DATE: 21 AUGUST 2026

1 Core Industries (Source: The Hindu)

DATE: 21 AUGUST 2026

2 Gaganyaan Mission (Source: The Hindu)

Gaganyaan Mission is the manned space mission of India.

Fact To Know

- The crewed spaceflight plans to place humans to **Low Earth Orbit (LEO)** in the initial missions.
- Will help India gain practical knowledge and experience in launching future space exploration missions.
- *The first uncrewed mission with a robot called Vyom-Mitra will help in assessing the preparedness of ISRO in manned missions.*

Manned Space Exploration Across the World

- Project Apollo of the USA- Moon
- Artemis Programme of the USA- Moon
- Tiangong space station of China

DATE: 21 AUGUST 2026

3 National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) Scheme (Source: The Hindu)

NAMASTE scheme is a Central Sector Scheme launched by the Government of India to eliminate hazardous manual scavenging and ensure the safety, dignity, and social security of sanitation workers, especially those cleaning sewers and septic tanks.

Launch

- Launched in 2022 (approved in the Union Budget 2022–23) as a joint initiative of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) – nodal ministry and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)

Objectives

- Achieve zero fatalities in sanitation work in India.
- Ensure sanitation workers have no direct contact with human faecal matter.
- Promote 100% mechanised cleaning of sewers and septic tanks.
- Provide alternative sustainable livelihoods and entrepreneurship opportunities to sanitation workers.
- Strengthen occupational safety, skill development, and social security for sanitation workers.

Implementation

- **Implementing Agency**: National Safai Karmacharis Finance Development Corporation (NSKFDC) under MoSJE.
- **Implementation Area**: Initially targeted at 500 cities notified under the AMRUT scheme; process underway to extend to all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).
- **Duration & Outlay:** Approved for four years: 2022–23 to 2025–26