



MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS

1. ADITYA-L1  PRELIMS, GS-3, GS-1
2. SI-DONYI FESTIVAL *The Assam Tribune* PRELIMS
3. MARCOS  PRELIMS, GS-3
4. PANDIT HEMCHANDRA GOSWAMI *The Assam Tribune* GS-5, PRELIMS

PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

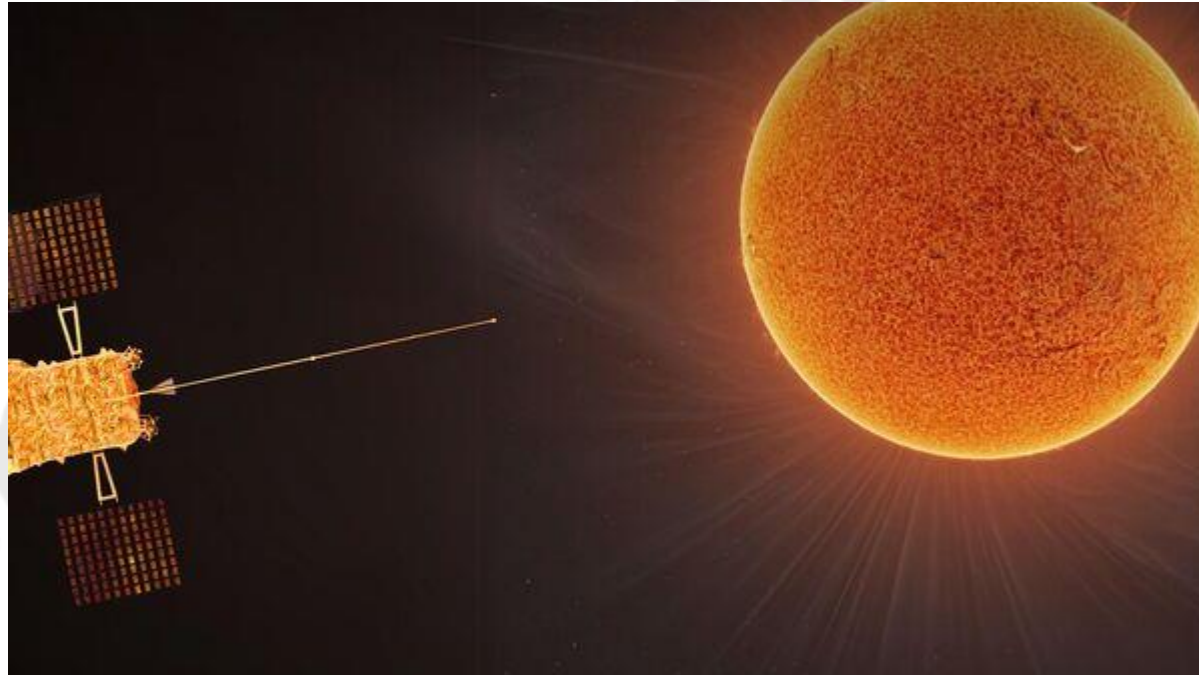
Q. Consider the following statements with respect to Inner Line Permit (ILP).

1. Inner Line Permit is operational in Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland.
2. It can be used for travel purposes only.
3. Visitors are not allowed to purchase property in these regions.

Which of the above statement/s is/are incorrect?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) None of the above

