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Ask the right questions, and nature will open the door to her secrets
- Dr. C.V. Raman, The Nobel Prize in Physics 1930

Kalpana Chawla Centre for Research in Space Science and Technology

Department of Space, Govt. of India reported that with the objectives of training students in space science, satellite development, meet future challenges in space research ensuring India's leading position in future technologies, govt. inaugurated Kalpana Chawla Centre for Research in Space Science and Technology at Chandigarh University.

Govt. to Establish Research Centres to Support the Research of ISRO

Department of Space, Govt. of India, announced that Government intends to establish more research centres in the country to support the research of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Dept. of Spare further informed that ISRO is working with National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of United States to jointly realise a satellite mission named 'NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR)' for scientific studies of Earth.

CSIR Established 7 Common Research & Technology Development Hubs (CRTDHs)

Ministry of Science & Technology announced that Govt. has launched a number of programs to aid Start-ups in technology sectors and Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) in last 5 years has set-up 7 Common Research and TechnologyDevelopment Hubs (CRTDHs) with the aim for promoting industrial R&D innovation, dedicated for MSMEs, start-ups and individual innovators.

MNRE implementing a Scheme for Setting-up of 50 Solar Parks

To provide developed infrastructure to facilitate installation of solar power projects in India, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing a scheme for setting up of 50 Solar Parks of aggregate capacity of 40,000 MW.

Ministry of S&T launched Integrated Clean Energy Material Acceleration Platform

Ministry of Science and Technology launched three Material Acceleration Platforms, which are set-up by the Department of Science and Technology (DST). The Material Acceleration Platforms aims at leveraging emerging capabilities in next-generation computing, artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML), and robotics to accelerate the pace of materials discovery up to 10 times faster. DST further added that the platforms constitute a knowledge network of more than 38 elite institutions and 80 research personnel working on next-generation low-cost advanced energy materials. The three Material Acceleration Platforms are as follows:

i. DST-IISER Thiruvananthapuram Integrated Clean Energy Material Acceleration Platform on Storage
ii. DST-IIT Hyderabad Integrated Clean Energy Material Acceleration Platform on Bioenergy and Hydrogen
iii. DST-IIT Kanpur Integrated Clean Energy Material Acceleration Platform on Materials

Special Update: High-Tech Services in Agriculture

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India has taken following steps to provide digital and hi-tech services in Agriculture, which would open up opportunities for Private Entrepreneurs:

i. Provisions are being made under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to fund private agritech players.
ii. "Innovation and Agri-Entrepreneurship Development" has been launched under Rashtriya KrishiVikas Yojana (RKVY-RAFTAAR)
iii. start-ups are encouraged to use innovative technologies to resolve challenges faced in agriculture and allied sectors.
iv. Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has been supporting Agri-based startups under the project calledNational Agriculture Innovation Fund (NAIF)