GSAT 11

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GSAT 11:

- GSAT-11 was successfully launched on December 05, 2018 from Kourou launch base, French Guiana by Ariane-5 VA-246.
- It's a heaviest and most-advanced communication satellite of ISRO.
- It was launched on board of Ariane 5 VA-246 rocket from Kourou Launch Base, French Guiana.

Key facts:

- GSAT-11 known as ‘Big Bird’ has been indigenously developed by ISRO. It weigh 5854 kg making it heaviest Indian-made equipment that has been put into the orbit.
- It’s next biggest is the GSAT-17, weighing 3,477 kg and which was also launched for ISRO in June 2017 by the same European launch operator Arianespace.
- It will provide high data rate connectivity to Indian mainland and islands users through 32 user beams in Ku-band and 8 hub beams in Ka-band.
- It is three to six times more powerful than any other ISRO's satellite.
- GSAT-11 was launched into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit and subsequently ISRO's Master Control Facility at Hassan taken over the control of GSAT-11 to perform the initial orbit raising maneuvers using the Liquid Apogee Motor of the satellite for placing it in circular Geostationary Orbit.
- GSAT-11 will be positioned at 74-degree east longitude in the geostationary orbit.

Significance:

- It is a next generation high throughput communication satellite.
• GSAT-11 is the fore-runner in the series of advanced communication satellites with multi-spot beam antenna coverage over Indian mainland and Islands.
• GSAT-11 will play a vital role in providing broadband services across the country.
• It will also provide a platform to demonstrate new generation applications.

Boost to Connectivity:

• The new 'big bird' adds 40 more transponders, 32 in the Ku band and eight in the Ka band being introduced newly in an Indian satellite.
• It will help provide satellite-based internet to remote places where cable-based internet cannot reach.
• It will boost the broadband connectivity to rural and inaccessible gram panchayats in the country under Bharat Net Project, which is part of Digital India Programme.

References: TH, ISRO