

**THE DRAFT SPACE ACTIVITIES (REGULATION) BILL, 2020 - RECOMMENDED**

<i>A Bill to provide for the regulation of space activities and the establishment of the Space Regulatory Authority of India and the Space Disputes Settlement Appellate Tribunal</i>	
	<b>CHAPTER I - PRELIMINARY</b>
1. Short title, extent, application and commencement	(1) This Act may be called the Space Activities (Regulation) Bill, 2020
	(2) It extends to the whole of India.
	(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint
2. Definitions	In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, -
	(1) <b>collegium</b> means a five-member body constitution of the Chief Justice of India and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court;
	(2) <b>Indian national</b> means - (i) a citizen of India; (ii) any legal or juridical person, including a Governmental, non-Governmental or private sector agency, company, corporate body registered or incorporated in India;
	(3) <b>launch facility</b> (a) means a facility (whether fixed or mobile) or place located within the territory of India from which it is intended to launch/re-enter a launch vehicle; and (b) any vehicle in the air that has been launched from India; and shall include all other ancillary facilities that are necessary to launch a launch vehicle from the vehicle, facility or place;
	(4) <b>launch vehicle</b> , means— (a) an object, the whole or any part of which— (i) is intended to reach, outer space; or (ii) carries or supports the launch of, or is intended to carry or support the launch of, a payload; or (b) any component part of an object described in paragraph (a);
	(5) <b>payload</b> (a) means an object that is intended to be carried or placed, in outer space; and (b) includes components of a launch vehicle that are specifically designed or adapted for the object (but does not otherwise include a launch vehicle or any of its component parts);
	(6) <b>person</b> means an individual, Hindu Undivided Family, company, trust, partnership, limited liability partnership or any other entity established under under any law for the time being in force for the time being in force;

	(7) <b>prescribed</b> means prescribed by rules made by the Central Government under this Act;
	(8) <b>registered person</b> means a person who is registered under this Act.
	(9) <b>specified</b> means specified by regulations made by the Authority under this Act and the term “specify” shall be construed accordingly;
	(10) <b>space activity</b> means— a) the launch or operation of any space object; b) the operation of a launch facility; c) all activities in relation to the guidance and entry of space object into and from outer space; d) all functions for performing the said activities including the procurement of the objects for the said purposes; and e) In-space commercial operations
	(11) <b>space debris</b> means all non-functional human-made objects, including fragments and elements thereof, in Earth's orbit or re-entering Earth's atmosphere.
	(12) <b>space object</b> means - a) a launch vehicle; b) a vehicle which carries payloads into and in space; this vehicle can be a non-intervening vehicle, an intervening non-destructive vehicle, an intervening destructive vehicle c) a payload; d) any device, the purpose of which is to launch an object on a trajectory even when such a device is operated without a payload for the purpose of its development and validation phase (but does not include space debris).
	(13) <b>space resource</b> means a natural resource of any kind found in situ in outer space.
	<b>CHAPTER II - ESTABLISHMENT OF AUTHORITY</b>
3. Establishment of Authority	(1) With effect from such date as the Central Government may, by notification appoint, there shall be established, for the purposes of this Act, an Authority to be called the Space Regulatory Authority of India.
	(2) The Authority shall be a body corporate by the name aforesaid, having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and to contract, and shall, by the said name, sue or be sued.
	(3) The Authority shall consist of a Chairperson, 3 full-time members, and 5 independent, part-time members, who shall collectively form the board of the Authority.
	(4) The head office of the Authority shall be at such a place as the Central Government shall notify.

