



## RESPOND Program : ISRO

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### Why in News

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Recently, **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has announced that it will support eight joint research projects mooted by the **Space Technology Cell (STC), IIT-Delhi**.

The ISRO has extended support to the projects under its **RESPOND programme**.

### Key Points

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- ISRO **started the RESPOND (Research Sponsored) programme in the 1970s**, with the objective of **encouraging academia to participate and contribute in various Space related research activities**.
- Under the Programme, **ISRO provides financial support** for conducting research and development activities related to **Space Science, Space Technology and Space Applications** in Academic Institutions in India.
- This is the **flagship programme of ISRO to promote extramural research** in emerging areas of Space at Academia.
  - It looks to **enhance the Academic base, generate human resources and infrastructure** at the Academic Institutions to **support the Space Programmes**.
  - India is on course to launch its first human spaceflight mission, **Gaganyaan**, where Indian astronauts will spend time to conduct space experiments. This ambitious mission will help the country prepare for future deep-space missions.
- RESPOND is also participating in the National Missions like **IMPRINT (IMPActing Research INnovation and Technology)** programme and **Uchhatar Avishkar Yojana (UAY)**.

### IMPRINT Programme

- The scheme was **released in 2015** by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (now Ministry of Education).

- It is a **first-of-its-kind Pan-IIT and IISc joint initiative** to address the major science and engineering challenges that India must address and champion to enable, empower and embolden the nation for inclusive growth and self-reliance.
- IMPRINT provides the overarching vision that **guides research into areas that are predominantly socially relevant.**

### **Uchhatar Avishkar Yojana**

- It was launched by the Ministry of Human Resource Development in 2015.
- It **promotes innovation of a higher order that directly impacts the needs of the Industry** and thereby improves the competitive edge of Indian manufacturing.

**Source: TH**