



# THE HINDU ANALYSIS

**3rd March 2024**

by saurabh  
pandey



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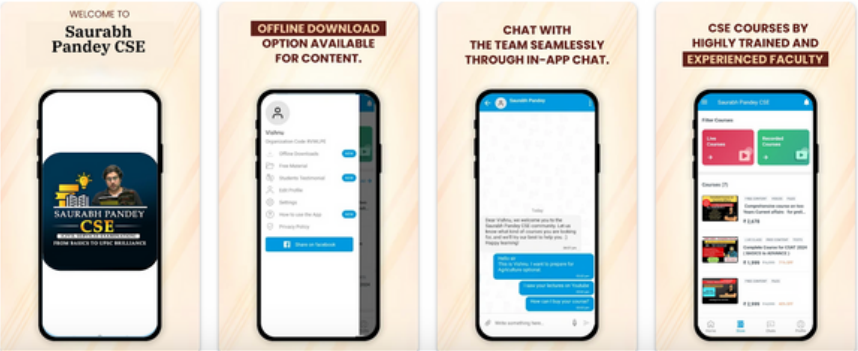
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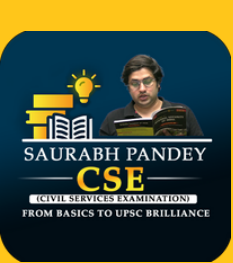
# Striped Marlin

- Striped marlin are some of the fastest animals on the planet and one of the ocean's top predators. When hunting in groups, individual marlin will take turns attacking schools of prey fish one at a time.
- Now a new study (Current Biology) explains how they might coordinate this turntaking style of attack on their prey to avoid injuring each other.
- The key is rapid colour changes. Studying the way rapid colour change as groups of marlin hunted schools of sardines, the authors found that the attacking marlin 'lit up' and became far brighter than others as it made its attack and the colour rapidly returned to its 'non-bright' colouration after the attack.

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# AI Managing resources

- AI has helped in monitoring heart problems and eye conditions and offered treatment options;
- AI predicts protein structure and aids in the development of new drug molecules.
- Likewise, it predicts cyclones, monsoon strengths, etc.
- On the dark side are fears that jobs may be lost to thinking machines that work 24/7 and do not need a Diwali vacation, and may intrude on your privacy and misuse your data.
- But nobody doubts that AI will help us in addressing large-scale problems that require the analysis of huge data.

## Linking rivers

- Can AI tools be used to make predictions on how to bring about change?
- Computational modelers at the IIT-ISM, Dhanbad and the NITs in Tripura and Goa have done just this while examining the proposed Pennar-Palar-Cauvery link canal.
- This canal is part of a scheme to connect the flood-prone Mahanadi and Godavari rivers with the ‘deficit’ rivers further south.

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## Use of AI in Farming

- The IIT-NIT team has presented a model that aims to improve the returns from farms, without depleting groundwater or wasting the water in rivers and reservoirs (Agricultural Water Management, v-279, 2023).
- They used data that has been collected over the years by the National Water Development Agency on (a) water levels before and after monsoons in the 1.2 lakh wells and tube wells in these districts; (b) crop-sowing patterns; (c) prevailing minimum support price and the cost and benefits to farmers.
- This AI-based modeling effort suggests that favourable outcomes will come with a few adjustments to the choice of crops that are grown in the two seasons of July and November.

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# ALOX5.

- Scientists have made new discoveries about how an inflammatory form of cell death may drive rheumatoid arthritis, according to experiments involving mice and samples from patients.
- The findings implicate a protein named ALOX5 as a key player in this autoimmune disorder and suggest it could serve as both a treatment target and a potential marker of active disease and remission.
- T cells from patients contained high amounts of the enzyme ALOX5.

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# Why Orange flavour?