4. Qualifications for appointment of the Board	The Board of the Authority shall be appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Leader of Opposition and the Chief Justice of India from amongst persons who have special knowledge of, and professional experience in space, science, engineering, law, aeronautics, industry, or management.
5. Term of office, conditions of service, etc. of Chairperson and other members	(1) Before appointing any person as the Chairperson or member, the Central Government shall satisfy itself that the person does not have any such financial or other interest as is likely to affect prejudicially his functions as such member.
	(2) The Chairperson and other members shall hold office for a term not exceeding three years, as the Central Government may notify in this behalf, from the date on which they enter upon their offices or until they attain the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier.
	(3) The employee of the government on his selection as the Chairperson or whole-time member as the case may be shall have to relinquish another assignment he may have been pursuing, before joining as the Chairperson or a whole-time member, as the case may be.
	(4) The salary and allowances payable to and the other terms and conditions of service of the members of the Board shall be such as may be prescribed.
	(5) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (2), a member may - (a) relinquish his office by giving in writing to the Central Government notice of not less than three months; or (b) be removed from his office in accordance with the provisions of section 7.
	(6) The Chairperson or any whole-time member ceasing to hold office as such, shall not hold any position in the Government, which requires involvement with space activities, whatsoever, for 2 years.
	(7) A vacancy caused to the office of the Chairperson or any other member shall be filled up within a period of three months from the date on which such vacancy occurs.
6. Powers of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson	(1) The Chairperson shall have powers of general superintendence and directions in the conduct of the affairs of the Authority and he shall, in addition to presiding over the meetings of the Authority, exercise and discharge such powers and functions of the Authority and shall discharge such other powers and functions as may be prescribed.
	(2) The Central Government may appoint one of the members to be a Vice-Chairperson of the Authority who shall exercise and discharge such powers and functions of the Chairperson as may be prescribed or as may be delegated to him by the Authority.

7. Removal and suspension of member from office in certain circumstances	(1) The Central Government may remove from office any member, who – (a) has been adjudged an insolvent; or (b) has been convicted of an offence which, in the opinion of the Central Government, involves moral turpitude; or (c) has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a member; or (d) has acquired such financial or other interest as is likely to affect prejudicially his functions as a member; or (e) has so abused his position as to render his continuance in office prejudicial to the public interest.
	(2) No such member shall be removed from his office under clause (d) or clause (e) of sub-section (1) unless he has been given a reasonable opportunity of being heard in the matter.
8. Meetings	(1) The Authority shall meet at such times and places and shall observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at its meetings (including quorum at such meetings) as may be specified.
	(2) All questions which come up before any meeting of the Authority shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present and voting, and in the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson or in his absence, the person presiding, shall have a second or casting vote.
9. Vacancies, etc. not to invalidate proceedings of Authority.	No act or proceeding of the Authority shall be invalid merely by reason of- (a) any vacancy in, or any defect in the constitution of, the Authority; or (b) any defect in the appointment of a person acting as a member of the Authority; or (c) any irregularity in the procedure of the Authority not affecting the merits of the case.
10. Officers and other employees of Authority	(1) The Authority may appoint officers and such other employees as it considers necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions under this Act.
	(2) The salary and allowances payable to and the other conditions of service of the officers and other employees of the Authority appointed under sub-section (1) shall be such as may be specified.
11. Functions of Authority	(1) The functions of the Authority shall be to specify: (a) terms and conditions for provision & revocation of licences to service providers; (b) measures to facilitate fair competition in the industry (c) liability clauses for breaches of contract; (d) minimum technical and safety standards, which need to be followed by service providers; (e) best practices on quality, safety, technology of service; (f) measures to protect the interests of consumers; (g) on matters relating to development of space technology and any other matter relatable to space technology in general, to the DOS;

	<p>(2) The Authority shall discharge the following functions, namely: -</p> <p>(a) ensure compliance to terms and conditions of licence;</p> <p>(b) revoke licence for non-compliance of terms and conditions;</p> <p>(c) monitor service quality and conduct periodical surveys and audits of essential services provided by service providers as may be prescribed;</p> <p>(d) inspect used equipment, maintain register of licenses and licensees;</p> <p>(e) keep the maintained register open for inspection to any member of the public on payment of such fee and compliance of such other requirements as may be prescribed;</p> <p>(f) levy fees and other charges for its services;</p> <p>(g) perform other administrative and financial functions;</p>
	<p>(3) The Authority shall perform such other functions including such administrative and financial functions as may be entrusted to it by the Central Government or as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.</p>
	<p>(4) While discharging its function under this Act, the Authority shall not act against the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality.</p>
	<p>(5) The Authority shall ensure transparency while exercising its powers and discharging its functions.</p>
	<b>CHAPTER III - ESTABLISHMENT OF APPELLATE TRIBUNAL</b>
12. Establishment of Appellate Tribunal	<p>The Central Government shall, by notification, establish an Appellate Tribunal to be known as the Space Disputes Settlement Appellate Tribunal to -</p> <p>(a) adjudicate any dispute -</p> <p>(i) between the Authority and a registered person; or</p> <p>(ii) between two or more registered persons; or</p> <p>(iii) between consumers and a registered person;</p> <p>(b) hear and dispose of appeal against any direction, decision or order of the Authority under this Act.</p>
13. Application for settlement of disputes and appeals to Appellate Tribunal	<p>(1) The Central Government or a State Government or a local authority or any registered person may make an application to the Appellate Tribunal for adjudication of any dispute referred to in clause (a) of section 13.</p>
	<p>(2) The Central Government or a State Government or a local authority or any registered person aggrieved by any direction, decision or order made by the Authority may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal.</p>

