



C.A Dated On 08-Aug-2018

General Studies-1

Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore flags off an all-women expedition to Mt. Manirang

The Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs and Sports & Information and Broadcasting Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore today flagged off an all-women expedition to Mt. Manirang (6593Mt/21631 ft) in Himachal Pradesh.

The expedition commemorates the silver jubilee of 1993 Women Everest expedition.

About the Expedition:

- The 19-member expedition team to Mt. Manirang is being led by Ms Bimla Negi, a veteran mountaineer who was a member of the 1993 team.
- The team also includes nine members of the 1993 team in addition to young women mountaineers, who hail from different states of the country.

About the First Women's Expedition:

- The Indo-Nepalese women's Everest expedition in 1993 was the first all women expedition, launched by Indian Mountaineering foundation, funded by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- The 21-member team was led by Ms. Bachendri Pal.
- The historic expedition set up several world records at the time which included the largest number of persons (18) of a single expedition to climb Mount Everest, largest number of women (six) from a single country to climb Mount Everest.
- Ms. Santosh Yadav, member of the team, became the first woman in the world to climb Mount Everest, while Miss Dicky Dolma became the youngest women (19) years in the world to climb the highest peak in the world.

About Mt. Manirang:

- Manirang is one of the highest mountains in the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh. It lies on *the border between Kinnour and Lahaul and Spiti district.*
- Mount Manirang (Altitude: 6593 mtr. / 21625.04 ft) is known as the crown of the Spiti valley.
- The whole region is situated in the rain shadow area and more or less lies dry other than winter.



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Organic Farming

Why in News?

The current position of organic farming w.r.t. area covered across the country is 23.02 lakh hectares under the schemes Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) and National Programme of Organic Production (NPOP).

Benefits of Organic Farming:



Steps Taken by Govt. to Promote Organic Farming:

- Integrated Organic Farming System (IOFS) models being developed under NPOP promises to meet 70-80 % of organic inputs within the farm thus reducing the market input cost considerably.



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- Government of India under the schemes- PKVY & MOVCDNER is supporting the production and marketing of organic produce in the country to reduce their costs and prices.
- Use of organic inputs like PROM, vermicompost, organic/bio-fertilizers, city compost, waste decomposer have been promoted under these schemes which will further reduce the costs of production in organic farming.

General Studies-2

Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2018

Why in News?

Parliament has passed the *Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2018*.

Highlights of the Bill:

- It provides for *stringent punishment* including death penalty for those convicted of raping girls below the age of 12 years.
- The minimum punishment in case of rape of women has been increased from rigorous imprisonment of seven years to 10 years, extendable to life imprisonment.
- Stringent punishment for rape of a girl under 12 years has been provided with the minimum jail term being 20 years which may go up to life in prison or death sentence. Gang rape of a girl under 12 years of age will invite punishment of jail term for the rest of life or death.

Speedy investigation:

- The measure also provides for speedy investigations and trial. The time limit for investigation of all cases of rape has been prescribed, which has to be mandatorily completed within two months.
- The deadline for the completion of trial in all rape cases will be two months. A six-month time limit for the disposal of appeals in rape cases has also been prescribed.

Bail related provisions:

There will also be no provision for anticipatory bail for a person accused of rape or gang rape of a girl under 16 years.



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It has also been prescribed that a court has to give notice of 15 days to a public prosecutor and the representative of the victim before deciding bail applications in case of rape of a girl under 16 years of age.

Need for a stringent law:

The number of reported cases of rapes of children increased in India by 82% in 2016 compared to 2015.

A climate of violence, social and economic insecurity, alienation, and a progressive undermining of the status of women and children seem to have given an impetus to carry out crimes against women and children.

General Studies- 3

Chandrayaan-2

Chandrayaan 2

The mission will be India's first attempt to land a rover on the moon's south pole

APRIL 2018

Possible launch

**Cost
₹800 cr**

GSLV-F10

Launch Vehicle

Components

Orbiter: Will be launched into a 100-km lunar orbit

Scientific payloads: 6

Lander: Controlled descent and soft landing on lunar surface on designated site

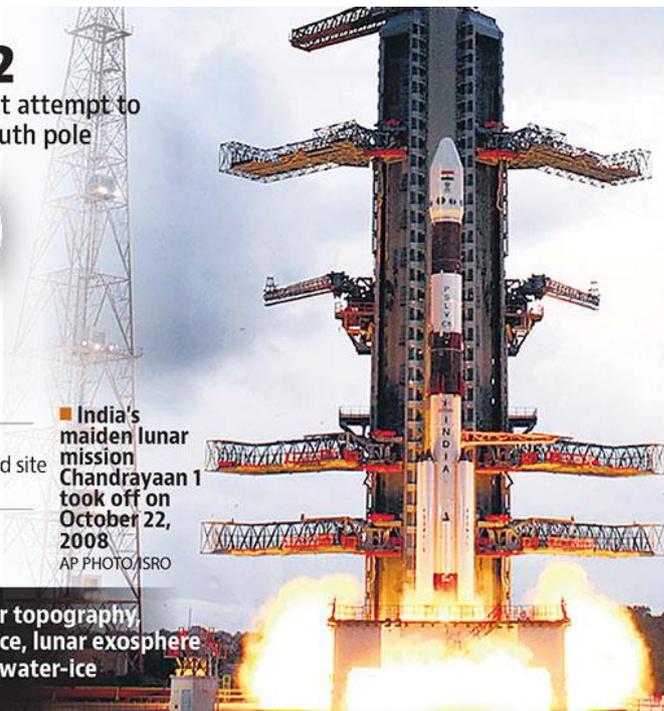
Scientific payloads: 3

Rover: Rolls out of the lander

Scientific payloads: 2

■ India's maiden lunar mission Chandrayaan 1 took off on October 22, 2008
AP PHOTO/SRO

PURPOSE: Collect data on lunar topography, mineralogy, elemental abundance, lunar exosphere and signatures of hydroxyl and water-ice





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Why in News?

The mission, Chandrayaan 2, has been postponed again from its proposed October launch to January 2019. This time, the delay was caused because the indigenously developed lander was having trouble with rethrottling. The lander has now gone back to the design table for a design change.

Background- timeline of the mission:

- Chandrayaan 2's journey has been rather slow so far. Although the mission was envisioned way back in November 2007, as a joint mission between India and Russia, it had faced a series of setbacks.
- As per the tie-up, Russia was supposed to provide the lander for the mission, while India would develop the rover and orbiter. ISRO had its prototype ready for a 2013 launch but Russia delayed delivering the lander. Later, Russia said it would not be able to provide a lander for ISRO.
- India then called off the deal and decided to make the Chandrayaan mission completely indigenous. The development has taken time, and given that it is the first time India is developing a lander, the programme has faced many glitches like the present one.

About Chandrayaan-2:

- Chandrayaan-2 includes soft-landing on Moon and moving a rover on its surface. It is an advanced version of the previous Chandrayaan-1 mission. It consists of an orbiter, lander and rover configuration.
- The Orbiter spacecraft when launched from Sriharikota will travel to the Moon and release the Lander, which will in turn deploy a tiny Rover to roam the lunar surface — all three sending data and pictures to Earth.
- It is planned to be launched as a composite stack into the earth parking orbit (EPO) of 170 X 18,500 km by GSLV-Mk II.