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SSLV LAUNCHED VEHICLE FAILED

Context :

- The first developmental flight of the SSLVD1/EOS2 mission failed to place the payload (satellites) in their required orbits, and the satellites, as they were already detached from the launch vehicle, were lost.
- The Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) D1/EOS2 mission was carrying two satellites — the Earth Observation Satellite 2 (EOS2) and AzadiSAT.

Purpose of the mission

- The purpose of this mission was to place the two satellites in circular low-Earth orbits at a height of about 350 km above the Equator. The larger one, the EOS-2 which was designed and developed by ISRO, offered advanced optical remote sensing operations.
 - It would have operated in the infrared region and could have served many purposes, from imaging for climate studies to simply keeping an eye on Earth.
- AzadiSAT, on the other hand, was a collective of 75 tiny payloads weighing around 50 grams each, which were integrated by students.
 - It carried tiny experiments which would have measured the ionising radiation in its orbit and also a transponder which worked in the ham radio frequency to enable amateur operators to access it.

where did it fail

- The SSLV was composed of three stages powered by solid fuels and these three performed their function as planned.
- However, when it came to the stage when the satellites had to be set in orbit, there was a glitch which resulted in the satellites being lost forever.

Difference between circular and elliptical orbits:

- n Mostly objects such as satellites and spacecrafts are put in elliptical orbits only temporarily. They are then either pushed up to circular orbits at a greater height or the acceleration is increased until the trajectory changes from an ellipse to a hyperbola and the spacecraft escapes the gravity of the Earth in order to move further into space — for example, to the Moon or Mars or further away.
- n Satellites that orbit the Earth are mostly placed in circular orbits. One reason is that if the satellite is used for imaging the Earth, it is easier if it has a fixed distance from the Earth. If the distance keeps changing as in an elliptical orbit, keeping the cameras focussed can become complicated.

Why were the satellites lost?

- If the closest distance to the Earth is only 76 km, as it happened this time, there is an atmospheric drag experienced by the object at that height.
- Thereafter, unless adequate thrust is applied to overcome the drag, it will lose height and fall towards the Earth because of gravity and may eventually burn up due to friction.

What went wrong with the launch?

- Today rocket technology has progressed to such a stage that even if the course of the rocket is altering from its planned course, there will be sensors that feed back this information to a system.

- This will immediately trigger a course correction which will restore the trajectory of the rocket. There are many sensors as well as a built-in redundancy.
- That is, even if one or two sensors fail, there will be others that take over and effect the course correction.

Launch vehicles:

Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV):

- Recently ISRO is using (SSLV) to launch smaller payloads, by making it more efficient than PSLV. Now, those payloads with masses up to 500 kilograms can be sent up using the SSLV instead.
- The SSLV has been promoted as the next workhorse rocket of ISRO after the PSLV.
- Measuring just 2 metres in diameter and with a height of 35 m, it is indeed smaller than the PSLV which has been used to place satellites of a wide range of masses.

Advantages of SSLV:

- The SSLV can easily carry small to medium loads from 10 kg to 500 kg. It is also less expensive.
- The three stages being powered by solid fuel is another advantage. Solid fuel is easier to handle, whereas handling the liquid propellants used in the PSLV and GSLV is more complex.
- SSLV has the flexibility to launch multiple satellites, and satellites can be launched on demand — as the rocket requires minimal launch infrastructure. All these features make it very attractive for commercial earth observation and communication.

PSLV:

- It is a third-generation launch vehicle. It is termed as the *‘Workhorse of ISRO’.
- There is a total of 4 stages in this launch vehicle:
 - **First Stage** – PSLV uses the S139 solid rocket motor that is augmented by 6 solid strap-on boosters.
 - **Second Stage** – PSLV uses an Earth storable liquid rocket engine for its second stage, known as the Vikas engine, developed by Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre.
 - **Third Stage** – It is a solid rocket motor that provides the upper stages high thrust after the atmospheric phase of the launch.
 - **Fourth Stage** – The uppermost stage of PSLV comprising two Earth storable liquid engines.

Payload capacity:

- 1750 kg to sun-synchronous polar orbits (SSPO) (Altitude – 600 Kms).
- 1425 kg to Geosynchronous and Geostationary Orbits (GTO).