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	<p>(3) Every appeal under sub-section (2) shall be preferred within a period of thirty days from the date on which a copy of the direction or order or decision made by the Authority is received by the Central Government or the State Government or the local authority or the aggrieved registered person and it shall be in such form, verified in such manner and be accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed.</p> <p><i>Provided that the Appellate Tribunal may entertain any appeal after the expiry of the said period of thirty days if it is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not filing it within that period.</i></p>
	<p>(4) On receipt of an application under sub-section (1) or an appeal under sub-section (2), the Appellate Tribunal may, after giving the parties to the dispute or the appeal an opportunity of being heard, pass such orders thereon as it thinks fit.</p>
	<p>(5) The Appellate Tribunal shall send a copy of every order made by it to the parties to the dispute or the appeal and to the Authority, as the case may be.</p>
	<p>(6) The application made under sub-section (1) or the appeal preferred under sub-section (2) shall be dealt with by it as expeditiously as possible and endeavours shall be made by it to dispose of the application or appeal finally within ninety days from the date of receipt of application or appeal, as the case may be:</p> <p><i>Provided that where any such application or appeal could not be disposed of within the said period of ninety days, the Appellate Tribunal shall record its reasons in writing for not disposing of the application or appeal within that period.</i></p>
	<p>(7) The Appellate Tribunal may, for the purpose of examining the legality or propriety or correctness of any dispute made in any application under sub-section (1) or of any direction or order or decision of the Authority referred to in the appeal preferred under sub-section (2), on its own motion or otherwise, call for the records relevant to disposing of such application or appeal and made such orders as it thinks fit.</p>
14. Composition of Appellate Tribunal	<p>(1) The Appellate Tribunal shall consist of a Chairperson and not more than two members.</p>
	<p>(2) The selection of Chairperson and Members of the Appellate Tribunal shall be made by the collegium.</p>
	<p>(3) The Appellate Tribunal shall ordinarily sit at such place as the Central Government may, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal, notify;</p>

15. Jurisdiction of the Tribunal	<p>No civil court shall have jurisdiction to entertain any suit or proceedings in respect of any matter which the Appellate Tribunal is empowered to determine and no injunction shall be granted by any court or other Authority in respect of any action taken or to be taken by the Tribunal.</p> <p>The Appellate Tribunal shall have the same powers as vested in a civil court and every hearing before the Tribunal shall be considered as a judicial proceeding. Every appeal against any order of the Tribunal shall have to be placed before the Supreme Court. An order passed by an Appellate Tribunal shall be executable as a decree of a civil court.</p> <p>If a party wilfully contravenes the order of the Tribunal, it shall be liable to fines as prescribed the Tribunal. The penalties shall increase with second or continued violation.</p>
16. Qualifications for appointment of Chairperson and Members	<p>A person shall not be qualified for appointment as the Chairperson or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal unless he -</p> <p>(a) in the case of Chairperson, is, or has been, a Judge of the Supreme Court or the Chief Justice of a High Court;</p> <p>(b) in the case of a Member, is, or has been, a Judge of a High Court</p>
17. Term of office	<p>The Chairperson and every other Member of the Appellate Tribunal shall hold office as such for a term not exceeding three years from the date on which he entered upon his office.</p> <p><i>Provided that no Chairperson or other Member shall hold office as such after he has attained, - (a) in the case of Chairperson, the age of seventy years; (b) in the case of any other Member, the age of sixty-five years.</i></p> <p><i>Provided that no Member shall not be reappointed for another term with the Tribunal</i></p>
18. Terms and conditions of service	<p>The Salary and allowances payable to and other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson and other Members of the Appellate Tribunal shall be such as may be prescribed:</p> <p><i>Provided that neither the salary and allowances nor the other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal shall be varied to his disadvantage after appointment.</i></p>
19. Vacancies	<p>If, for reason other than temporary absence, any vacancy occurs in the office of the Chairperson or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal, the Central Government shall appoint another person in accordance with the provisions of this Act to fill the vacancy and the proceedings may be continued before the Appellate Tribunal from the stage at which the vacancy is filled.</p>
20. Removal and resignation	<p>(1) The Central Government may remove from office, the Chairperson or any Member of the Appellate Tribunal, who -</p> <p>(a) has been adjudged an insolvent; or</p> <p>(b) has been convicted of an offence which, in the opinion of the Central Government, involves moral turpitude; or</p> <p>(c) has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as the Chairperson or a Member; or</p>

