



Space Force by USA

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Why in News

Recently, the US President signed the **National Defense Authorization Act, 2020** directing the establishment of the **U.S. Space Force (USSF)** as the **sixth branch of the armed forces**.

The establishment of USSF comes after the launch of a new Pentagon Command named **Spacecom** earlier in September, 2019.

Key Points

- The USSF will be the **sixth formal force** of the U.S. military, after the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard and will be headquartered at the **Pentagon**.
- It will comprise of about 16,000 air force and civilian personnel.
- **Objectives:**
 - Maintaining and enhancing the competitive edge of the **Department of Defense** (DOD) in space.
 - Developing **military space** professionals, acquiring military space systems, maturing the military doctrine for space power and organizing space forces, etc.
 - Effectively organizing the defence for US interests in space, especially related to satellites used for navigation and communication.
- **Concerns: China and Russia** have apprehensions regarding this development. It is being perceived as increasing **weaponization of outer space** and turning cosmos into a battlefield.

Source: TH