GSLV:

- The largest launch vehicle developed by India. It is a fourth-generation launch vehicle.
- It has three stages:
 - **First stage** – The 138-tonne solid rocket motor is augmented by 4 liquid strap-ons.

LAUNCH SERVICES AT A GLANCE

The Small Satellite Launch Vehicle or SSLV made for the launch within one week by six people

THE SPECIFICS	SSLV	PSLV	GSLV MK-II	GSLV MK-III
Height	34m	44m	49.13m	43.43m
Diameter	2m	2.8m	2.8m	4m
Number of stages	three	four	three	three

Payload carrying capacity

- SSLV | 500kg to low earth orbit
- GSLV MK-II | 2500kg to geosynchronous transfer orbit and 5000kg to low earth orbit
- PSLV | 1,750kg to 600km sun-synchronous polar orbit and 1,425kg to sub-geosynchronous transfer orbit
- GSLV MK-III | Four tonnes into geosynchronous transfer orbit or around 10 tonnes to low earth orbit



SET TO SOAR: The SSLV is set to go on its maiden flight on Sunday

- **Second stage** – One Vikas engine is used in the second stage of GSLV.
- **Third Stage** – Developed under the Cryogenic Upper Stage Project (CUSP), the CE-7.5 is India's first cryogenic engine, developed by the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre.

It also has four liquid-engine strap-ons.

Payload capacity:

- 2500 kgs INSAT class of communication satellites to GTO
- 5000 kgs heavy satellites to multiple smaller satellites in LEO.

Orbits of Earth

1. GEO – Geostationary Earth Orbit

- n It is also called Geosynchronous Equatorial Orbit.
- n It is a low inclination orbit.
- n It makes satellites placed in it appear 'Stationary', because they have an orbital period that is the same as the earth's rotation period. Hence, the satellite/spacecraft returns to the same point in the sky at the same time each day.
- n Communication satellites are often placed in GEO.
- n The GEO satellites are directly overhead at the Earth's equator. To an observer who is near to the pole, these will appear lower in the sky.
- n ISRO's Indian National Satellite System [INSAT] is placed in GEO. It is one of the largest domestic communication satellite systems in the Asia-Pacific region.

2. Low Earth Orbit (LEO)

- n It is relatively closer to the Earth's surface than other orbits.
- n The altitude from the earth's surface could be between 160 Km to 1000 Km.
- n The satellites placed in LEO can have a tilted plane.
- n It is one of the commonly used orbits, because the satellites placed in it have more available routes as they don't have to follow a particular path around the Earth as the GEO.
- n It is used for satellite imaging.
- n The International Space Station (ISS) uses LEO [It makes travel of astronauts easier]
- n It is used by remote sensing satellites.

3. Medium Earth Orbit (MEO)

- n The orbit, altitude of which is between LEO and GEO, is known as Medium Earth Orbit.
- n It is also known as Intermediate Circular Orbit.
- n It shares the similarity with LEO as the MEO satellites too do not have to track the path along the earth's equator.
- n Navigation satellites and a number of artificial satellites are placed in MEO.
- n Global Positioning System (GPS) is placed in MEO (20200 Km)
- n Communication satellites too can be placed here.

4. Polar Orbit & Sun-Synchronous Orbit (SSO)

- n The SSO satellites travel past earth from north to south instead of west to east.
- n These pass roughly over the earth's poles.
- n The altitude can go as low as 200 Km however, mostly the satellites are placed between 600-800 km.
- n As the name suggests, the SSO satellites are in synchrony with the sun. [Meaning – The position is 'fixed' relative to the sun.]
- n SSO satellites always visit the same spot at the same local time as they are sun-synchronous.
- n It is used for imaging, spy, and weather satellites.

5. Geostationary Transfer Orbit (GTO)

- n The orbits are used by the satellites to travel from one orbit to another. It is a Transfer Orbit between LEO and GSO.
- n GTO provides satellites a halt [intermediate step] before they can be placed in their destination orbit. This way, it uses relatively less energy from built-in motors.
- n The launchers do not have to directly place a satellite into GEO. Instead, it can first make use of GTO.
- n It is a highly eccentric orbit.