	<p>(d) has acquired such financial or other interest as is likely to affect prejudicially his functions as the Chairperson or a Member; or</p> <p>(e) has so abused his position as to render his continuance in office prejudicial to the public interest.</p> <p>(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), the Chairperson or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal shall not be removed from his office on the ground specified in clause (d) or clause (e) of that sub-section unless the Supreme Court on a reference being made to it in this behalf by the Central Government, has, on an enquiry, held by it in accordance with such procedure as it may specify in this behalf, reported that the Chairperson or a Member ought on such ground or grounds to be removed.</p> <p>(3) The Central Government may suspend from office, the Chairperson or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal in respect of whom a reference has been made to the Supreme Court under sub-section (2), until the Central Government has passed an order on receipt of the report of the Supreme Court on such reference.</p>
	<b>CHAPTER IV - REGISTRATION FOR ENGAGING IN SPACE ACTIVITIES</b>
21. Prohibition on engaging in space activities	No person shall engage in any space activity as defined above, without obtaining a valid registration at the appropriate juncture as may be prescribed from the Authority under this Act. Registration shall be obtained at the time a person wishes to put an object in space and not at the manufacturing/design stage.
22. Registration to be granted by Authority	<p>(1) The Authority shall grant registrations to persons desirous of engaging in space activities in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and any rules and regulations thereunder.</p> <p><i>Provided that nothing in this Act shall prevent the Authority from requiring persons to register with the Authority in order to carry out any other space activity in the manner and under conditions as may be specified.</i></p>
23. Overseas launch	Any Indian national intending to launch a space object from a launch facility located outside India shall not require to be registered as a launch operator. Any such launch shall adhere to the laws and regulations of the country from which the launch was carried out.
	<b>CHAPTER IVA - REGISTRATION AS A LAUNCH OPERATOR</b>
24. Requirement for registration as a launch operator	No person shall launch a launch vehicle from a launch facility unless such a person has been registered as a launch operator.
25. Application for registration as a launch operator	A person may apply to the Authority for registration as a launch operator by providing such information about the launch facility intended to be used as may be required by the Authority in the manner specified.



