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# Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

### 30 October 2023

### International & National News

ISRO	to	hold	more	tests	for	
Gagar	ıyaa	ın ir	n the	coming		
month	ıs					

### Context

- Successful completion of Test Vehicle-D1 (TV-D1) mission on October 21.
- Planned a series of test missions to further the Gaganyaan program.

### **Upcoming Tests by ISRO**

### **Upcoming Tests by ISRO**

### **TV-D2 Mission**

- Demonstrates in-flight abort capability under varied initial conditions.
- Features control system for crew module re-orientation upon separation.
- Utilizes the same expendable version based on L40 strap-on from



- Involves crew module with service module.
- Launches aboard a human-rated LVM3.
- Introduces 'Vyommitra' a robot astronaut developed by ISRO Inertial Systems Unit (IISU).
- Tests control systems, reduced life support systems, thermal protection, and parachute systems.

## **Integrated Air-Drop Test (IADT) Pad Abort Test**

## **Reuse of TV-D1 Crew Module**

- Consideration of TV-D1 crew module recovery for future tests.
- Module retrieved from the sea after splash-down.
- Requires detailed inspection due to saltwater exposure.
- Plan to assess the feasibility of reuse and determine suitable future test programs.

# **RBI Maintains 6.5% GDP Growth Projection**

### Context:

### Reserve Bank of India's Outlook (October 6):

- RBI maintains its 6.5% GDP growth projection for the year.
- Risks include geopolitical tensions, economic fragmentation, volatile financial markets, and an uneven monsoon.
- Domestic demand is strengthening.

### **Key Points:**

### **Emerging Uncertainties (Fortnight Since):**

• New uncertainties have arisen since the RBI's projection.





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	<ul> <li>The Israel-Hamas conflict has widened, raising concerns about global food, fuel, and fertilizer supplies.</li> <li>India's dependence on fuel and fertilizer imports could be problematic.</li> <li>Rising U.S. bond yields and mixed data points add to uncertainties.</li> <li>Sharp sell-off on Indian bourses observed.</li> </ul>		
The T.N. experience on caste survey	<ul> <li>The Second BC Commission was established in Tamil Nadu in 1982, following a government decision to increase the BC reservation from 31% to 50%.</li> <li>The Commission surveyed in two stages in 1983-84, focusing on enumeration and classification of BCs.</li> <li>The Commission's findings showed that BCs constituted a significant portion of the State's population, leading to a 50% reservation quota for BCs in Tamil Nadu.</li> <li>Differences arose between the Commission's Chairman, Ambasankar, and other members regarding the quantum of BC reservation and the inclusion of certain castes.</li> <li>Despite these differences, the government chose to maintain the 50% reservation quota for BCs and included some new communities while rejecting the exclusion of others.</li> </ul>		
China-Bhutan boundary talks	<ul> <li>Context</li> <li>China and Bhutan held their 25th round of boundary talks in Beijing.</li> <li>They signed a Cooperation Agreement on the "Responsibilities and Functions of the Joint Technical Team (JTT) on the Delimitation and Demarcation of the Bhutan-China Boundary."</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Significance of the Talks:</li> <li>After a seven-year gap, Bhutan and China resumed boundary talks.</li> <li>Indicative of significant progress in resolving border disputes.</li> <li>The talks were paused after the Doklam Standoff in 2017 and the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019-2021.</li> <li>Talks at other levels occurred during the pause, and an Expert Group met in 2021 to agree on a 3-step roadmap.</li> <li>Bhutan's Prime Minister stated that they were "inching towards" completing the roadmap.</li> <li>Further progress was made during FM Tandi Dorji's visit to Beijing.</li> </ul>		
	The 3-Step Roadmap:		
	A roadmap was established in 2021 with three key steps:  Agreeing on the border "on the table."  • Visiting the border sites on the ground.  • Formally demarcating the boundary.  • Aim to delineate Bhutanese and Chinese territory clearly for the first time.		



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- India is closely monitoring these talks due to its strained relations with China since the 2020 Line of Actual Control standoff.
- India is particularly concerned about demarcation discussions over Doklam, where China has proposed a land swap.
- Doklam is strategically significant as it is close to India's Siliguri corridor, connecting the North Eastern States to the rest of India.
- China has continued to build infrastructure in disputed areas in neighboring Bhutan, eroding India's strategic advantages.
- India is worried about China's demand for full diplomatic relations with Bhutan and opening an embassy in Thimphu.
- This concern arises from India's challenges with Chinese projects and influence in neighboring countries.

### India's green hydrogen move

### Context

- India aims to produce 'green hydrogen' with no fossil fuel emissions.
- A study by Climate Risk Horizons (CRH) warns of potential pollution if proper checks are not in place.

### **Kev Points:**

### **National Green Hydrogen Mission**

- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) leads the National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- The mission targets five million tonnes of green hydrogen production by 2030.
- This requires 125 GW of renewable energy capacity and 250,000 gigawatt-hour units of power, equivalent to 13% of India's current electricity generation.

### Current Renewable Energy Capacity

- As of August 2023, India's renewable energy capacity is **131 GW**.
- The 2030 green hydrogen plan necessitates adding a similar capacity by 2030.
- India's commitment to install 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030 as part of the Paris Agreement.
- India installed only 15 GW of new solar and wind capacity in 2023, falling short of the annual 45 GW target.

### **Challenges in Green Hydrogen Definition**

- MNRE defines green hydrogen as producing no more than two kg of carbon dioxide per kg of hydrogen.
- Current 'grey hydrogen' production emits nine kg of carbon dioxide per kg.
- The definition leaves room for interpretation.



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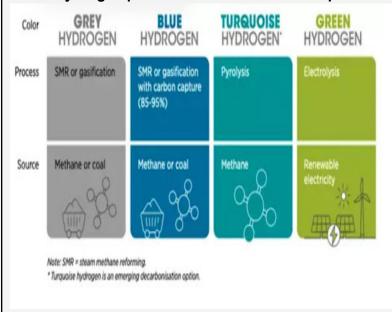
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## **Electricity Source for Electrolysers**

- The main concern is the source of electricity for electrolyzers, especially during nighttime.
- The majority of India's electricity grid relies on coal generation, particularly during non-daylight hours.
- Most projects have not disclosed their electricity source, raising concerns about increased carbon emissions.
- It is unclear if projects committing to 100% clean energy can meet this requirement.

### Conclusion

- India's Green Hydrogen Mission faces challenges related to electricity sources and meeting ambitious renewable energy capacity targets.
- Proper checks and transparency are needed to ensure that green hydrogen production does not worsen pollution.



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