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LAUNCH OF VANDE BHARAT SLEEPER TRAIN SERVICE

- New Vande Bharat trains equipped with sleeping facilities (sleeper coaches) for overnight journeys are being introduced as part of Indian Railways' modern passenger transport revolution.
- The first service of this type was launched on January 17 between Howrah and Kamakhya in Assam, West Bengal.
- Following this, the second Vande Bharat Sleeper Train service, connecting the spiritual city of Kashi (Varanasi) with the national capital, Delhi, was launched yesterday.

NVS-03 SATELLITE

- Similar to the GPS system of the United States, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) decided to develop the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) to support land, sea and air transportation and defence applications in India.
- The NVS-03 (IRNSS-1L) satellite, designed by ISRO, was successfully launched aboard the GSLV F-18 rocket from the launch centre at Sriharikota.
- At least four satellites in orbit are required to provide positioning, navigation and timing services through NavIC technology.
- Therefore, through this launch, India has fully restored its NavIC services.
- More than 10,400 train engines and 64,000 fishing boats are being monitored in real time.
- So far, more than 50 lakh (5 million) devices have been installed to track vehicles.