DROUGHT LOOMING OVER UTTAR PRADESH,**JHARKHAND & BIHAR****Context :**

- In recent days, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh are experiencing the worst monsoon season of the century.
- Never have Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand experienced such poor monsoon rainfall in the last 122 years.

Jharkhand:

- Between June and August, the rainfall recorded over **Jharkhand** was 371.9mm against a normal of 627.6mm, a **41 percent seasonal deficit**.
- This is the lowest ever rainfall recorded over Jharkhand (June to August) since 1901, according to the IMD's rainfall.
- Only **twice before in the last 122 years** has Jharkhand experienced such poor rainfall.

Uttar Pradesh:

- For Uttar Pradesh, too, the picture is grim, as the state has recorded only 251.7mm of the seasonal average of 449.1mm (June to August).
- UP is the most rain deficient Indian state this year and has remained so since the start of the monsoon season, like Jharkhand.

Bihar :

- In a departure from the norm of overflowing Ganges and flooding, the 2022 monsoon has been anything but normal for Bihar. During the ongoing season, Bihar has recorded 376.5mm versus a normal of 602.6mm, a deficit of 38 per cent, till August 12.

- The 2022 monsoon could turn out to be Bihar's worst — only once before, in 1972, the state received 375mm during June to August.

National Disaster Management Act, 2005

The NDM Act was passed by the government of India in 2005 for the efficient management of disasters and other matters connected to it.

Objective

- n It is a national law that empowers the **Central government** to declare the entire country or part of it as affected by a **disaster** and to make plans for **mitigation to reduce "risks, impacts and affects"** of the disaster.

Nodal Authority

- n The Act designates the **Ministry of Home Affairs** as the nodal ministry for steering the overall national disaster management.

Key Features

- n It puts into place a systematic structure of institutions at the national, state and district levels.

Four important entities have been placed at the national level:

- n **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA):** It is tasked with laying down disaster management policies and ensuring a timely and effective response mechanism.
- n **National Executive Committee (NEC):** It is composed of secretary level officers of the Government of India assigned to assist the NDMA.
- n **National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM):** It is an institute for training and capacity development programs for managing natural
- n **National Disaster Response Force (NDRF):** It refers to trained professional units that are called upon for specialized response to disasters.

State and District Level Disaster Management

- n The Act also provides for **state and district level** disaster management authorities responsible for, among other things, drawing plans for **implementation of national plans**.

Financial Mechanism

- n The Act further contains the provisions for **financial mechanisms** such as the creation of funds for emergency response, **National Disaster Mitigation Fund** and similar funds at the state and district levels.

Coverage

- n It covers all **man-made and natural disasters** which are beyond the coping capacity of a community.

Punishment

- n Under Section 51 of the **DM Act**, anyone refusing to comply with orders is liable for punishment with **imprisonment up to one year, or fine, or both**.
- n In case this refusal leads to the death of people, the person liable shall be punished with **imprisonment up to two years**.

Long-term monsoon trends

- **Jharkhand:** July and August amount to the highest rainfall during the monsoon season at 31 per cent and 28 per cent, respectively. 84 per cent of the state's annual rainfall occurs between June and September.
- **Uttar Pradesh:** 34 per cent of the monsoon seasonal rainfall occurs in July and 31 per cent in August. 89 per cent of the annual rainfall is realised during the June to September months.
- **Bihar:** 33 per cent of Bihar's monsoonal rainfall occurs in July and 28 per cent occurs in August. More than 85 per cent of the annual rainfall is realised between June and September. [Kishanganj](#), Arariya, [Purnia](#) and West Champaran receive the highest rainfall during the southwest monsoon season.

NORMAL MONSOON RAINFALL (MM) OVER JHARKHAND, BIHAR, UP

STATE	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT	JUNE-SEPT
Jharkhand	190.3	313.9	289.2	225.7	1,019.1
Uttar Pradesh	96.1	238.6	219	142.9	696.7
Bihar	160.2	313.9	264.5	200.1	938.7

Causes for rain deficit :

- **Low pressure systems in the Bay of Bengal:**
 - This season, only three low pressure systems developed in the Bay of Bengal, mostly off the coast of Odisha.
 - None of these systems impacted Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh or Bihar.
 - Thus, one of the two rain-bearing causes remained out of favour for these states.
- **The monsoon trough:**
 - In addition, this year, the monsoon trough –
 - An east-west low-pressure area extending from the heat low over Pakistan to head Bay of Bengal, remained to the south of its normal position for majority of the days in July and in August, so far.

