



PLUTUS IAS

Argasia Education PVT. Ltd. (GST NO-09AAPCA1478E1ZH)

Address: Basement C59 Noida, opposite to Priyagold Building
gate, Sector 2, Pocket I, Noida, Uttar Pradesh
201301, CONTACT NO- 8448440231

Current Affairs

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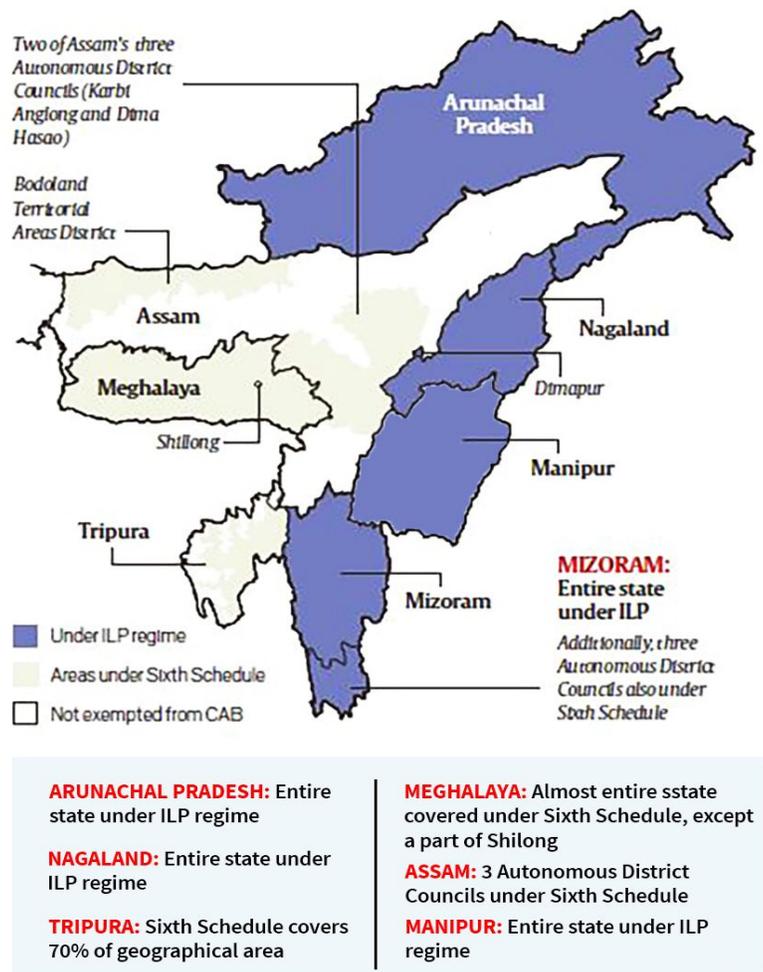
Topic-1: Inner Line Permit for Meghalaya

Context-

Several organisations of Meghalaya demonstrated across the state demanding that Inner Line Permit (ILP) be implemented in the state to protect the identity and rights of its indigenous people.

What is Inner Line Permit-

- Inner Line Permit (ILP) is an official travel document issued by the concerned state government to allow inward travel of an Indian citizen into a protected area for a limited period.
- It is obligatory for Indian citizens from outside those states to obtain a permit for entering into the protected state.
- The document is an effort by the government to regulate movement to certain areas located near the international border of India.
- An ILP is usually easier to obtain than the analogous Protected Area Permit (PAP) which is the document required by non-citizens to enter the same areas.



- Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram are protected by the Inner Line, and lately Manipur was added in the list.

Background-

- The Constituent Assembly had instituted Bardoloi committee for the administration of tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
- The committee recommended that there was a need for a system of administration that would allow tribal areas to become developed .
- The report also called for the protection of these tribal areas from exploitation by the people in the plains and preserving their distinct social customs.
- On the recommendation of this committee, the Government had brought Assam ,Meghalaya, Tripura,Mizoram under schedule 6 of the Indian constitution.
- This special provision is provided under Article 244(2) and Article 275(1) of the Constitution.
- Inner Line Permit was introduced in the colonial era ,Under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act, 1873.
- At present Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur and Nagaland come under it.
- Nowadays it has been seen that there is fear among the indigenous people of Northeast against an “illegal immigrant influx”, its effects and long-term damages.
- Northeast India shares borders with countries such as China, Myanmar, Bangladesh and Bhutan.

