



# Antariksh Prayogshala (Space Labs)

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**Subject Reference:** GS Paper III (Science & Technology - Space)

- **The News (Dec 2025):** IN-SPACe issued an RfP to set up seven Space Labs in universities across India. These labs will act as regional hubs where students and private startups can share high-end equipment.
- **Apt Topic: "Democratization of Space Infrastructure"**
- **Phased Regionalism:** The labs are distributed zone-wise (one per zone) to prevent the concentration of space tech in just South India (Bengaluru/Hyderabad).
- **Funding Architecture:** IN-SPACe provides **75% of the cost (up to ₹5 crore)**. This is a "Milestone-linked" funding model, a new trend in Indian governance to ensure accountability.
- **Skill-Gap Bridge:** As India's space economy aims for **\$44 billion by 2033**, these labs provide the "hands-on" training that traditional theory-heavy engineering degrees lack.