Such unfavourable conditions contributed to high rainfall deficits throughout the season.

Way Ahead

- **Food and water scarcity** are going to be the real issues in the country's major rice producing states, with a **potential to affect India's kharif produce this year.**
- In **UP**, the **Agriculture Meteorology division** has advised carrying out the **transplantation of rice** and suggested the use of **short-duration rice varieties.**
 - Experts have encouraged the cultivation of **red gram.**
 - Farmers are also recommended to opt for **inter-cropping.**
- For farmers in **Jharkhand**, the **Agri met** has suggested adopting measures to conserve moisture in the soil.
 - No sowing is advised until there is 50 to 60mm rainfall and sufficient moisture for at least three consecutive days.
 - Short duration rice, millet, maize, and arhar must be considered for cultivation during the rest of the season.

CONTROVERSIAL VISIT OF A CHINESE VESSEL TO SRI LANKA'S HAMBANTOTA PORT

Context :

- Recently a Chinese ballistic missile and satellite tracking ship will dock at Hambantota port on Sri Lanka's southern coast .
- Sri Lanka, which had earlier asked China to postpone the arrival of the hi-tech vessel following concerns raised by India, cleared it for docking recently.
- Hambantota port is a commercially unviable project that former President Mahinda Rajapaksa built in his home district with borrowed Chinese money, which the government of President Maithripala Sirisena and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe were forced to hand to China on a 99-year lease in 2017 against a debt of \$1.1 billion which they were unable to repay.
- Sri Lanka also handed over 15,000 acres of land around the port to the Chinese. Sri Lankan officials had said at the time that their total debt to China was about \$8 billion.

About the vessel

- Yuan Wang 5 was described by the Sri Lankan government as a "scientific research ship". According to the BRISL (Belt & Road Initiative Sri Lanka), a Colombo-based organisation, Yuan Wang 5 will conduct "satellite control and research tracking in the northwestern part of the Indian Ocean Region".
- Vessels of the Yuan Wang class are said to be used for tracking and supporting satellite as well as intercontinental ballistic missiles by the People's Liberation Army Strategic Support Force.

India's reactions :

- India has expressed its concern over the Chinese vessel visit. The Ministry of External Affairs stated that India "carefully monitors any development having a bearing on its security and economic interests" and later said that they were "rejecting insinuations" that Sri Lanka was "pressured".
- After India raised the matter with President Ranil Wickremesinghe, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar took it up with his Sri Lankan counterpart Ali Sabry on the side-lines of the recent ASEAN summit in Cambodia.

Chinese respond

- China reacted strongly after Sri Lanka, following concerns voiced by India, requested China to defer the visit of the vessel "in light of the need for further consultations". Chinese Foreign Ministry have said that it had noted relevant reports and would like to stress two points.
- First, Sri Lanka is a transportation hub in the Indian Ocean. Scientific research vessels from various countries including China have made port calls in Sri Lanka for replenishment.
 - China always exercises freedom of the high seas in accordance with the law and fully respects coastal countries' jurisdiction over scientific research activities in waters under their jurisdiction.
- Second, Sri Lanka is a sovereign country. It has the right to develop relations with other countries based on its development interests.
- To have normal cooperation is the independent choice made by our two countries. It serves the shared interests of both sides and does not target any third party."Without directly referring to India, he added that it was "completely unjustified for certain countries to cite the so-called 'security concerns' to pressure Sri Lanka."

Sri Lanka's stand

- Sri Lanka's Foreign Affairs Ministry said: "having considered all material in place the clearance to the Embassy of the People's Republic of China was conveyed for the deferred arrival of the vessel."
- The announcement meant that the controversial vessel visit, earlier scheduled for August 11, was effectively postponed by five days, while its week-long duration remained as was earlier planned.
- The developments were "in light of certain concerns raised with the Ministry", it said, without naming India in its statement.
- Sri Lanka's stated that U.S. and Indian envoys were asked to provide "concrete reasons" for their objections.