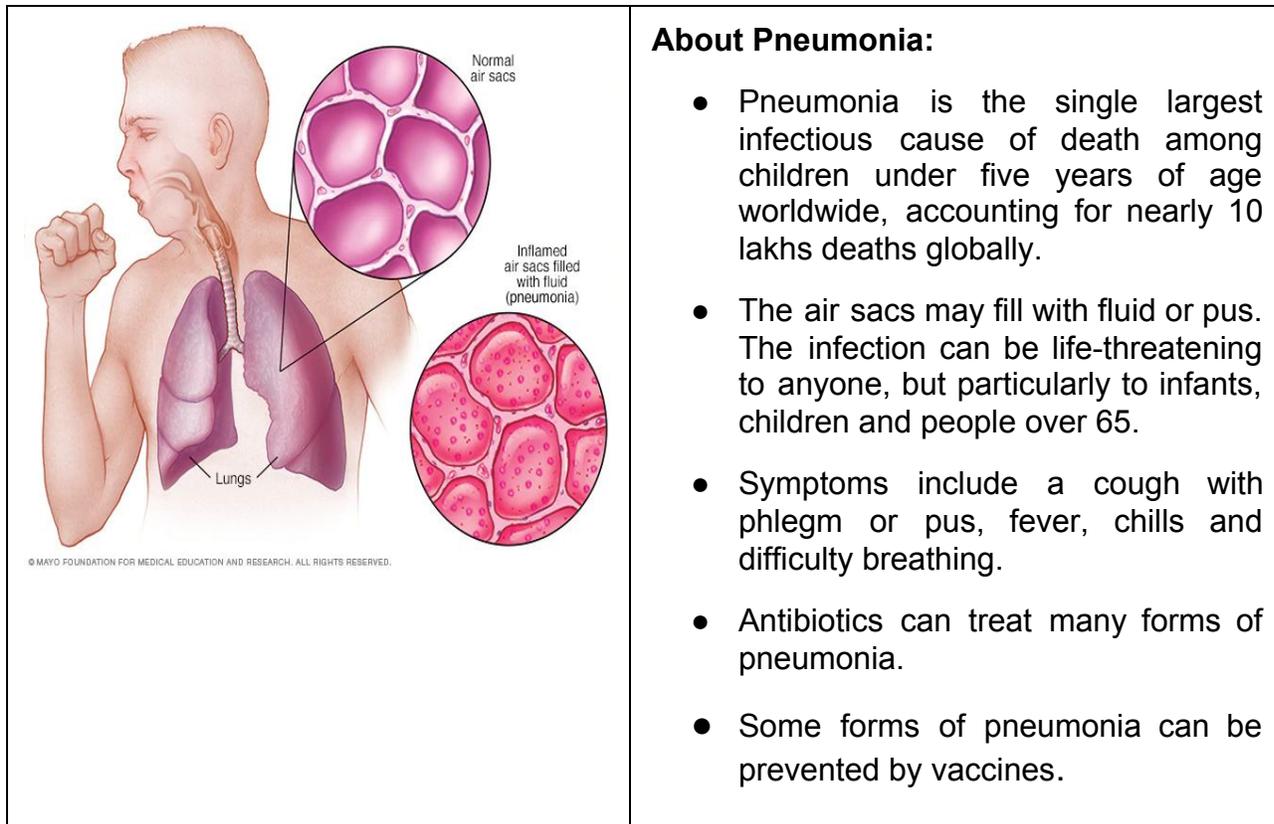
Therefore they are demanding ILP in Meghalaya as well.