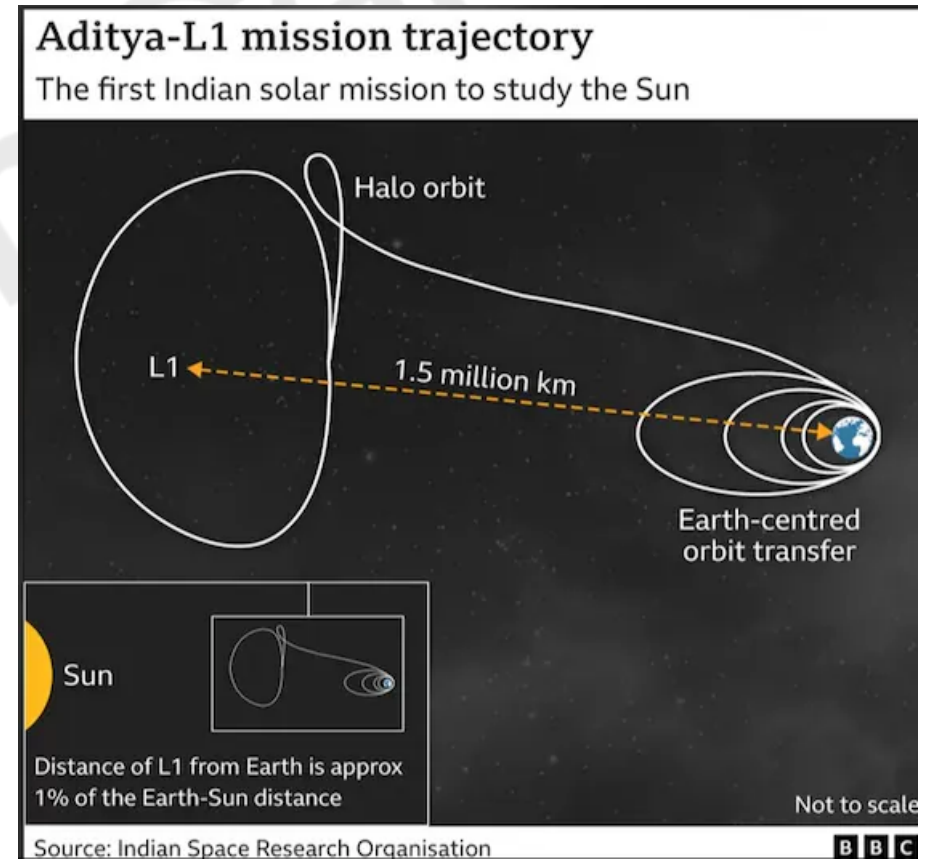
ADITYA-L1



CONTEXT

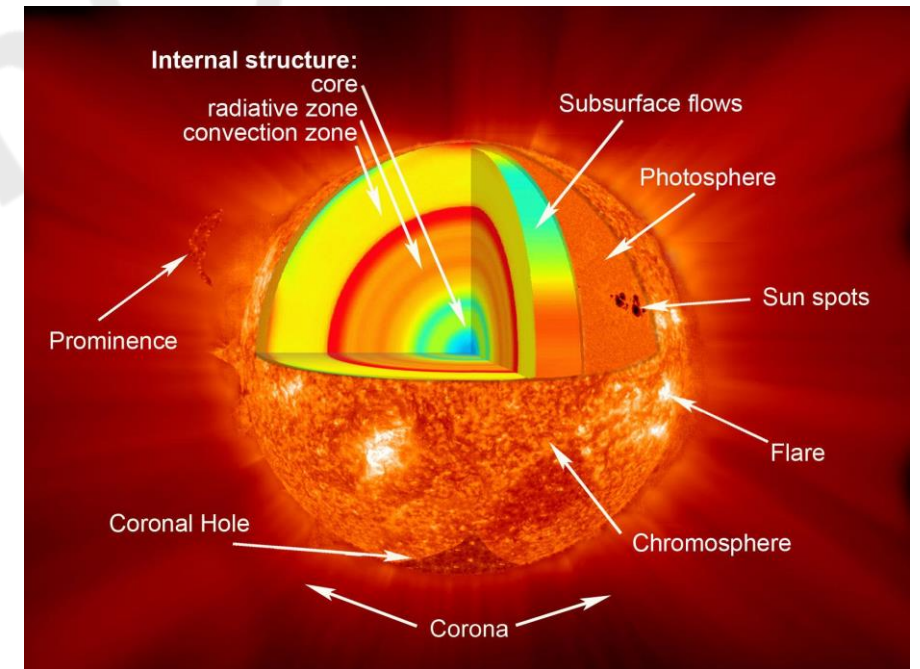
- The **Aditya-L1 solar observation mission**, launched by India has successfully reached the **sun's orbit** and is now in a **stable halo orbit** around the **sun**.
- This achievement was accomplished after a **four-month journey**, during which the spacecraft traveled 932,000 miles (1.5 million km) from Earth, reaching a point where the **gravitational forces** of both the Earth and the sun **cancel out**, allowing it to **remain** in a **stable halo orbit** around the sun.