"Not satisfied with the reasons being sufficient to refuse entry to the Chinese vessel, the Government decided to inform the Chinese embassy in Colombo to inform the ship to continue its journey to Hambantota,"

**In Short :**

- n On August 13, Sri Lanka approved the arrival of a Chinese satellite-tracking vessel to its Chinese-funded Hambantota port.
- n India has expressed its concern over the Chinese vessel visit. The spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs' commented that India "carefully monitors any development having a bearing on its security and economic interests".
- n China reacted strongly after they were asked to defer the vessel visit. Without directly referring to India, China said that it was "completely unjustified for certain countries to cite the so-called 'security concerns' to pressure Sri Lanka."

About Hambantota port :

- n It is a deep-water port in the southern tip of Sri Lanka.
- n The Hambantota Port, also known as the Magampura Mahinda Rajapaksa Port, is a maritime inland port located in Hambantota, Sri Lanka. It is constructed by the Sri Lankan Port Authority and mostly funded by EXIM bank of China.
- n The construction of the Hambantota Port began on 15 January 2008. Chinese companies, Sinohydro Corporation and China Harbour Engineering Company were involved in the first phase of the construction which cost an estimated \$360 million, excluding \$76.5 million for the bunker terminal. The Chinese government provided 85% of the funding while the Sri Lanka Ports Authority provided the remaining funding.

INDIA'S POLICY ON THE ROHINGYA

Context :

- Recently **Union Housing Minister Hardeep Singh Puri tweeted** that Rohingya refugees would be shifted to flats meant for economically weaker sections (EWS), and provided with basic amenities and police protection.
- The Minister said "India respects & follows the UN Refugee Convention 1951 & provides refuge to all, regardless of their race, religion or creed."
- But The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) under Amit Shah **issued a clarification saying that no such direction had been given** to provide EWS flats to "Rohingya illegal foreigners".

- n Rohingya, an ethnic group, mostly Muslim, hail from the Rakhine province of west Myanmar, and speak a Bengali dialect.
- n Myanmar has classified them as “resident foreigners” or “associate citizens”.
- n They were forced to leave Myanmar in large numbers after several waves of violence, which first began in 2012.
- n The Myanmar army revived the attacks in 2017 and lakhs took shelter in Bangladesh.

Process of deportation

- According to the MHA, illegal immigrants are detected, detained and deported under provisions of the Passport Act, 1920 or the Foreigners Act, 1946.
- The powers to identify and deport them have also been delegated to State governments and Union Territories.
- Once a ‘foreigner’ has been apprehended by the police for staying illegally, without any document, he or she is produced before the local court.
- If the accused is found guilty, they can be imprisoned for three months to eight years.
- After completing their sentence, the court orders deportation.
- The foreign inmates are moved to detention centres till the country of origin verifies and accepts them.

Deported Rohingyas

- In 2018, seven Rohingya were deported to Myanmar.
- It was the first time that Myanmar issued a certificate of identity to the seven Rohingya.
- According to advocacy group **Human Rights Watch (HRW)**, since October 2018, **India has deported 12 Rohingyas to Myanmar**, “claiming that they left voluntarily.”
- In December 2017, the then Minister of State for Home informed Parliament that there are **around 40,000 Rohingyas in India**. Of these, only 16,000 are said to be registered with the UN refugee agency.