About 6th schedule-

- The Sixth Schedule consists of provisions for the administration of tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram, according to Article 244 of the Indian Constitution.
- It was Passed by the Constituent Assembly in 1949, it seeks to safeguard the rights of tribal population through the formation of Autonomous District Councils (ADC).
- ADCs are bodies representing a district to which the Constitution has given varying degrees of autonomy within the state legislature.
- The governors of these states are empowered to reorganise boundaries of the tribal areas.
- Governors can choose to include or exclude any area, increase or decrease the boundaries and unite two or more autonomous districts into one.
- They can also alter or change the names of autonomous regions without a separate legislation.

Topic-2: India's first indigenous Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV)

Context: India's first pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) has been inaugurated by the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan.



About Pneumonia:

- Pneumonia is the single largest infectious cause of death among children under five years of age worldwide, accounting for nearly 10 lakhs deaths globally.
- The air sacs may fill with fluid or pus. The infection can be life-threatening to anyone, but particularly to infants, children and people over 65.
- Symptoms include a cough with phlegm or pus, fever, chills and difficulty breathing.
- Antibiotics can treat many forms of pneumonia.
- Some forms of pneumonia can be prevented by vaccines.

About:

- The vaccine has been developed by the **Serum Institute of India Private Limited (SIPL)** in collaboration with partners like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- “Serum Institute’s first Indigenous Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine will be available in the market under the brand name “**Pneumosil**” at an affordable price in single doses.
- Pneumosil has been licensed by the **Drugs Controller General (India)**.
- It is suitable for all age groups including the toddlers, infants and adults.

About Serum Institute of India:

It is a manufacturer of immunobiological drugs including vaccines in the city of **Pune** India. It was founded by Cyrus Poonawala in **1966**.

The company is a subsidiary of the holding company Poonawalla Investment and Industries.

Serum Institute's Vaccines are used in 170 countries and every third child in the world is immunized with the manufacturer's Vaccine.

Important Points:

- Pneumosil is an example of India's capability in Research & Development & manufacturing high end sophisticated Vaccines.
- It shows the Commitment of Atma Nirbhar Bharat and the vision of '**Making In India for the World**'.
- It is a matter of pride for our country for this historical milestone because till now India was fully dependent on Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine manufactured by the Foreign Manufacturers which are available at very high prices.

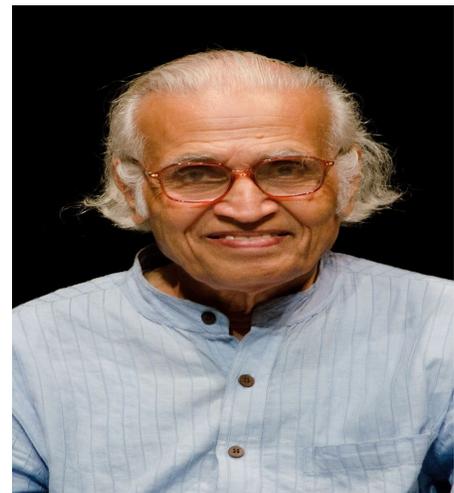
Topic-3: **Demise of a Classical Dance Scholar**

Context:

Recently, an eminent dance scholar Sunil Kothari passed away at the age of 87.

About Sunil Kothari:

- He was **conferred** with the fourth highest civilian award, **Padma Shri**, in 2001.
- His scholarly work, "**Sattriya: Classical Dance of Assam**", helped in creating a better understanding of the dance form in the national and global circuit.



Indian Classical Dances:

- The Indian classical dances have **two basic aspects**:
 - **Tandava** (movement and rhythm) and **Lasya** (grace, bhava and rasa).
- The **three main components** of them are:
 - **Natya**: the dramatic element of the dance i.e. the imitation of characters.
 - **Nritta**: the dance movements in their basic form.
 - **Nritya**: expressional component i.e. mudras or gestures.
- **The nine rasas** are: Love, Heroism, Pathos, Humour, Anger, Fear, Disgust, Wonder and Peace.