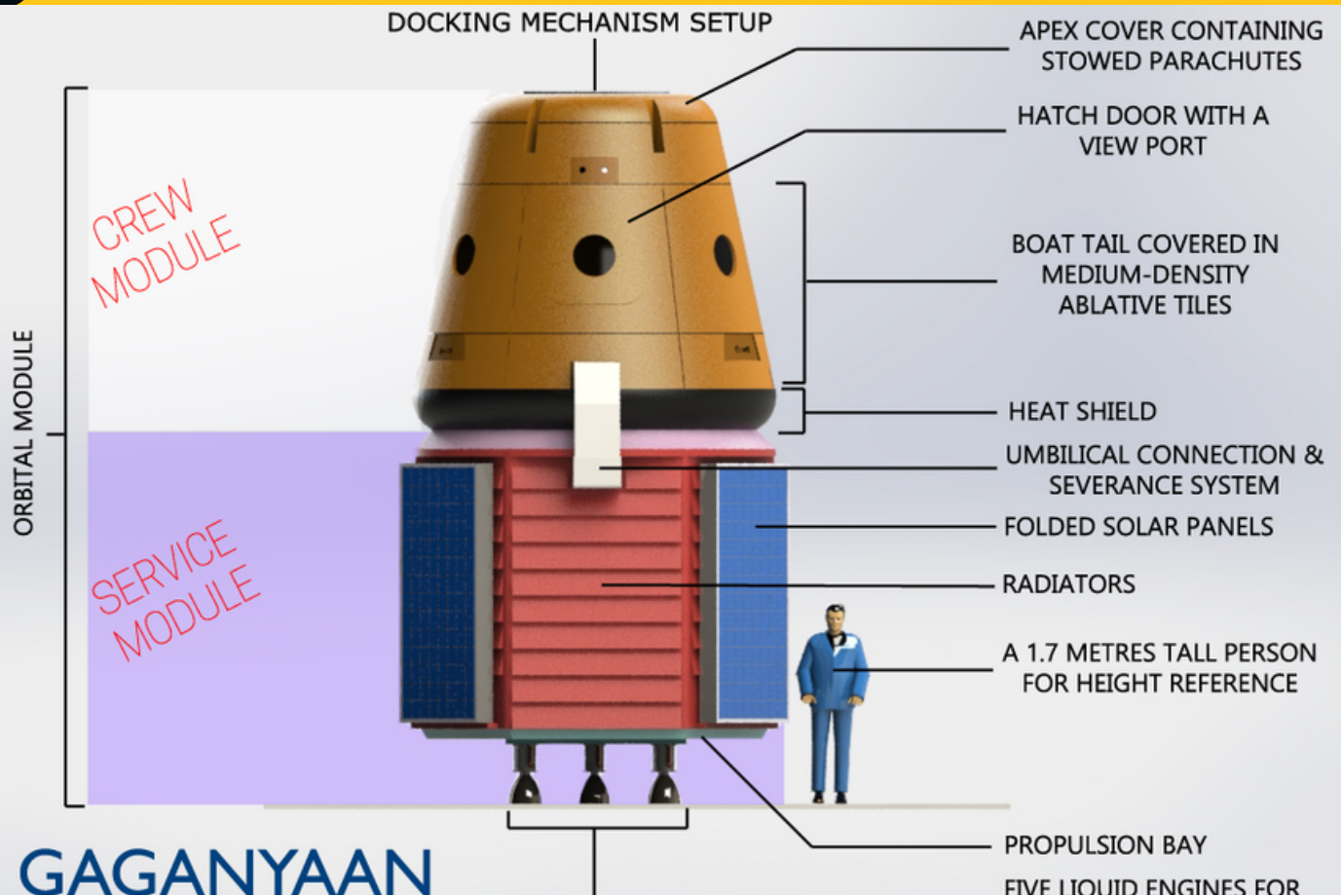
- Researchers have discovered key compounds responsible for the flavour of oranges.
- By evaluating more than 179 juice samples, researchers identified 26 compounds vital to orange flavour, including seven esters that differentiate it from mandarin flavour.
- Genetic analyses revealed a previously undescribed alcohol acyltransferase gene responsible for producing these esters, pointing to a potential DNA marker to predict flavour attributes of disease-resistant, orange-like hybrids.

