

③ India has a great window of opportunity to join the existing second space age. Do you agree with this view? (200 words)

① India space age began in ~~1971~~ 1957 with the launch of Sputnik 1 & 2 in 1961 Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first (world) person in space. Neil Armstrong made history by walking on the moon in 1969. The first age became reality.

② In today's second age, between 1950's to 1990's, the period dominated by the cold war between Union of Soviet Socialist Republic governments and US. They launched 60 to 120 launches annually and 93% belongs to United States.

③ Last year there were 180 rockets/space launches, 61 by Elon Musk's SpaceX. 90% global space launches since 2020 are by and for the private sector.

④ India made modest entry into the First Space Age in the 1960s. The first sounding rocket, a United States supplied Nike - Apache was launched at Thumba.

⑤ 1969 Indian Space Research Organisation formed. Its first project was Satellite Instructional Television Experiment that involved leasing a United States Satellite. This led to the INSAT series, followed by GSAT, etc.

⑥ Then remote sensing capability ~~to~~ that used agriculture, mapping, etc. This led to Oceansat and Cartosat series. Then joint project of CRAN. The regional satellite navigation, Navigation with Indian Constellation. (NavIC).

⑦ The Indian Space Economy was estimated at \$9.6 billion in 2020 is expected to be \$13 billion by 2025.

⑧ In 2020, The National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre was set up as a single window for the private sector.