- The **halo orbit** is a **periodic orbit** located **roughly 1.5 million km** from **Earth** on the **continuously moving Sun-Earth line**, with an orbital period of about 177.86 Earth days.
- This milestone marks **India's first solar observatory** reaching its **destination**.



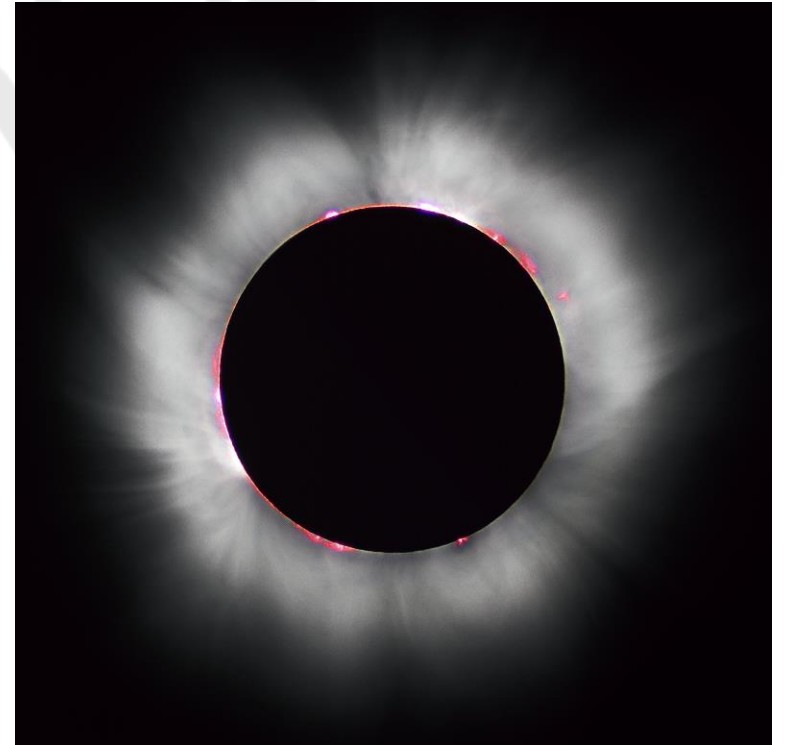
ABOUT THE MISSION

- The **Aditya-L1 mission** is **India's first solar observation mission**, designed and developed by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** to **study the Sun** and its **impact** on the **environment** around the **Earth**.
- The mission aims to achieve a comprehensive understanding of the dynamical processes of the Sun, focusing on the **solar corona** and its **heating mechanisms**, **coronal mass ejections**, and the impact of **solar radiation** on **space weather**.