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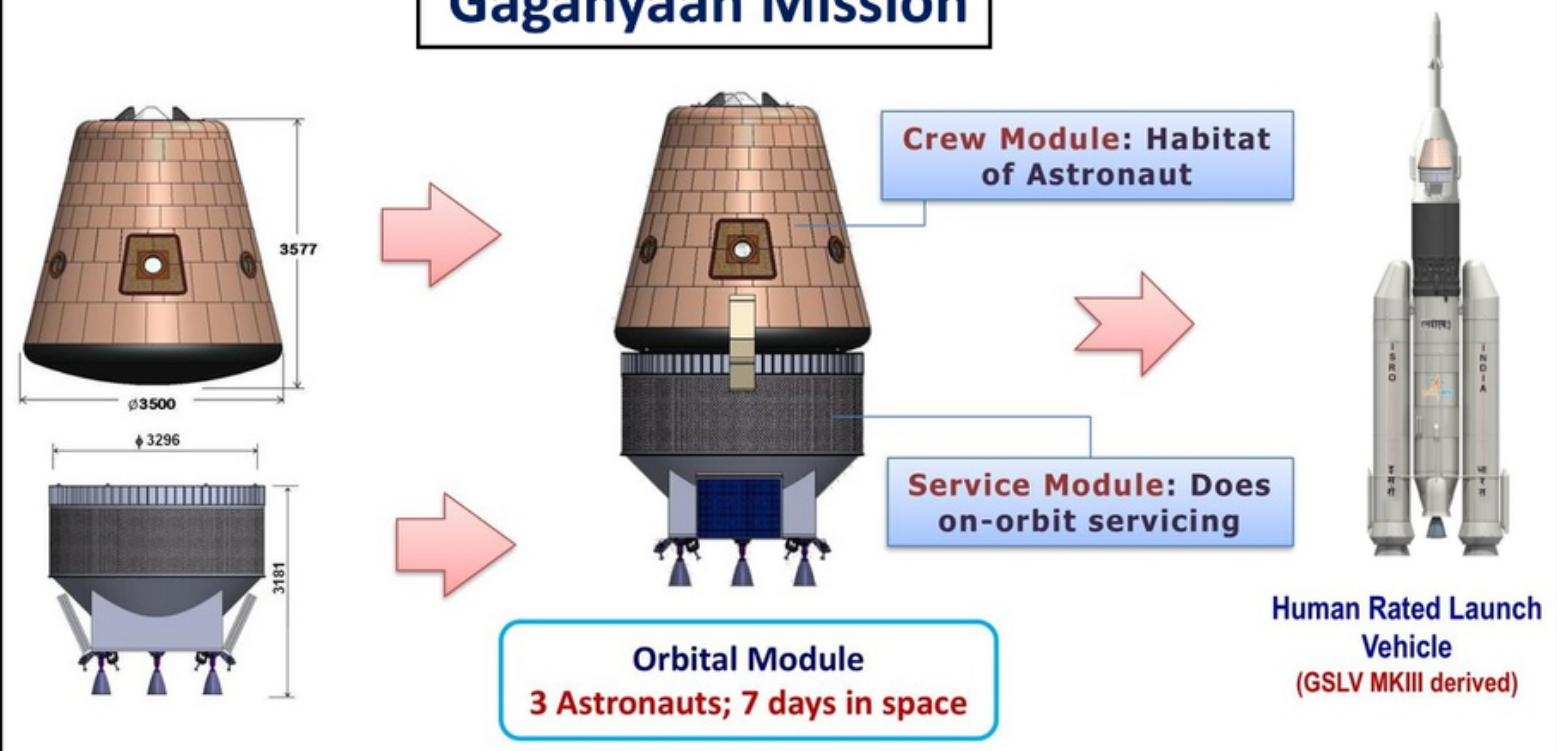
# Gaganyaan

- its most recent missions have reinforced ISRO's reputation as a reliable launch provider also capable of flying sophisticated interplanetary missions, including Chandrayaan-3, the two new goals are technologically even more ambitious.
- Further, ISRO will attempt to execute them together with future moon missions.
- Chandrayaan-3 concluded the first phase of ISRO's lunar exploration programme.
- The second phase begins with a joint mission with Japan to land a rover on the moon and another to collect a lunar soil sample and bring it back to earth.

