



**ISRO successfully  
launched the PSLV  
Orbital Experimental  
Module or 'POEM' into  
orbit.**



It derives the power from the solar panels mounted around the PS4 tank and a Li Ion battery.

It navigates using four sun sensors, a magnetometer, gyros & NavIC.

It is carrying six payloads, including two from Indian space start-ups Digantara (for making map of space radiations, debris, and orbits) and Dhruva Space (for full-stack satellite development, launch, deployment, operation and maintenance services)



The PSLV Orbital Experimental Module is a platform that will help perform in-orbit experiments using the final, and otherwise discarded, stage of ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).

It has a dedicated Navigation Guidance and Control (NGC) system for attitude stabilisation, which stands for controlling the orientation of any aerospace vehicle within permitted limits.



**The US and its allies –  
Australia, New Zealand,  
Japan and the United  
Kingdom – have launched  
the ‘Partners in the Blue  
Pacific’ Initiative**



Informal mechanism to support Pacific islands and to boost diplomatic, and economic ties in the pacific region.

Speaks of enhancing “prosperity, resilience, and security” in the Pacific through closer cooperation.

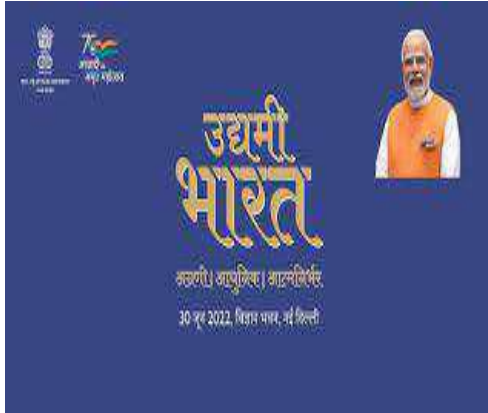
Through the PBP, these countries together and individually will direct more resources towards the Pacific Island Countries to counter China’s aggressive outreach.



Members will “elevate Pacific regionalism”, and forge stronger ties with the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF).

Areas of cooperation includes climate crisis, connectivity and transportation, maritime security and protection, health, prosperity, and education

Other initiatives to counter China- Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF), Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII), Global gateway by EU-



**The Prime Minister has participated in the ‘Udyami Bharat’ programme.**



It is reflective of the continuous commitment of the government, right from day one, to work towards empowerment of MSMEs.

Initiatives like MUDRA Yojana, Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS), Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) launched to provide necessary and timely support to the MSME sector.





Other Key initiatives launched

**‘Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance’ (RAMP)**

**scheme-** It aims to scale up the implementation capacity and coverage of MSMEs in the States, with impact enhancement of existing MSME schemes.

Will complement the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, fostering innovation, encouraging ideation, incubating entrepreneurship by developing quality standards Industry 4.0 to make MSMEs competitive and self-reliant



**‘Capacity Building of First-Time MSME Exporters’ (CBFTE) scheme’-** It aims to encourage MSMEs to offer products and services of international standards for the global market.

**‘Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme’ (PMEGP)-** It include increase in the maximum project cost to Rs 50 lakhs (from Rs 25 lakhs) for manufacturing sector and Rs 20 lakhs (from Rs 10 lakhs) in service sector and inclusion of applicants from Aspirational districts & Transgenders in Special Category applicants for availing higher subsidies.



**The QS Best Students  
Cities Rankings 2023  
released by global  
higher education  
consultancy**

**Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)**



## Findings

Mumbai ranked at 103 has emerged as India's highest-ranked student city.

The other Indian cities in the rankings include Bengaluru at 114, Chennai at 125 and New Delhi at 129.

London (UK) has topped the list ranked 1 followed by Munich (Germany) and Seoul (South Korea) ranked 2nd and Zurich (Switzerland) ranked 4th



The QS Best Student Cities Ranking provides independent data related to factors that are relevant to students taking their study decisions.

Factors include standard of university, affordability, quality of life, besides the views of previous students who have studied in that destination. It ranks around 140 cities worldwide.



**India successfully tested the indigenously-designed Abhyas - a High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) - in Odisha.**



It is designed & developed by Aeronautical Development Establishment of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

It offers a realistic threat scenario for practice of weapon systems. Hence, it can be used as an aerial target for evaluation of various missile systems.



It is powered by a gas turbine engine to sustain a long endurance flight at subsonic speed.

It is programmed for fully autonomous flight and their check-out is done using a laptop-based Ground Control Station(GCS).

Equipped with Micro-Electromechanical Systems-based Inertial Navigation System for navigation along with Flight Control Computer for guidance with Indigenous Radio Altimeter for very low altitude flight & Data Link for encrypted communication between the Ground Control Station and Target Aircraft





**Table tennis legend Achanta Sharath Kamal bestowed with the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award for his outstanding performance in the Commonwealth Games, 2022 by the President as part of the National Sports and Adventure Awards 2022.**



It was formerly known as the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna

It is the highest sporting award given by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four years.

The Khel Ratna award was instituted in 1991-1992 and the first recipient was Chess legend Viswanathan Anand.



## Other Awards

**Arjuna Award (1961)**- given by the Government of India to recognise outstanding achievement in national sports events.

**Dronacharya Award (1985)**-given by the Government of India to recognise excellence in sports coaching.

**Dhyan Chand Award (2002)**- given to honour sportspersons who have contributed to sports by their performance and continue to contribute to promotion of sports events after their retirement.



**Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy (1956)**- given to a university for "top performance in the inter-university tournaments" over the period of the last one year.

**Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards**- given every year to recognize the achievements of persons in the fields of adventure, to encourage young people to develop the spirit of endurance, risk-taking, cooperative teamwork and quick, ready and effective reflexes in challenging situations