26. When a launch registration may be granted or denied	<p>(1) The Authority may grant a registration under this Chapter only if the Authority is satisfied that-</p> <p>(a) the applicant is technically capable of conducting a safe launch;</p> <p>(b) the applicant has taken, and has the technical, organisational and financial capability to continue to take, all reasonable steps to mitigate and manage any risks to public safety incidental or consequential to the launch;</p> <p>(c) the applicant has an orbital debris mitigation plan that meets such requirements as may be specified; and</p> <p>(d) the applicant has undertaken to only launch space objects in a manner consistent with India's international obligations;</p> <p>(e) the applicant meets all other requirements as may be prescribed by the Authority.</p>
27. Reporting Obligations	<p>Any person registered under this Chapter is required to -</p> <p>(1) report the following information to the Authority, in the manner specified -</p> <p>(a) the date, location, and intended trajectory of each proposed launch; and</p> <p>(b) details of the intended and actual basic orbital parameters (including the nodal period, inclination, apogee, and perigee) of any part of a launch vehicle that reaches or is intended to reach outer space; and</p> <p>(c) information relating to existing registrations required for the launch, including, but not limited to -</p> <p>(i) a payload registration for each payload that is intended to be carried or launched by the launch vehicle into outer space; and</p> <p>(ii) all consents, approvals, permissions, or other authorisations required under any law for the time being in force for the proposed launch, including, without limitation, under environmental legislation, health and safety legislation, and civil aviation legislation; and</p> <p>(2) notify the following information to the Authority, in accordance with any specified requirements -</p> <p>(a) in a case where the Authority has treated a registration, licence, permit, or other authorisation granted to a registered person in a country other than India as satisfying any criteria specified under this Act, of the amendment, expiry or revocation of such registration, licence, permit, or other authorisation;</p> <p>(b) any deviations from the planned launch of the space object that may have occurred as a result of or during the launch;</p> <p>(3) comply with any and all requests by the Authority under section 42.</p>
	<b>CHAPTER IVB - REGISTRATION AS A PAYLOAD OPERATOR</b>
28. Requirement of payload registration	<p>No person shall manufacture, assemble or create a payload for the purpose of launching it from a launch facility unless such person has obtained a registration as a payload operator. The registration may be applied for, once the person intends to launch.</p>

29. Application for registration as a payload operator	A person may apply to the Authority for registration as a payload operator by providing such information as the Authority may require in the manner specified.
30. When a payload registration may be granted or denied	<p>(1) The Authority may grant a registration under this Chapter only if the Authority is satisfied that -</p> <p>(a) the applicant has taken, and will continue to take, all reasonable steps to safely manage the operation of the payload; and</p> <p>(b) the applicant has an orbital debris mitigation plan that meets any specified requirements; and</p> <p>(c) the proposed operation of the payload or payloads is consistent with India's international obligations; and</p> <p>(d) the applicant meets all other requirements as may be specified by the Authority.</p>
31. Reporting Obligations	<p>Any person registered under this Chapter is required to -</p> <p>(1) Report the following information to the Authority, in any manner as may be specified -</p> <p>(i) the date and location of each proposed launch of a payload under the permit; and</p> <p>(ii) details of the intended and actual basic orbital parameters (including the nodal period, inclination, apogee, and perigee) of the payload that reaches or is intended to reach outer space; and</p> <p>(iii) any specified information relating to each payload.</p> <p>(2) Notify the following information to the Authority, in accordance with any specified requirements, -</p> <p>(i) in a case where the Authority has treated a registration, licence, permit, or other authorisation granted to the registered person in a country other than India as satisfying any criteria specified under this Act, of the change, expiry, or revocation of such registration, license, permit or other authorisation; or</p> <p>(ii) a payload under the registration that reaches outer space is no longer in earth orbit (unless the registered person does not know, and could not reasonably know, that the payload is no longer in earth orbit); and</p> <p>(iii) any other information as may be specified</p> <p>(3) comply with any request by the Authority under section 42;</p>
	<b>CHAPTER IVC - REGISTRATION AS A LAUNCH FACILITY OPERATOR</b>
32. Requirement for launch facility registration	No person shall operate a launch facility in India unless such person has obtained a registration as a facility operator for that launch facility.
33. Application for launch facility registration	<p>(1) Any person or persons may apply to the Authority for registration as a facility operator.</p> <p>(2) The application must be made in the manner as may be specified.</p>

