

## Low Costs Star Sensor



- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) have developed a low-cost star sensor for astronomy and small CubeSat class satellite missions.
- The star sensor named Starberry-Sense can help small CubeSat class satellite missions find their orientation in space.



- Starberry-Sense is ready for launch on the PS4-Orbital Platform by ISRO and can be used for CubeSats and other small satellite missions in the future.

- The brain of the instrument is a single board Linux computer called Raspberry Pi.



- Any satellite needs to know where it is pointed in space, and the instrument used for this purpose is called a star sensor.
- The position of stars in the sky is fixed relative to each other and can be used as a stable reference frame to calculate the orientation of a satellite in orbit.



- **”What are cubesat??**
- A CubeSat is a square-shaped miniature satellite (10 cm × 10 cm × 10 cm roughly the size of a Rubik's cube), weighing about 1 kg.

- A CubeSat can be used alone (1 unit) — or in groups of multiple units (maximum 24 units)
- CubeSats can be used to test instruments, conduct science experiments, enable commercial applications and support educational projects.

## THE HINDU

### Governance

- The frequency with which the conduct or inaction of Governors comes up for judicial scrutiny reflects poorly on the state of relations between incumbents in Raj Bhavans and the respective Chief Ministers.
- The Governor can either grant assent to a Bill or decline it, or reserve it for the President's consideration.
- In suitable cases, it may also be returned for reconsideration.
- However, none of this should be based on the Governor's personal view on Bill's content.



One can understand an occasional query if any Bill seemingly violates fundamental rights, but a relevant question that requires an authoritative pronouncement from the court is whether the Governor should decide on its legality or the legislature's competence each time a Bill is presented for assent.



### GOVERNOR AND ASSENT TO BILL

- Article 200 gives power to the Governor to give assent, withhold assent, or reserve the bill for the consideration of the President passed by the Legislative Assembly.
- Article 361 states that the Governor of a State, shall not be answerable to any court for the exercise and performance of the powers and duties



- In 2001, the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution, held that the Governor owes his appointment and his continuation to the Union. Apprehensions exist that he will follow instructions given by the Union Council of Ministers.



- Constitutional Loopholes: In the Constitution, there are no guidelines for the exercise of the governor's powers in-case of appointment of a Chief Minister or dissolving the Assembly.
- Also, there is no limit set for how long a Governor can withhold assent to a Bill.
- As a result, friction between the governor and concerned state governments is likely to arise.

## Congress Moves Privilege motion

- The term 'privilege' means certain rights and immunities enjoyed by each House of Parliament and its Committees collectively, and by the members of each House individually without which they cannot discharge their functions efficiently and effectively.
- The object of parliamentary privilege is to safeguard the freedom, authority and dignity of Parliament.



- But they are available to individual members only insofar as they are necessary for the House to perform its functions freely without any let or hindrance.

### Important Privileges

- Freedom of speech in Parliament,
- Immunity to a member from any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by her/him in Parliament or any committee thereof,
- Immunity to a person from proceedings in any court in respect

of the publication by or under the authority of either House of Parliament of any report, paper, votes or proceedings, prohibition on the courts to inquire into proceedings of Parliament and



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- Freedom from the arrest of members in civil cases during the continuance of the session of the House and forty days before its commencement and forty days after its conclusion.



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## Breach of privilege

- A breach of privilege is an infringement of any of the privileges of MPs or Parliament.
- Chapter 20 of rule 22 for Lok Sabha and Chapter 16 Rule 187 for the Rajya Sabha have mentioned the Privilege motion.
- The scrutiny regarding the breach of this motion in the Lok Sabha is managed by the Speaker and that in the Rajya Sabha is managed by the Chairperson.
- Once the Speaker or the Chairperson considers the accusations to be true then the accused is called to explain themselves.
- A committee of 15 members is elected by the Speaker in the Lok Sabha and a committee of 10 members is elected by the Chairperson at the Rajya Sabha.
- These committees are responsible for managing all the cases and accusations related to the privilege motion and take relevant actions against and breach of the motion.

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## African Chief Conclave



- The Indian Army is set to host the second edition of the Africa- India field training exercise (AFINDEX-23) from March 21 to 30, and African Chiefs Conclave on March 28 in Pune.
- “The objective is to build upon the initiatives taken to strengthen India-Africa relations, with a focus on enhancing peace and creating opportunities to exchange ideas,
- .The first edition of the biennial joint military exercise was held in 2019 at the same location.
- According to officials, many African countries are likely to participate in this exercise with a focus on peacekeeping and humanitarian mine assistance.
- The exercise is part of the confidence-building and military relationship of the Indian Army with the African nations

## Horse shoe Caps



- Horseshoe crabs, one of the oldest living creatures on earth and medicinally priceless, appear to be disappearing.
- Scientists have urged the Odisha government to come up with a robust protection mechanism before the living fossil becomes extinct due to destructive fishing practices.



- They come to the coasts of Balasore in Odisha and Digha and Sundarbans in West Bengal for breeding purposes.
- They select a suitable site for laying their eggs. Unfortunately, those eggs are also damaged by local people
- The blood of this crab is very important for the preparation of rapid diagnostic reagents. All

injectable medicines are tested on them.

- Age of horseshoe crabs is 450 million years.
- Horseshoe crabs are not actually crabs at all, they are much more closely related to spiders and other arachnids than they are to crabs or lobsters
- Horseshoe crabs are marine and brackish water arthropods of the family Limulidae and the only living members of the order Xiphosura.

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### **Arrest Warrant against Putin**

- The International Criminal Court (ICC) investigates and, where warranted, tries individuals charged with the gravest crimes of concern to the international community: genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of aggression.



- The International Criminal Court (ICC or ICt) is an intergovernmental organization and international tribunal seated in The Hague, Netherlands.
- It is the first and only permanent international court with jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for the international crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression.
- It is distinct from the International Court of Justice, an organ of the United Nations that hears disputes between states



- The Rome Statute entered into force on 1 July 2002 and the International Criminal Court was formally established.

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