

## 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 Daily Current Affairs Analysis:

### **Chandrayaan 2:**

- Chandrayaan-2 to be launched on July 15, ISRO releases first image
- ISRO has released the first pictures of Chandrayaan-2 at Bengaluru Satellite Integration and Testing facility.
- Chandrayaan-2 will be launched aboard GSLV MK-III launch vehicle

### **About Chandrayaan 2:**

- Chandrayaan-2 is a 3.8 ton spacecraft that has been constructed at a cost of more than Rs 600 crore. The cost of the launch vehicle GSLV MK III is expected to be around Rs 375 crore.
- Chandrayaan-2 will comprise three modules, an orbiter, a lander named Vikram and a rover named Pragyan. The orbiter will have eight payloads, while the Lander and the Rover will have three and two respectively.
- While the Orbiter, which will have scientific payloads, would orbit the moon, the lander would make a soft landing on the moon at a predetermined site and deploy the Rover.
- Following the launch, the lunar mission is expected to take many weeks before it prepares for a soft landing on the moon. ISRO plans to land Chandrayaan-2 near the South Pole of the Moon, a territory that hasn't been explored by any other space agency.

### **Prime Minister's visit to Bishkek:**

- PM Modi's two-day visit for SCO Summit at Bishkek to further boost bilateral ties with Kyrgyzstan

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-day visit to Kyrgyzstan for SCO Summit at Bishkek from tomorrow is expected to further boost the bilateral ties with Kyrgyzstan.
- At present both the countries have a bilateral trade of 60 billion dollars.
- The focus will remain on the sectors like pharmaceuticals, textiles, manufacturing and machinery among others.
- Both the countries with the democratic form of government will further deepen their ties in trade, commerce and business following the visit of Prime Minister Modi.
- This will be the second visit of Prime Minister Modi to Kyrgyzstan.

### **Mansarovar Yatra:**

The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra is undertaken by two routes, via-

- Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand– This route passes through a very mountainous area.
- Nathu La Pass in Sikkim– This route opened a few years ago in Sikkim is fully motorable.
- It requires minimum walking and therefore helps senior citizens who are unable to undertake arduous trekking, to participate in yatra.
- The Yatra involves a treacherous route that crosses territorial boundaries of India, Nepal and China. According to Yatra scheduled this year, 18 batches of 60 pilgrims each will trek across the Lipulekh pass in Uttarakhand and 10 batches consisting of 50 pilgrims each will go via the Nathula route to Sikkim.
- This pilgrimage plays an important step towards promoting people to people exchanges, strengthening friendship and understanding between India and China.
- The yatra is organised with support from governments of Delhi, Uttarakhand and Sikkim and also with cooperation of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

- The Government of China also extended the support in organising the annual yatra.
- The logistical support and facilities for pilgrims in India is providea by Uttarakhands' Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN), Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation (STDC) and their associated organisations.