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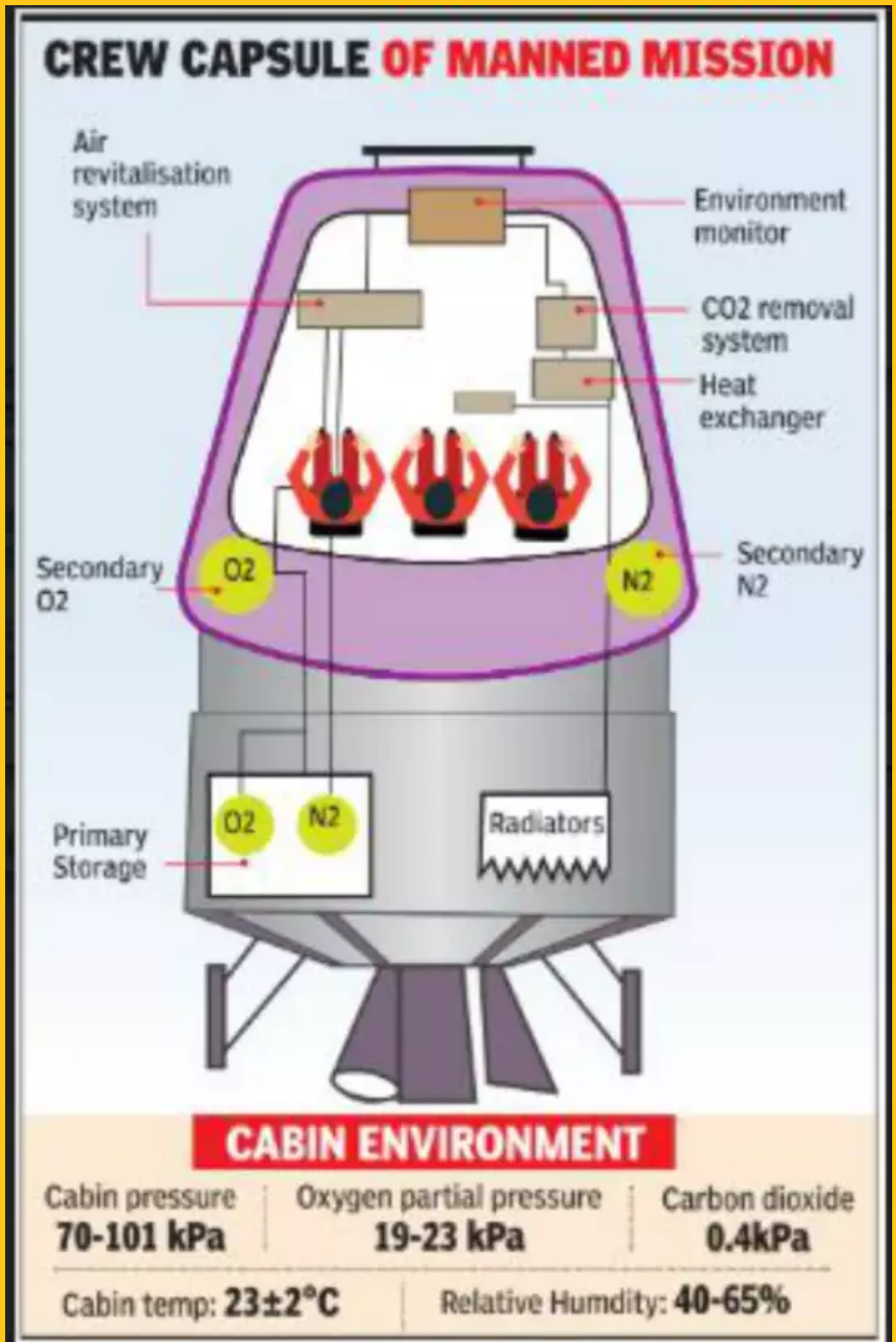


