

# Nauka' module of Russia

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**In news-** Russia's new 'Nauka' laboratory module meant for the International Space Station(ISS) blasted off recently aboard the Proton rocket.

## **More information-**

- Nauka is a 42-foot-long module weighing 20 tonnes.
- It was set to launch in 2007 but was reportedly delayed due to technical issues.
- **'Nauka'** in Russian **means Science.**
- It is Russia's most ambitious research facility in space and is **fitted with an oxygen generator, robotic cargo crane, a toilet and a bed for Russian astronauts.**
- The Russian module will initially be used as a **docking facility** and for conducting experiments as the crew works in it.
- The multipurpose laboratory's active docking port and airlock which will be handled by the European Robotic Arm.
- It will also provide astronauts with additional cargo storage space including oxygen regeneration equipment.
- The high-tech research lab is **attached to the Zvezda module** and the lab will serve the Russian segment of the space station.
- It replaced **the Pirs module** after the latter got detached from the ISS.

## **About Pirs module-**

- Pirs, a Russian module on the ISS was launched in 2001.
- It was used as a docking port for spacecraft and as a door for cosmonauts to go out on spacewalks.
- It is the biggest space laboratory Russia has launched to date.
- It was pulled away from the ISS using a Progress

MS-16/77P cargo ship, which had remained docked to the module since February.

It is the **first permanent ISS module to be decommissioned**, and burned up and disintegrated during atmospheric re-entry over the Southern Pacific.