There are 8 classical dances in India:

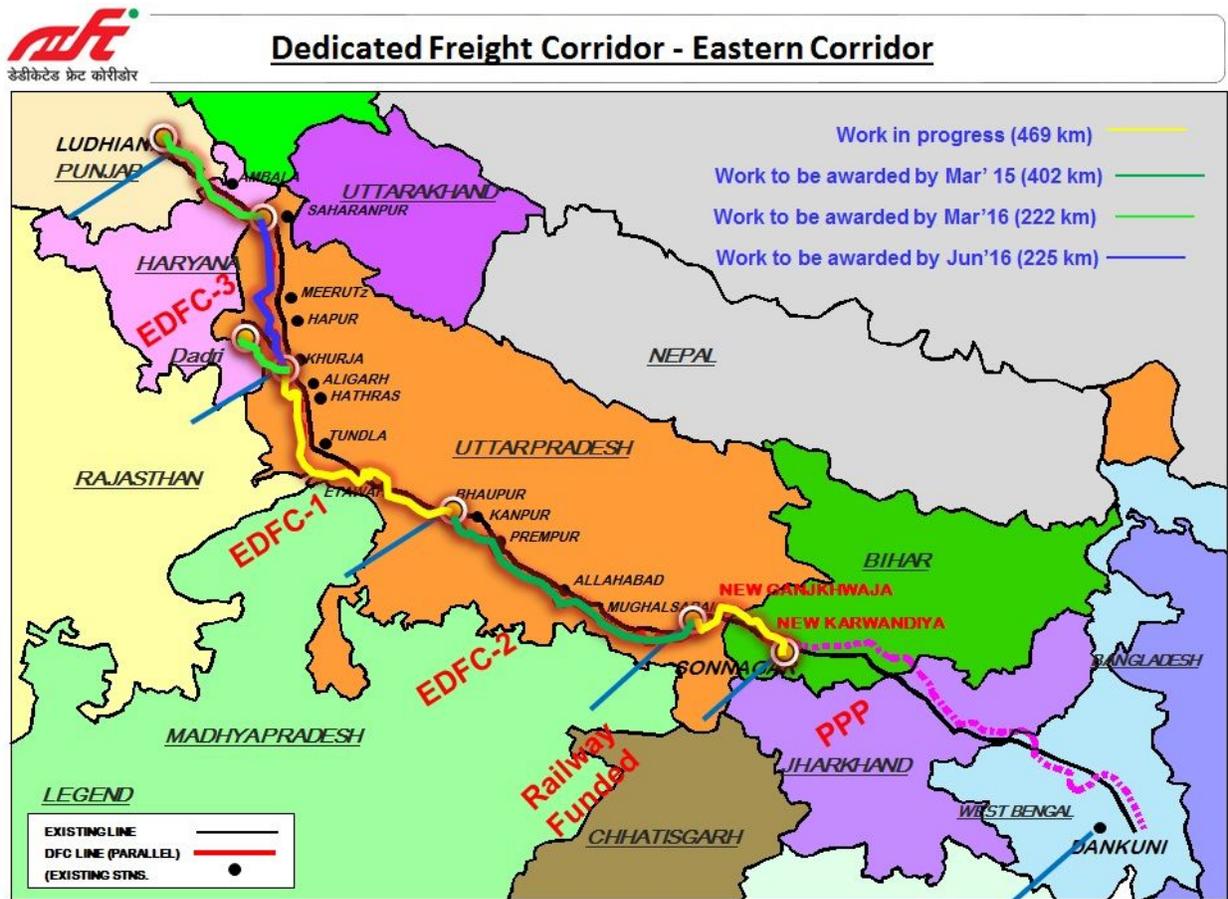
1. Bharatnatyam (Tamil Nadu)
2. Kathak (North India)
3. Kathakali (Kerala)
4. Mohiniyattam (Kerala)
5. Kuchipudi (Andhra Pradesh)
6. Odissi (Odisha)
7. Sattriya (Assam)
8. Manipuri (Manipur)



Topic-4: Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor

Context-

The 'New Bhaupur-New Khurja' section of Indian Railways' Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor to be inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi. The 351 kilometres long stretch of New Bhaupur-New Khurja is located in the state of UP.



How it will be beneficial-

- The EDFC section of New Bhaupur-New Khurja will benefit local industries like the aluminium industry in Pukhrayan region of Kanpur Dehat, glassware industry of Firozabad, asafoetida production of Hathras etc.

