

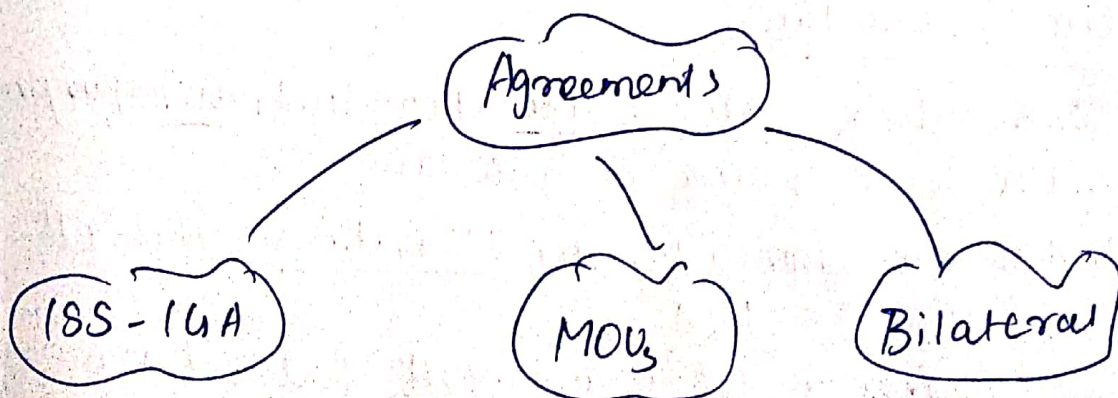
It is imperative that India's legal framework needs to be modified rigorously to the Changing Situational Complexities of Space exploration. Analyse

First ever space crime from International Space Station (ISS) may have happened as NASA suspects of its crew member of committing financial fraud.

Immediate question arises after this is that under whose jurisdiction this crime belongs as ISS is a co-operative space area.

ISS is a cooperative programme among NASA, Europe Space Agency, Canada, Germany & Japan for permanent habitable space station in low earth orbit. It has legal frameworks which covers the rights & obligations of each of the countries as well as jurisdiction and control for their space elements.

Space Agreements



i) ISS - Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA)

- A cooperative framework for joint development, maintenance & operation of Space Station
- Signed in 1988 among 14-nations

ii) Four MOUs among NASA and other space agencies

- To describe & roles & responsibilities of the countries in design, development & maintenance of the Space Station

However these agreement does not deal with space crimes.

Commercializations & its Consequences

- With MNCs started exploring space and NASA had recently opened a portion of ISS for commercial purpose, it is time for us to make laws in keeping in mind of future crime instances
- International space law must cover not just space explorations but also commercializations

India & Space law:

- With future space explorations such as Gaganyaan, India must frame a space law
- India can sign a treaty ISS nations as well as in the ISS-IGA
- By agreeing to IGA framework, India have to amend IPC, define space crime & probable punishment as well.