34. When launch facility registration may be granted or denied	<p>(1) The Authority may grant a registration as a facility operator only if the Authority is satisfied that—</p> <p>(a) the applicant is technically capable of operating a launch facility safely; and</p> <p>(c) the applicant has taken, and will continue to take, all reasonable steps to manage risks to public safety; and</p> <p>(d) the proposed operation of the launch facility is consistent with India's international obligations; and</p> <p>(e) the applicant and the proposed operation of the launch facility meet any other prescribed requirements relating to the launch facility.</p>
35. Reporting Obligations	<p>Any person registered under this Chapter is required to -</p> <p>(1) Report to the Authority any information relating to the launch facility, as may be specified and in the manner so specified.</p> <p>(2) Notify the Authority, in accordance with any specified requirements, in a case where the Authority has treated a registration, licence, permit, or other authorisation granted in a country other than India as satisfying any criteria under this Act, of any changes, expiry, or revocation of that registration, licence, permit, or other authorisation.</p> <p>(3) Comply with any request by the Authority under section 42;</p>
	<b>CHAPTER V - GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR REGISTRATION</b>
36. Denial of registration on grounds of national interest	<p>(1) The Authority may decline to grant a registration under this Act if it is not satisfied that a space activity is in the national interest.</p> <p>(2) In considering whether a space activity is in the national interest for the purposes of subsection (1), the Authority shall have regard to—</p> <p>(a) any risks to national security, public safety, international relations, or other national interests:</p> <p>(b) the extent to which the risks can be mitigated the conditions of the registration:</p> <p>Provided that under all circumstances, the Authority shall provide reasons in writing for any denial of registration under this Section.</p>
37. Term and renewal of registration	<p>(1) A registration granted under this Act shall be valid for such period as may be specified.</p> <p>(2) The Authority may renew a registration for a specified period if it is satisfied with the registered person's compliance with the requirements under the Act, or under regulations as may be specified.</p>
38. Amendment of registration	<p>(1) Every registered person shall inform the Authority of any changes that may impact the status of the registration in the information furnished at the time of registration or subsequent thereto, in such form and manner and within such period as may be prescribed.</p>

	<p>(2) The Authority may, on the basis of information furnished under sub-section (1) or as ascertained by it , approve or reject amendments in the registration particulars in such manner and within such period as may be specified.</p> <p><i>Provided</i> that approval of the Authority shall not be required in respect of amendment of such particulars as may be specified.</p> <p><i>Provided further</i> that the Authority shall not reject the application for amendment in the registration particulars without giving the person an opportunity of being heard.</p>
39. Cancellation of registration	<p>(1) The Authority may, either on its own motion or on an application filed by the registered person to cancel the registration, in such manner and within such period as may be specified, having regard to the circumstances where, -</p> <p>(a) a registration that the Authority treated as satisfying any criteria under this Act, or specified regulations, has changed, expired, or been revoked and the Authority considers that the change, expiry, or revocation affects interests of national security, public safety, or India's compliance with any international obligations, or other national interests; or</p> <p>(b) if the Authority believes on reasonable grounds that the registered person has breached the Act, the regulations, or a condition of the registration; or</p> <p>(c) it is necessary in the interests of national security, public safety, or compliance with any of India's international obligations, or other national interests; or</p> <p>(d) for any other reason as may be specified.</p> <p><i>Provided</i> that the Authority shall not cancel the registration without giving the person an opportunity of being heard</p>
40. Revocation of cancellation of registration	<p>(1) Subject to such conditions as may be specified, any registered person, whose registration is cancelled by the Authority on its own motion, may apply for revocation of cancellation of the registration in the specified manner within thirty days from the date of service of the cancellation order.</p> <p>(2) The Authority may, in such manner and within such period as may be specified, by order, either revoke cancellation of the registration or reject the application:</p> <p><i>Provided</i> that the application for revocation of cancellation of registration shall not be rejected unless the applicant has been given an opportunity of being heard</p> <p><i>Provided also</i> that the obligations of a registered person under this Act survive the cancellation of registration and continue until all matters connected to the space activities undertaken by the registered person have been completed.</p>