- The new EDFC section will also decongest the existing mainline between Kanpur-Delhi.
- It will also enable the national transporter to run faster train services.

About the corridor-

- The 1,856 km long EDFC starts from Sahnewal near the city of Ludhiana in the state of Punjab.
- The corridor will pass through the states of UP, Bihar, Haryana, and Jharkhand to terminate at Dankuni, West Bengal.
- It is being developed by Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India (DFCCIL), which has been set up as an SPV to build and operate the dedicated freight corridors.

What is Dedicated Freight Corridor-

- The Ministry of Railways, under the direction of the Indian Government, had taken up the dedicated freight corridor (DFC) project.
- The project involves the construction of six freight corridors traversing the entire country.
- The purpose of the project is to provide a safe and efficient freight transportation system.
- In 2006, the Government of India established a dedicated body to implement the project, called the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India (DFCCIL).

Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India (DFCCIL)

- The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL) is a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) corporation run by the Government of India's Ministry of Railways.
- It is developed to undertake planning, development, and mobilisation of financial resources and construction, maintenance and operation of the "Dedicated Freight Corridors" (DFC).
- The DFCCIL was registered as a company under the Companies Act 1956 in 2006.
- It is both an enabler and beneficiary of other key Government of India schemes, such as Industrial corridor, Make in India, Startup India, Standup India, Sagarmala, Bharatmala, UDAN-RCS, Digital India, BharatNet.
- DFCCIL has been designated by the Government of India as a 'special purpose vehicle', .

Topic-5: **“Adopt a Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan” Project**

Context:

- Recently, a review meeting of the **“Adopt a Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan” project** was held by the Minister of State for Tourism and Culture (I/C), in New Delhi.

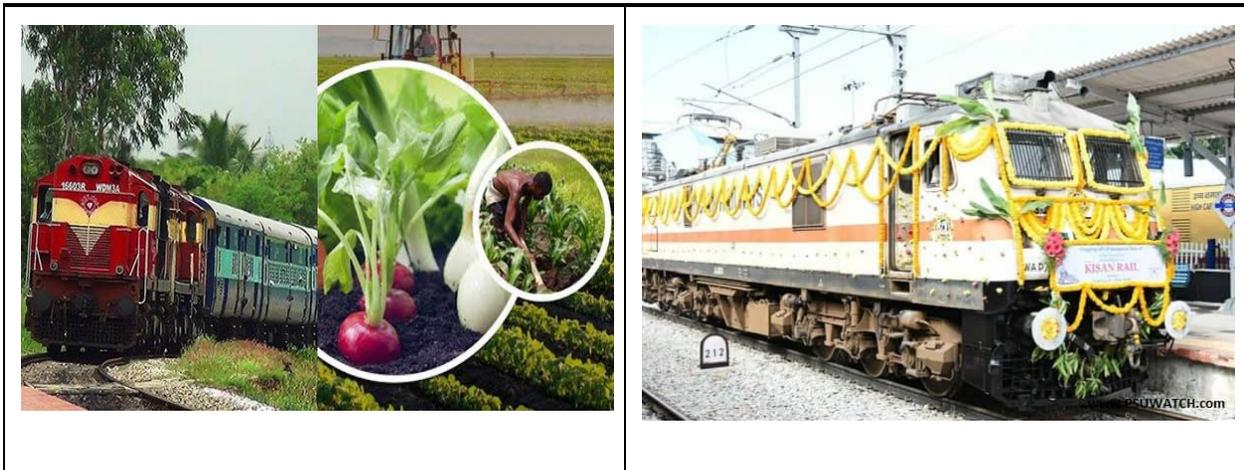
About Adopt a Heritage project:

- **The Ministry of Tourism**, Government of India runs the “Adopt a Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan” project which is a collaborative effort by the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture, Archaeological Survey of India and State/UTs Government for developing tourism amenities at heritage/ natural/ tourist sites spread

across India for making them tourist friendly, in a planned and phased manner.