SOLAR CORONA

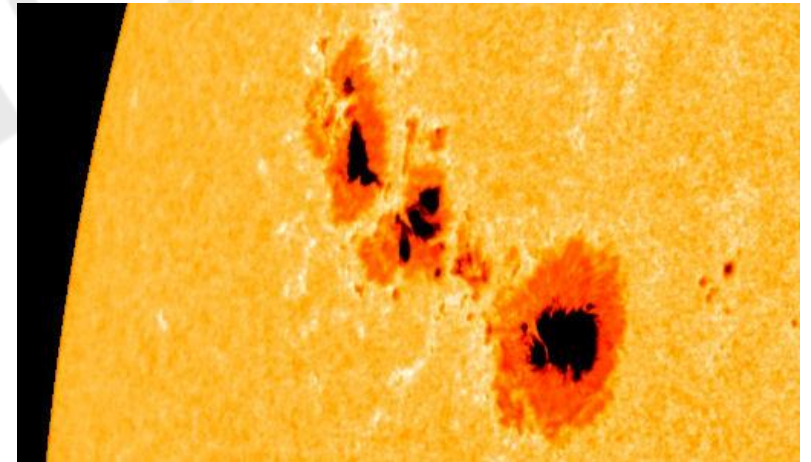
- The **solar corona** is the **outermost layer** of the **Sun's atmosphere**, consisting of plasma that extends millions of kilometers into **outer space**.
- It is most easily seen during a **total solar eclipse**, but it is also observable with a **coronagraph**.
- The corona is a **million times dimmer** than the **solar surface**.



- The **corona** is responsible for the **solar wind**, which is a stream of **charged particles** that flows out from the **Sun** and **affects** the **Earth's magnetic field** and atmosphere.

SUNSPOTS

- Sunspots are dark areas that appear on the Sun's photosphere due to reduced surface temperature caused by concentrations of magnetic flux.
- They are regions where the magnetic field is about 2,500 times stronger than Earth's, much higher than anywhere else on the Sun.



PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

Q. Consider the following statements with regards to sun:

- 1) The Sun rotates faster at its equator than it does at its poles.
- 2) Sunspots are darker and hotter than other regions of the Sun.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

SI-DONYI FESTIVAL



CONTEXT

- **Si-Donyi Festival** is a major festival celebrated among the **Tagin tribe** of **Arunachal Pradesh** in northeastern India.
- The festival is usually celebrated in **January** and involves the veneration of the **earth** (Si) and the **sun** (Donyi).



ABOUT

- **Si-Donyi Festival** marks the **beginning** of the **new year** and is celebrated with traditional gaiety, including singing, dancing, and feasting.
- The festival is celebrated in various places, including the district headquarters of Daporijo, adjoining town Dumporijo, Taliha, Siyum areas, and the state capital Itanagar, as well as other places where the **Tagin community** is present.

MARCOS



CONTEXT

- The **Indian Navy's elite marine commandos**, known as **MARCOS**, successfully rescued 21 sailors from a hijacked ship, including 15 Indians, from the bulk carrier **MV Lila Norfolk** in the **North Arabian Sea**.
- The dramatic rescue operation took place after the warship **INS Chennai** intercepted the hijacked vessel.

ABOUT

- **MARCOS**, officially called the **Marine Commando Force** (MCF), is the **special forces unit** of the **Indian Navy** and its primary role is to **conduct maritime** and **amphibious operations**.
- They were formed in **February 1987** and are modeled on the US Navy SEALs.
- MARCOS are capable of operating in **diverse environments**, including sea, air, and land.



SOME KEY FACTS ABOUT MARCOS INCLUDE

- Motto: "The Few, The Fearless"
- Headquarters: INS Karna, Vishakapatnam, India
- MARCOS has been involved in various operations and missions, including Operation Cactus, Operation Leech, Operation Pawan, Kargil War, Operation Black Tornado, Operation Cyclone, and counter-insurgency operations in Kashmir.

PANDIT HEMCHANDRA GOSWAMI

Remembering Pandit Hemchandra Goswami

■ Jyoti Khataniar

With his brilliantly comprehensive knowledge and an absolute commitment to understand Assamese literature and culture, Pandit Hemchandra Goswami stands tall among the Assamese litterateurs for whom the prestige of a nation rests on an incisive exposition of its creative oeuvre. Widely acclaimed as the *Puramacharya* (the supreme scholar), Pandit Goswami's massive contributions shaped the identity of the Assamese nation and directed the course of the critical appreciation of Assamese literature in order to bring into prominence the originality of ancient and medieval texts as well as formulated a creative response in the light of the 19th century romantic imagination. He influenced the Assamese creative sphere with a magisterial style and interpretive richness. The first Assamese sonnet 'Priyatamar Chithi' belongs to him.