41. Conduct of Registered Persons	<p>All registered persons must -</p> <p>(a) conduct space activities and operations in a manner that—</p> <p>(i) minimises the risk of contamination of outer space or adverse changes to the earth's environment; and</p> <p>(ii) takes into account the activities of others in the use of outer space; and</p> <p>(iii) is consistent with India's international obligations; and</p> <p>(iv) complies with under any law for the time being in force, including, without limitation, any regulations and rules made under that Act, and all health and safety and environmental legislation;</p> <p>(b) comply with any conditions relating to any space activity as may be specified.</p> <p>(c) comply with any other conditions imposed by the Authority including, without limitation, any conditions that the Authority considers necessary or desirable in order to -</p> <p>(i) give effect to India's international obligations; or</p> <p>(ii) protect national security or other national interests; or</p> <p>(iii) ensure public safety; or</p> <p>(iv) avoid potentially harmful interference with the activities of others in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space; or</p> <p>(v) minimise the risk of contamination of outer space or adverse changes in the earth's environment; or</p> <p>(vi) manage India's potential liability under international law (including under the Liability Convention and the Outer Space Treaty).</p>
42. Requests for information by Authority	<p>(1) The Authority may, by written notice, ask an applicant or registered person for, within the period, and in the manner, specified in the notice, any information that the Authority requires for the purposes of performing functions or exercising powers under this Act in relation to any registration or space activity that a registered person is engaged in.</p> <p>(2) Where the request for information relates to the consideration by the Authority of an application for a registration, the Authority may refuse to grant the registration if -</p> <p>(a) the applicant does not provide the information requested within a reasonable time after the requirement; or</p> <p>(b) the Authority is unable to verify any information provided.</p>
43. Indemnity to be provided by registered persons	<p>Registered persons shall, if so required -</p> <p>(a) indemnify the Central Government in whole or in part against—</p> <p>(i) any claim brought against the Central Government under the Liability Convention or the Outer Space Treaty; or</p> <p>(ii) any other claim brought against the Central Government under international law in relation to an act or omission of the registered person under this Act; and</p> <p>(b) hold insurance of a type and an amount and containing any provisions, as may be specified.</p>

44. Authority may take into account authorisation granted in country other than India	<p>(1) The Authority may treat a registration, licence, permit, or other authorisation that concerns a matter relevant to the Authority's decision and that was granted, or is likely to be granted, to an applicant or other person in a country other than India as satisfying some or all of the criteria for granting a registration under this Act.</p> <p>(2) A licence or permit granted in reliance in whole or in part on sub-section (1) may only come into force after the overseas registration, licence, permit, or other authorisation is granted.</p>
45. Change of control	<p>(1) A registered person, as may be applicable, may apply to the Authority for approval of a change of control.</p> <p>(2) The application must be made in accordance with specified requirements.</p> <p>(3) When considering an application of a registered person to undergo a change of control, the Authority -</p> <p>(a) must take into account all the matters under the Act as if the application were an application for a new registration</p> <p>(b) must be satisfied that the registered person following the change of control is likely to be able to comply with the requirements of the registration;</p> <p>(c) may ask a registered person to supply any further information or documentation in support of an application under this section.</p> <p>(4) For the purposes of this section, a registered person undergoes a change of control if any person obtains the right to appoint majority of the directors or to control the management or policy decisions exercisable by a person or persons acting individually or in concert, directly or indirectly, including by virtue of their shareholding or management rights or shareholders agreements or voting agreements or in any other manner.</p>
46. Ownership of space resources	<p>A registered person engaged in a space activity be entitled to ownership over any space resource.</p> <p><i>Provided that such ownership shall be subject to processes and conditions as may be prescribed.</i></p>
	<b>CHAPTER VI - OFFENCES AND PENALTIES</b>
47. Punishment for undertaking a space activity without registration	Any person who undertakes any space activity without obtaining a registration under this Act, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 6 months or with fine which may extend to Rs 1,00,000 or with both.
48. Punishment for false information or false document	Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, any person who furnishes false information or false document for obtaining registration under this Act shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 1 year or with a fine which may extend to Rs 1,00,000 or with both.

49. Punishment for failure to comply with directions of Authority	Any person who contravenes any direction given by the Authority under this Act or fails to comply with any request of the Authority made under this Act, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 6 months or with fine which may extend to Rs 1,00,000 or with both.
	<b>CHAPTER VII - MISCELLANEOUS</b>
50. Protection of intellectual property rights	<p>Any invention, know-how or other form of intellectual property rights such as patents, copyrights, trademarks, developed, generated or created during the course of any space activity shall be protected under any law for the time being in force, with the primary objective of safeguarding the national interest.</p> <p>An IP generated by a private entity shall remain with the originator. If the creation is fully funded by the Government, the IP rights shall remain with the originator, but the originator would be expected to make available the IP free of cost to the Government, to academia and research organisations under a free license for scientific purposes as long as it doesn't run counter to commercial interests of the originator.</p> <p>Any IP created by an employee of ISRO or any other Government space organisation shall remain in the joint name of the scientist and ISRO. However, only ISRO or the respective Government space organisation shall have the right to commercially utilise it. The organisation shall pay a commission to the scientist on sale.</p>
51. Members, etc., to be public servants.	The Chairperson, Members, officers and employees of the Authority and the Appellate Tribunal shall be deemed, when acting or purporting to act in pursuance of any of the provisions of this Act, to be public servants within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code.
52. Protection of action taken in good faith	No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against the Authority or its Chairperson, member, employee or officer for anything which is done in good faith or intended to be done under this Act, or the rules prescribed, or the regulations specified thereunder.
53. Delegation	The Authority may, by general or special order in writing delegate to any member or officer of the Authority subject to such conditions, if any, as may be specified in the order, such of its powers and functions under this Act as it may deem necessary.