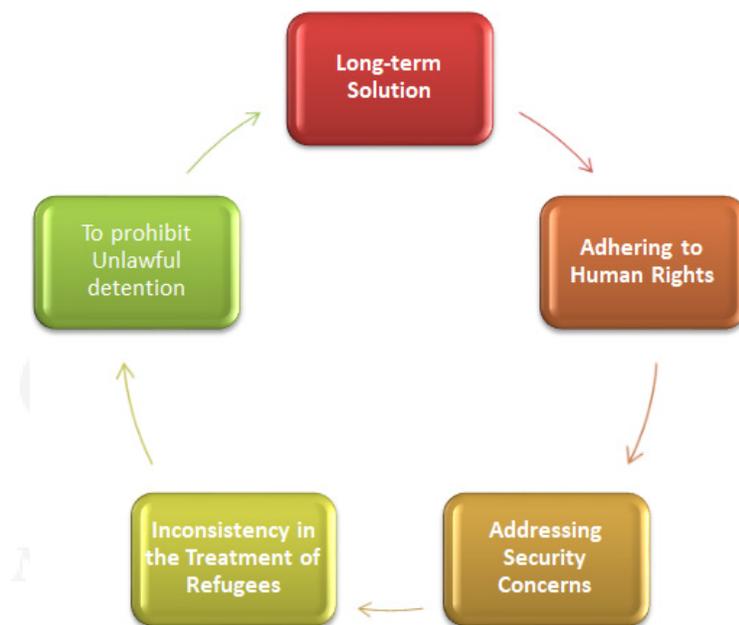
India’s Refugee Policy

- India lacks specific legislation to address the problem of refugees, in spite of their increasing inflow.
- The **Foreigners Act, 1946**, fails to address the peculiar problems faced by refugees as a class. It also gives **unbridled power to the Central government** to deport any foreign citizen.
- Further, the **Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 (CAA)** strikingly excludes Muslims from its purview and seeks to provide citizenship only to Hindu, Christian, Jain, Parsi, Sikh, and Buddhist immigrants persecuted in Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.
- Moreover, **India is not a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol**, the key legal documents pertaining to refugee protection.
- In spite of not being a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, India has had a stellar record on the issue of refugee protection. India has a moral tradition for assimilating foreign people and culture.
- Further, the constitution of India also respects the life, liberty, and dignity of human beings.
- The Supreme Court in the National Human Rights Commission vs. State of Arunachal Pradesh (1996) held that “while all rights are available to citizens, persons including foreign citizens are entitled to the right to equality and the right to life, among others.”

India’s Argument for Not Signing the 1951 Refugee Convention

- The definition of refugees in the 1951 convention only pertains to the violation of civil and political rights, but not economic rights, of individuals.
- If the violation of economic rights were to be included in the definition of a refugee, it would clearly pose a major burden on the developed world.
- On the other hand, this argument, if used in the South Asian context, could be a problematic proposition for India too.

Need of law on Refugees



Long-term Practical Solution:

- India frequently experiences a large influx of refugees.
- Therefore, a long-term practical solution requires that India make a shift from its charitable approach to a rights-based approach by enacting a national refugee law.

Adhering to Human Rights:

- A national refugee law will streamline refugee- status determination procedures for all kinds of refugees and will guarantee them the rights they have under international law.

Addressing Security Concerns:

- It could sufficiently **address India’s security concerns**, while at the same time ensuring that **there is no unlawful detention or deportation** carried out in the garb of national-security concerns.

FLOOR TEST

Context :

- The new Grand Alliance government in Bihar won the **floor test**.

About the Floor Test

- A floor test is primarily taken to know whether the executive enjoys the confidence of the legislature or not .
- This happens both in the Parliament and the State Legislative Assemblies.
- It is a constitutional mechanism under which a Chief Minister appointed by the Governor can be asked to prove majority on the floor of the Legislative Assembly of the state.

Appointment of Chief Minister:

- As per the Constitution, the Chief Minister is **appointed by the Governor** of the state.
- When **a single party secures the majority** of the seats in the house, the Governor appoints the leader of the party as the Chief Minister.

Vote of confidence:

- In case the majority is questioned, the leader of the party which claims majority has to move a vote of confidence and prove majority among those present and voting.
- The vote is taken through physical voting, or through an electronic ballot.

No-confidence motion : A no-confidence motion is a parliamentary motion which is moved in the Lok Sabha against the entire council of ministers, stating that they are no longer deemed fit to hold positions of responsibility due to their inadequacy in some respect or their failure to carry out their obligations. No prior reason needs to be stated for its adoption in the Lok Sabha.

What will happen in case of failing to prove majority:

- **The incumbent Chief Minister has to resign** if they fail to prove their majority in the house.
- Forming a government:
 - The legislature is convened, which is presided over by the Speaker.
 - The governor then invites the leader of the **second largest party** to prove his/her majority and form a government.
- If it is a newly elected government:
 - If it is a newly elected government, the **House is presided over by Speaker Pro-tem**, chosen by the Governor.

