), Russia (6.01%) and Germany (4.2 %).
 - ✓ The regional members hold 75% of the total voting power in the Bank.

TOPIC: SCIENCE

ISRO to boost NavIC, widen user base of location system

Space agency chief says plans afoot to give it a global reach; increase the number of satellites; add bandwidth most used for civilian navigational use; and strengthen the safety of signals

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is working on a series of improvements to NavIC, or India's equivalent of the Global Positioning System (GPS), so that more people are motivated to install and use it. Plans are also afoot to give it a global reach, S Somanath, ISRO Chairman, said on the sidelines of the India Space Conference on Wednesday.

NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation), or the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), is a constellation



NavIC system is not widely in use in India because mobile phones are not compatible.

of seven satellites akin to the U.S. GPS, the European Galileo and the Russian GLONASS, and can be used to track location.

Though available for use in mainland India and within 1,500 km around it,

the system is not in wide regular use in India primarily because mobile phones have not been made compatible to process its signals. The Indian government has been pressing manufacturers to add compatibility and has set a deadline of January 2023, but media reports suggest this is unlikely before 2025.

Mr. Somanath told *The Hindu* that adding the L1 band into NavIC would be a major change. This bandwidth is part of the GPS and is the most used for civilian navigational use. "Currently NavIC is only compatible with the L5 and S bands and hasn't ea-

sily penetrated into the civilian sector," he said. "Currently (NavIC) only provides short code. This has to become Long Code for the use of the strategic sector. This prevents the signal from being breached. This had been part of the original scheme for NavIC, but less work has gone into it," he added.

There are five more satellites in the offing to replace defunct NavIC satellites that would be launched in the coming months. However, to make NavIC truly "global", more satellites would need to be placed in an orbit closer to earth than the current constellation, said Somanath.

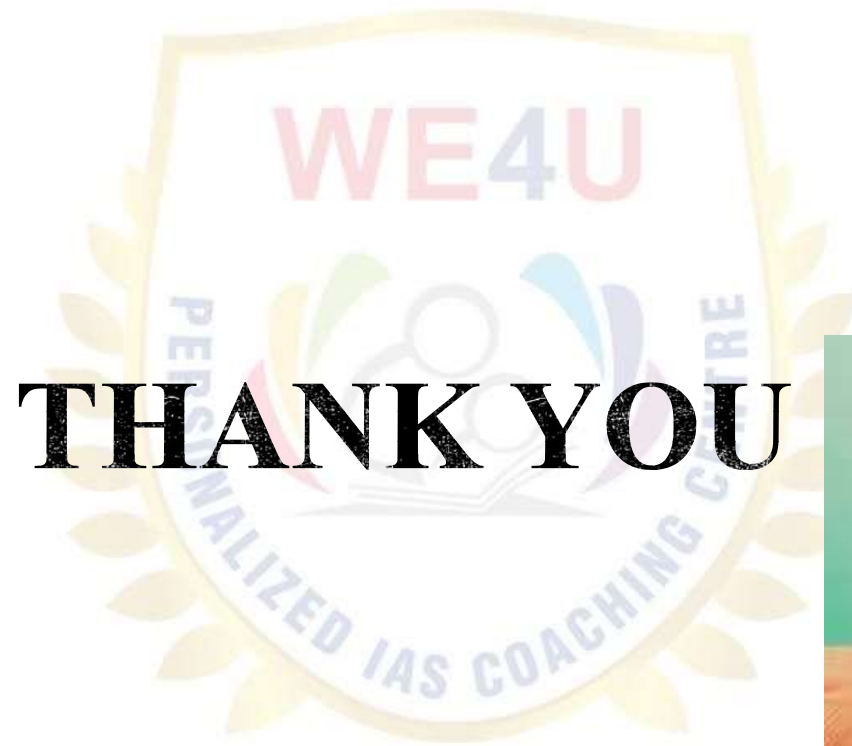
Navigation in Indian Constellation

- Navigation in Indian Constellation (NavIC) is an Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), developed by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
- IRNSS consists of eight satellites, three satellites in geostationary orbit and five satellites in geosynchronous orbit.
- The main objective is to provide reliable position, navigation and timing services over India and its neighbourhood.
- It works just like the established and popular U.S. Global Positioning System (GPS) but within a 1,500-km radius over the sub-continent.

TOPIC: MONUMENTS

Gehlot seeks national monument status for Mangarh Dham

- ✓ Mangarh is a hill station in Banswara district in Rajasthan .
- ✓ It also shares the borders of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat . Here 1500 Bhils sacrificed their lives under the leadership of the great saint Govind Guru .
- ✓ It is such a monument that reflects the devotion and patriotism together.
- ✓ About a hundred years ago, on November 17, 1913, on Margashirsha Purnima, thousands of Gurubhaktas who had gathered to celebrate the Guru's birthday were put to death by the British Army.



THANK YOU