- The project aims **to encourage companies from public sector, private sector, trusts, NGOs, individuals and other stakeholders** to become **'Monument Mitras'** and take up the responsibility of developing and upgrading the basic and advanced tourist amenities at these sites as per their interest and viability in terms of a **sustainable investment model under CSR. They would also look after the Operation & Maintenance** of the same.
- Under the project, 27 Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) have been awarded to 12 Monument Mitras for twenty-five (25) sites and two (2) Technological interventions across India.

Topic-6: **100th Kisan rail flagged off**



Context: The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi flagged off the 100th Kisan Rail from Sangola in Maharashtra to Shalimar.

What is Kisan Rail?

Kisan rail is a dedicated train to transport agricultural produce, especially perishable commodities, at cheaper rates and aid farmers in getting the right price for their crops. To help farmers' to send their perishable agro products to inter-state markets without any delay.

It was proposed in the budget speech of 2020.

Any farmer, or any other interested party, can directly book their consignments on this train without any lower limit on the size of the consignment. The consignment can be as small as 50-100 kgs, and can be booked from any stopping station to any other stopping station.

- **Country's first "Kisan Rail" train from Deolali in Nashik to Danapur in Bihar in August 2020.**
- Indian **Railways** has set up **Kisan Rail** through the PPP model.
- It is a **weekly** train.

Objectives:

- Kisan Rail will help in transporting perishable vegetables and fruits.
- The train will provide seamless connectivity among farmers, markets and consumers, perishable goods can be transported quickly.

Other Important steps by the Government for farmers:

- **Krishi Udan Yojana:**

To facilitate the marketing of agricultural and farm products of the northeastern states outside the region, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has launched the 'Krishi-Udan Scheme'. Krishi Udan Yojana focuses on transportation of milk, meat, fish, fruits etc. All the fruits, vegetables, crops that have shorter shelf lives will be transported through airplanes to markets as quickly as possible.

- **PM Krishi Sampada Yojana:** About 6500 such projects have been approved under Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain Infrastructure and Agro Processing Cluster.

- **Atma Nirbhar Abhiyan:** Under it Rs 10000 crore have been sanctioned for micro food processing industries.
- Farmer Producer Organizations(FPO's) and cooperative groups like women Self Help Groups get priority in **agri-business and agri-infrastructure.**

What are FPOs?

- Farmers' Producer Organisation (FPO),is an entity formed by primary producers.
- An FPO can be a Producer Company, a Cooperative Society or any other legal form. FPOs are the hybrids of cooperatives and private companies.
- Farmer producer organizations are a way forward to get some form of land consolidation, and an integration of smallholders, which is critical to tackle the problem of rural agrarian crisis.

- **Private investment** in agriculture will support the government's effort to help marginalised farmer groups.

Topic-7: **ISRO will train Bhutanese engineers for satellite launch next year**

Context:

Four Spaceengineers from Bhutan have landed in India to get training in satellite development from ISRO.

About:

- In 2019 India and Bhutan have signed an agreement that Bhutan and India will jointly develop a satellite and ISRO will launch it.



- Under the agreement ISRO will train Bhutan's space engineers on satellite development.
- The name of the satellite is **INS-2B**, however it is not Bhutan's first satellite.

Bhutan and India relationship:

- India and Bhutan have territorial disputes with China.
- Both have not joined the Belt and Road Initiative.
- Every year 5000 to 6000 Bhutanese students join Indian Universities and they even get scholarships from Bhutanese Government.
- Diplomatic relations between India and Bhutan were established in 1968.
- The basic framework of IndiaBhutan bilateral relations was the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed in 1949 between the two countries, which was revised in February 2007.
- The Supreme Court of Bhutan building which was constructed with Government of India's assistance.
- **India's** total border **trade** with **Bhutan** stands at \$728 million, while **India's** exports to the country stand at \$526 million and imports at \$202 million.

Recent steps by the Government of India for betterment of relations with Bhutan.

- Indian Railways have commissioned a survey to set up the Mujnai-NyonenPaling railway line.
- Indian Prime Minister had promised cooperation in the field of Education and Space.
- India launched (GSAT-9) South Asia Satellite in 2017 (formerly known as SAARC satellite), Bhutan is using the satellite and ISRO has developed a ground station for GSAT-9 in Bhutan.