## Gaganyaan Mission



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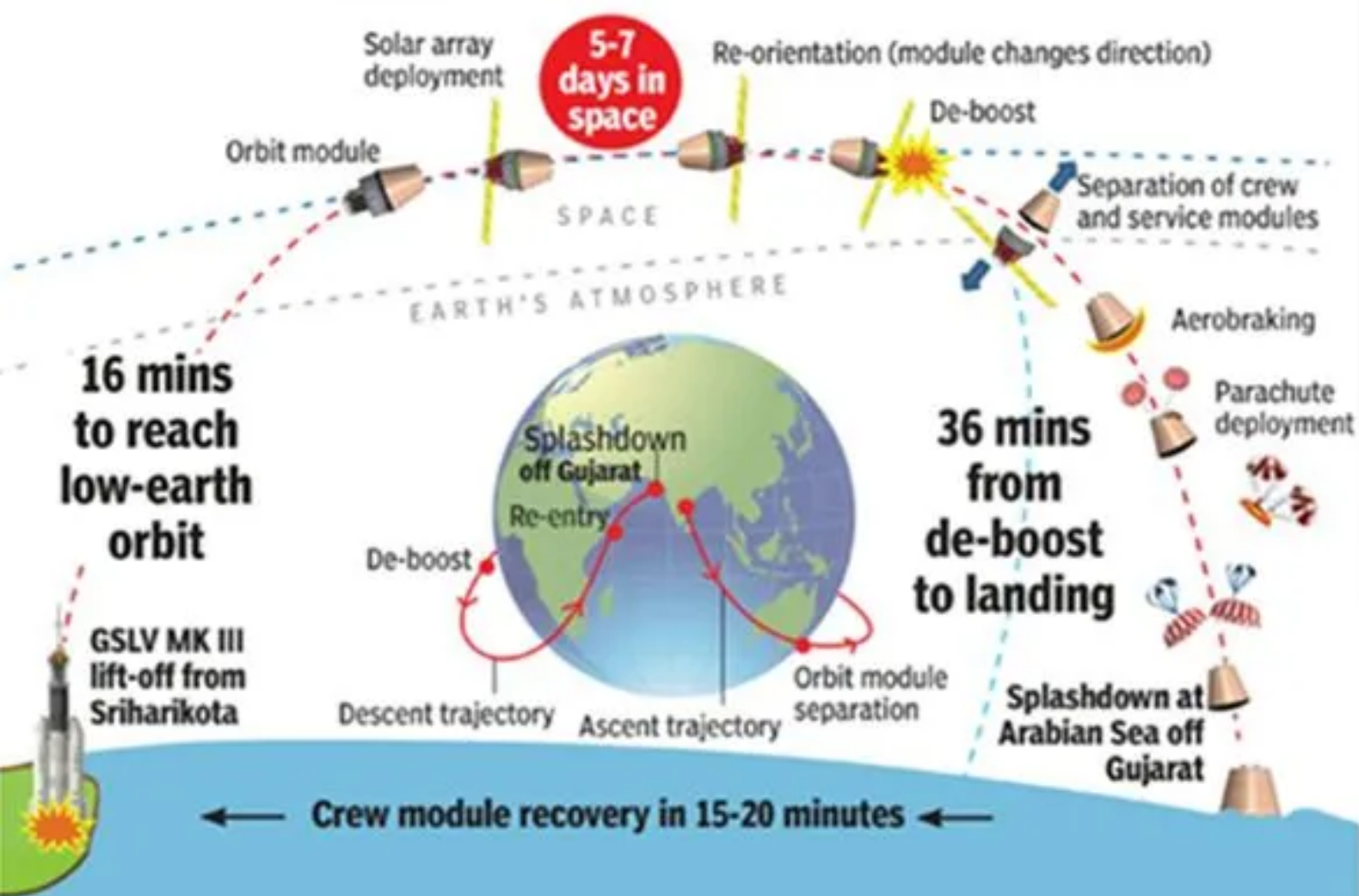