Protem Speaker :

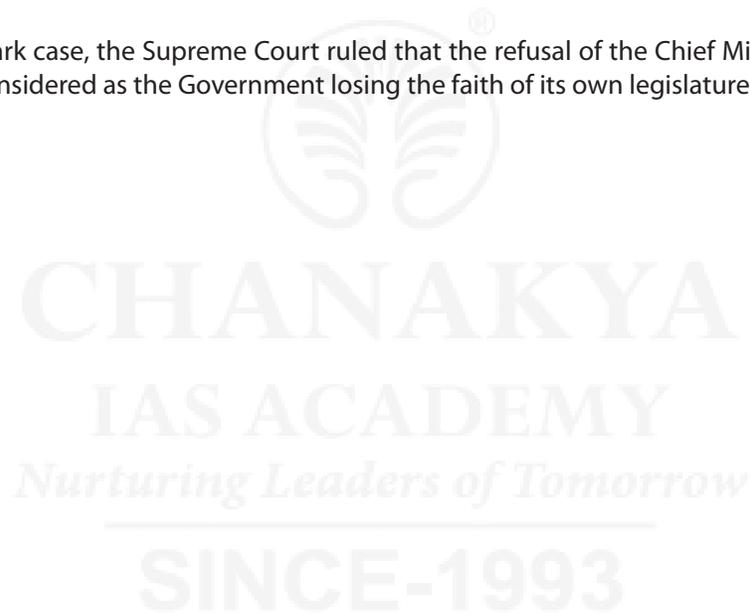
- Pro-tem speaker is a temporary speaker.
- He/she is appointed for a limited time period to conduct the works in Lok Sabha or in state legislatures.
- President/governor appoints the pro-tem speaker to preside over the sittings of the newly elected house. Usually, the senior most member of the house is made the pro-tem speaker.

Duties :

- The Pro-tem Speaker presides over the first sitting of the Lok Sabha, and state legislature and administers the oath of office to the newly elected MPs and MLAs.
- To conduct the vote for the speaker.
- On the election of new Speaker, the office of the pro tem speaker ceases to exist.

Constitutional provision in this regard :

- **Article 175(2) of the Indian Constitution:**
 - It **gives the Governor power to summon the members of the House** and call for a **floor test** to prove whether the incumbent government has the majority in the State Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha).
 - On the **central or national level**, this power lies with the **President**.
- Article 164 of the Indian constitution:
 - It states that, "The **council of ministers shall be collectively responsible** to the Legislative Assembly of the State."
 - And so, **if they do not enjoy the Legislature's support**, the Executive has to step down.
- S.R. Bommai case:
 - In this landmark case, the Supreme Court ruled that the refusal of the Chief Minister to undergo the floor test will be considered as the Government losing the faith of its own legislature.





QUESTION



1. Choose the incorrect statement :

- (a) The GEO satellites are directly overhead at the Earth's equator.
- (b) The International Space Station (ISS) uses GTO orbit.
- (c) The satellites placed in LEO can have a tilted plane.
- (d) The SSO satellites travel past earth from north to south instead of west to east

2. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The NDMA Act designates the Ministry of Disaster management as the nodal ministry for steering the overall national disaster management.
- 2. The Act also provides for state and district level disaster management authorities responsible for drawing plans for implementation of national plans.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct ?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

3. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Hambantota port is a deep-water port in the North-western tip of Sri Lanka.
- 2. . It is constructed by the Sri Lankan Port Authority and mostly funded by BRICS.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct ?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

4. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Rohingya, an ethnic group, mostly Muslim, hail from the Rakhine province of west Myanmar.
- 2. India is a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct ?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

5. Consider the following statements

- 1. Reason needs to be stated before the adoption of No Confidence motion .
- 2. Article 175 of the Indian constitution states that, "The council of ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Legislative Assembly of the State."

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct ?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANSWER KEY

1	2	3	4	5
B	B	D	A	D

** For Explanation read above articles thoroughly.