Pandit Goswami believed in perfection and thereby, set a benchmark for others to judge their own works. His close proximity with historiographical writings and his command over the medieval Assamese language enabled him to form a comprehensive world view. Besides, he was educated in Kolkata (then, Calcutta), the capital of Indian renaissance and this allowed him to form a critical understanding of contemporary ideas and discourses. There is a dynamism in his approach towards evaluating literature and culture which is a natural corollary of the great intellectual tradition prevalent at Presidency College. He built the necessary foundation for understanding the

origin, depth and diversity of Assamese literature and culture on which later writers built their own foundations and initiated a range of interpretative dialogues. His presence assured the Assamese readers and intellectuals about the strength of their literary works, historical narratives and introduced the most eloquent evocations ever of how future generations would march forward and formulate a worldview accompanied by integrity and continuous engagement with traditional materials in the perspective of contemporary outlook.

Pandit Goswami was born at Dhekial, Golaghat, on January 8, 1872 and his school days were spent in Nagam. He passed matriculation examination in the first division with a scholarship. He was a student at Presidency College and circumstances in that great city of learning and massive activism inspired him to do something for his own people. He took immense pain in organising the Assamese student community of the city and formed the Asomiya Bhasha Unnati Sadhini Sabha in August, 1888. Lakshminath Bezboroh, Chandrakumar Aggarwala and Hemchandra Goswami were the trio who published *Jonaki*, a literary periodical, in the first half of 1889. It was not only the mouthpiece of the Asomiya Bhasha Unnati Sadhini Sabha, it was also the indelible force that shaped the course of modern Assamese literature, culture and identity. The role of *Jonaki* in transforming literary, creative and intellectual aspirations of Assamese people is historically so significant that this whole era has been termed the Jonaki Yug. Eminent Assamese novelist, known as

the Walter Scott of Assam, Rajankanta Borboka praised Pandit Goswami's relentless efforts in collecting articles and poems for *Jonaki* in those days. As a teenager (or young adult in the contemporary parlance), he was just 18 then, he made an extensive and up-to-date survey of Assamese literature and culture in his address delivered in the Asomiya Bhasha Unnati Sadhini Sabha (1889). In this thought



provoking and well crafted address, he classified different eras of Assamese literature with razor sharp precision and drew one's attention to several works of distinction. With this, he introduced a definitive pattern for later researchers to delve into and his familiarity with western literary thought introduced an unimpassioned way of looking into the past. His command over the relevant materials was tremendous as it was extremely difficult in 19th century Assam to find all these materials in a single place. The public library system was not visible and the owners of the manuscripts preserved in various remote parts of the province were certainly not ready to share them with an 18-year-old boy! Later commentators like eminent historians Suryyakumar Bhuyan and Col-

onel P T Gordon praised Goswami's personality which was certainly present in his teenage days considering the impressive handling of the language (both medieval and modern) and an ability to dig the necessary resource materials amid all adversities.

Pandit Goswami's role in publishing *Hemkosha*, the most authoritative dictionary of Assamese language by the late Hemchandra Baruah and in completing a multi-volume project *Asomiya Sahityar Chanoki* (Glimpses of Assamese Literature), is extraordinary. Despite his undivided attention to the compilation of *Hemkosha*, Hemchandra Baruah could not publish it during his lifespan. It was Pandit Goswami who took immense pain and used his managerial skills in convincing the higher government officials to publish this work. Sir Edward Gait and Colonel P T Gordon agreed to the proposal of Pandit Goswami. On January 30, 1897, Sir Edward Gait sent a proof of