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# MANNED MISSION



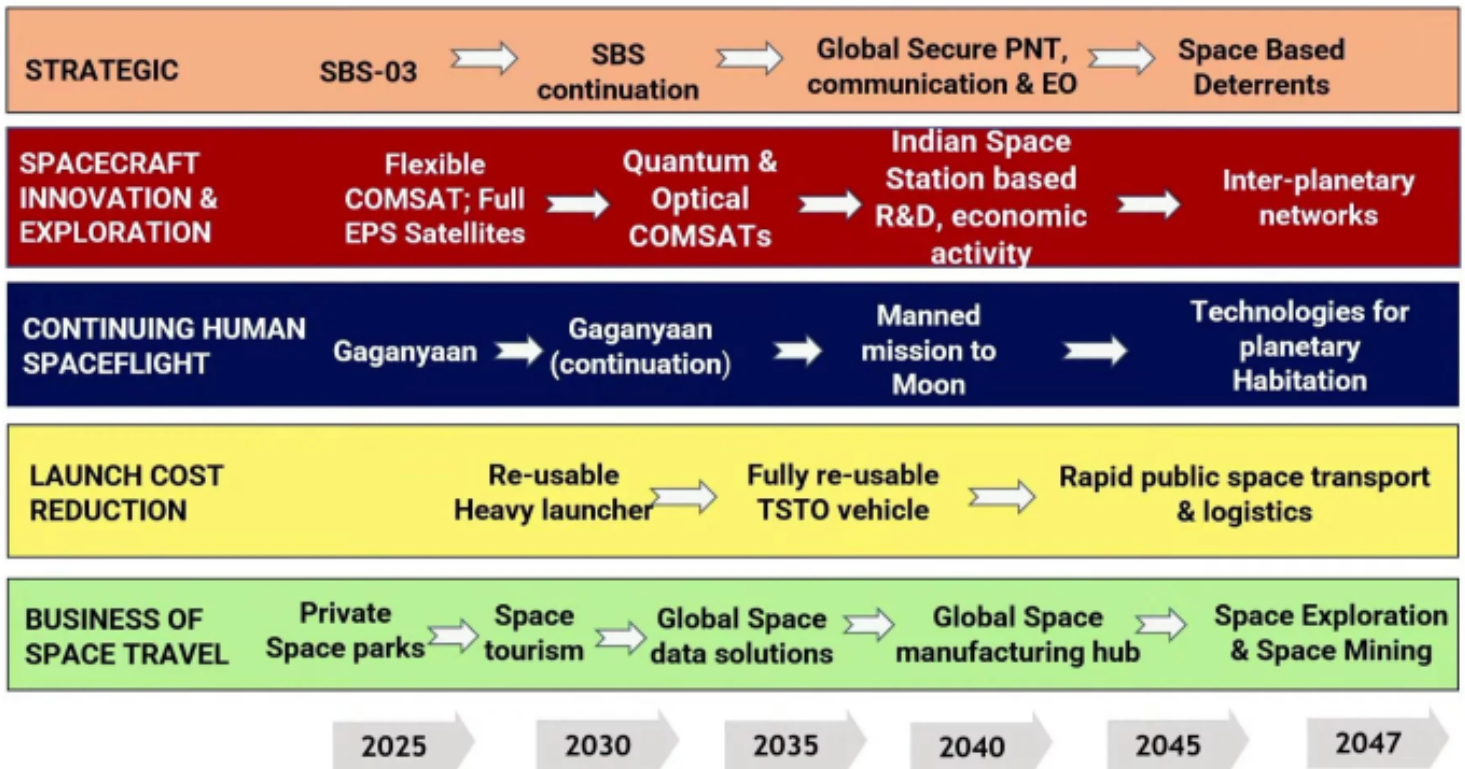
**COST:** Less than  
**₹10,000 cr**

**LAUNCH:**  
**2022**

India to be the 4th nation to launch  
a manned spaceflight mission after  
the US, Russia and China

# Roadmap

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- **The crew: Of the first four astronaut candidates, Prashant Nair, Ajit Krishnan, and Angad Pratap are group captains and Shubanshu Shukla is a wing commander, all in the Indian Air Force (IAF).**

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## What will Gaganyaan achieve?

- The birth of NSIL and IN-SPACe followed wide-ranging reforms of the space sector.
- They were joined by the National Geospatial Policy 2022, the Indian Space Policy 2023, and the Telecommunications Act 2023.
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- On February 21, in a fillip to India's nascent space startups scene, the Cabinet also cleared 49% to 100% automatic foreign direct investment in space services and space flight.
- The Space Policy in particular provides an overview of what the Indian space programme will aim for in the coming decades as India joins a host of countries going to space, the moon, and beyond while conducting scientific, commercial, and exploratory missions.
- This new 'space race' extends geopolitical boundaries drawn on the earth into outer space.
- The result is a heavy premium on the human presence of different nationalities for longer durations in space and on the moon.
- Against this backdrop, Gaganyaan will establish India's self-sufficiency vis-à-vis sending humans to space, on timelines it can control, instead of relying on expensive contracts with foreign launch services — and in step with other efforts to represent India in the final frontier.