<p>54. Power to make rules</p>	<p>(1) The Central Government may, by notification, make rules to carry out the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) the place of head office of the Authority</li><li>(b) procedure to be followed by the selection committee</li><li>(c) the salaries and allowances payable to, and other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson and the Members of the Authority</li><li>(d) the manner of appointment, term of office, salaries and allowances, resignation, removal and the other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson and any member of the Appellate Tribunal</li><li>(e) the procedure of filling of vacancies in the Appellate Tribunal</li><li>(f) the salaries and allowances and other conditions of service of the officers and employees of the Appellate Tribunal</li><li>(g) any other matter which is required to be, or may be, prescribed, or in respect of which provision is to be made, by rules.</li></ul>
<p>55. Power to make regulations</p>	<p>(1) The Authority may, by notification, make regulations consistent with this Act and the rules made thereunder to carry out the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) the manner of formulating, establishing and notifying appropriate mechanism for registration and procedures including eligibility criteria and fees;</li><li>(b) the information to be given in, or in connection with registration, which may include, without limitation, requirements for a safety case, an environmental impact assessment, and requirements for an orbital debris mitigation plan:</li><li>(c) prescribing the form or manner of making applications, including, without limitation, permitting a person to make applications together for more than 1 type of registration;</li><li>(d) providing for the procedure to be followed in relation to any application for registration, including prescribing the time within which anything must be done, or providing for the granting of extensions of time for anything to be done;</li><li>(e) prescribing technical requirements for launch facilities, launch vehicles, and payloads</li><li>(f) providing for the procedure to be followed in relation to any application with respect to a change in control, including the manner making applications and the information to be furnished with the application.</li><li>(g) prescribing information that a registered person must give to the Authority, at a given time during the period the registration is in force, including the intervals at which the information must be given, the manner in which it may, or must, be provided, and when information given must be updated or corrected:</li></ul>



	<p>(h) prescribing technical requirements relating to the manner in which a registered person must give information to the Authority under this Act:</p> <p>(i) the manner of development of means, facilities and equipment necessary to supervise the conduct of space activity of a registered person</p> <p>(j) the manner of sharing access and potential benefits including the pricing mechanism of products created by space activity and technology with any person or the Government</p> <p>(k) the manner of investigating any incident or accident in connection with the operation of a space activity</p> <p>(l) any measures consistent with the purpose of this Act that, in relation to activities or proposed activities of registered persons under this Act, is necessary or desirable to (a) protect public safety, protect the environment, preserve national security, avoid interference with space or terrestrial telecommunications; or (b) comply with India's international obligations:</p> <p>(m) prescribing the requirements for giving notices under this Act or the regulations:</p> <p>(n) any other matter which is required to be, or may be, prescribed, or in respect of which provision is to be made, by rules.</p>
56. Rules and regulations to be laid before Parliament	Every rule and regulation made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or regulation or notification or both Houses agree that the rule or regulation or notification should not be made, the rule or regulation or notification shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule or regulation or notification.
57. Overriding effect of this Act	Save as otherwise provided in this Act, the provisions of this Act shall have effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith any other law for the time being in force or any instrument having effect by virtue of any law other than this Act.
58. Power to remove difficulties	<p>(1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order, published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as may appear to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty: Provided that no such order shall be made under this section after the expiry of five years from the commencement of this Act.</p> <p>(2) Every order made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament.</p>