30 pages of the dictionary which he requested to be revised and returned with a manuscript to his office at a very early date. Sir Edward enclosed a list of Assamese peculiarities which were not in stock in the Shillong Press at that time. The tone of this letter from him reflected his commitment to the whole project and his warm relationship with Pandit Goswami. He informed Pandit Goswami that he was taking care of the English section of the proof. However, the massive earthquake of June 1897 halted the whole process of printing of this mega text. The building where the manuscript was kept got fully destroyed and a rain-drenched Sir Edward located the manuscript in the debris. He was quick to inform Pandit Goswami about this and Goswami was much re-

lieved. However, Sir Edward was transferred from the province and later as an Honorary Director of Ethnography of the Province, Colonel P T Gordon initiated the process of printing *Hemkosha* from April, 1898 onwards. Finally, this magnum opus of Hemchandra Baruah saw the light of day in August, 1900. Pandit Goswami was generous enough to acknowledge efforts of Sir Edward and Colonel Gordon in this whole venture. It is a well-known fact of modern Assamese history that the legendary Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University, Asutosh Mookerjee (1864-1924) approached Pandit Goswami (March, 1918) to prepare an extensive compilation of Assamese literature under the project Outlines of a Scheme for the Advanced Study of the Indian Vernaculars initiated by Calcutta University. This compilation established the identity and prestige of Assamese literature forever.

Today, Pandit Goswami is also remembered for changing the perspective of Mahatma Gandhi about Assamese people and an indirect influence on the Father of the Nation to revise his text 'The Hind Swaraj'. Gandhi's presence on Assam's soil was not acceptable to the then British imperial power (August 20, 1921) and Pandit Goswami's commitment to the Assamese people was such that despite his high government position, he went against the wishes and instructions of the government. As pointed out by Prof. Suryyakumar Bhuyan, this shows Pandit Goswami's undaunted and unflinching personality in the service of his country's history and literature.

(Published to mark the birth anniversary of Pandit Hemchandra Goswami)

CONTEXT

- Pandit Hemchandra Goswami (1872–1928) was an eminent Indian writer, poet, historian, teacher, and linguist from Assam, known for his significant contributions to Assamese language, literature and archaeology.
- He was a versatile figure and the fourth president of the Asom Sahitya Sabha in 1920.



LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Goswami's literary works include the first Assamese dictionary, "Hemkosh" (published by him, compiled by Hemchandra Baruah) and other notable works such as "Phular Saki" and "Katha Gita."
- He played a pivotal role in the early development of modern Assamese literature.

- He influenced the Assamese creative sphere with a magisterial style and interpretive richness.
- The first **Assamese sonnet** 'Priyatamar Chithi' belongs to him.

- He took immense pain in organising the Assamese student community of the city and formed the **Asomiya Bhasha Unnati Sadhini Sabha** in August, **1888**.
- **Lakshminath Bezbaruah, Chandrakumar Aggarwala and Hemchandra Goswami** were the trio who published **Jonaki**, a **literary periodical**, in the first half of **1889**.

- It was not only the **mouthpiece** of the **Asomiya Bhasha Unnati Sadhini Sabha**, it was also the indelible force that shaped the course of modern Assamese literature, culture and identity.
- The role of **Jonaki** in **transforming literary, creative and intellectual aspirations** of **Assamese people** is historically so significant that this whole era has been termed the **Jonaki Yug**.

IMPACT ON MAHATMA GANDHI

- Today, Pandit Goswami is also remembered for changing the perspective of Mahatma Gandhi about Assamese people and an indirect influence on the Father of the Nation to revise his text 'The Hind Swaraj'.
- Gandhiji's presence on Assam's soil was not acceptable to the then British imperial power (August 20, 1921) and Pandit Goswami's commitment to the Assamese people was such that despite his high government position, he went against the wishes and instructions of the government.
- As pointed out by Prof Suryyakumar Bhuyan, this shows Pandit Goswami's undaunted and unflinching personality in the service of his country's history and literature.

By the Officers,
For the Officers

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