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# **The resolutions against Centre's border plan**

- **The Mizoram Assembly on February 28 and the Nagaland Assembly on March 1 adopted a resolution to oppose the Centre's decision to fence the 1,643 km long porous India-Myanmar border and scrap the Free Movement Regime (FMR) agreement that allows cross-border movement up to 16 km without travel documents.**







## What led to the resolutions?

- At an official event in Guwahati on January 20, Home Minister Amit Shah said the Centre has decided to fence the India-Myanmar border and scrap the FMR implemented in 2018 as part of India's Act East policy for cultural, business, and terrestrial connectivity to Southeast Asia and beyond.
- The Centre decided to suspend the FMR ostensibly to thwart illegal migration of people, the smuggling of drugs, arms and ammunition, and the cross-border movement of extremists.



## Why is the India-Myanmar border in focus?

- India has had an on-off diplomatic relationship with Myanmar since 1948 when the latter attained independence from the British. India's border districts absorbed waves of refugees following military coups and pro-democracy movements in Myanmar in the 1960s, 1980s, and after February 2021.
- The growing Chinese influence in Myanmar made New Delhi establish warmer relationships with Yangon (Naypyidaw later), but certain issues remained.

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- **The areas of Myanmar bordering India are controlled by ethnic militias and extremist groups such as the Arakan Army, Chin National Front, and the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang), some of which have sheltered northeast-based outfits such as the United Liberation Front of Asom.**
- **These outfits have carried out hit-and-run operations in India. Although the Myanmar border is guarded by the paramilitary Assam Rifles, the terrain and lack of fencing are said to have made it difficult to check the movement of extremists and the tracking of drugs, arms, and other contraband items**

## What impact will the resolutions have?

- In March 2021, the Supreme Court said there was no harm in State Legislative Assemblies adopting resolutions against central laws like the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.
- It said that such resolutions are merely “opinions” of the majority members of an Assembly and do not have the force of law.

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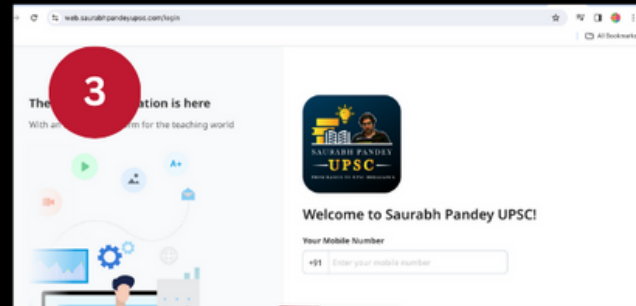
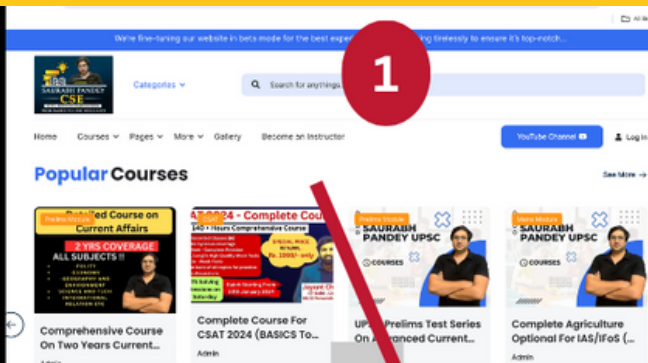


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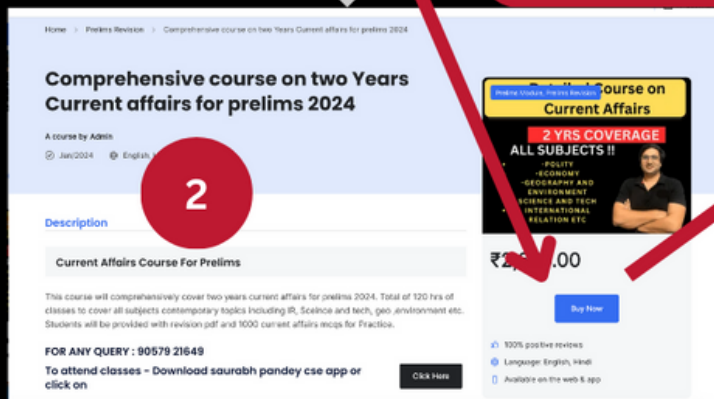
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