India’s First CoE SpaceTech Foundation

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Science & Technology.*

Why in News?

*India’s first State-led Centre of Excellence for Space Technology (CoE SpaceTech Foundation**)** has been launched in Bengaluru to boost India’s commercial space ecosystem.*

- **Launched by** - Government of Karnataka
- **Partnership with -** Karnataka Innovation & Technology Society (KITS) in collaboration with SIA-India (SatCom Industry Association).
- **Aims-** Turn Space research into a real products & services that can be sold @ Global Level & to cement gaps between R&D.
- **Area of focus:**

  Advanced research in area of space technologies.

  Fostering Start –up & Nurturing Talents.

  Inter – Industrial Adaptation for e.g., for agricultural development using space data, Climate Forecasting & Disaster Management.

  Skill Centric or Industrial aligned training to create high-quality skilled jobs.

  Center is also exploring how space technology be utilized in other Sectors, rather for launching Satellites & Rockets.

- **Common Infrastructure Facility (CIF)**

  The State government plans to establish a Common Infrastructure Facility (CIF).

  Purpose - To share Common Technological Resources & Cutting edge equipment that individual startups might find capital-intensive to own.

  Importance - Like CIFs in semiconductor & biotech sectors this will reduce entry barrier for the Private space Players.

- **Strategic Partnerships (MoUs)**

  CoE has signed MoUs with diverse International & domestic players like:

  MAHE (Manipal Academy of Higher Education): Academic & research collaboration.

  Dassault Systèmes: Catering high-end design & simulation software.

Helogen Corporation (U.S.): Collaboration on advanced space Material & Hardware.

Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises (ABlE): Probing the Convergence of biotech & space (e.g., space medicines or microgravity experiments).

Idea Baaz: A Strategic ecosystem support.

Features	Details	
Nodal Agency	**IN-SPACe** (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre) – It the single-window agency for private players.	
Commercial Arm	**NSIL** (NewSpace India Limited)	
Policy Roadmap	**Indian Space Policy 2023** – allows participation of Non-Governmental Players in all domains of space activities.	
Role of Karnataka	The state accounts for a significant portion of India's aerospace and defense exports and is home to the highest number of space startups in India.	

[The Hindu | IAS Parliament]

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