



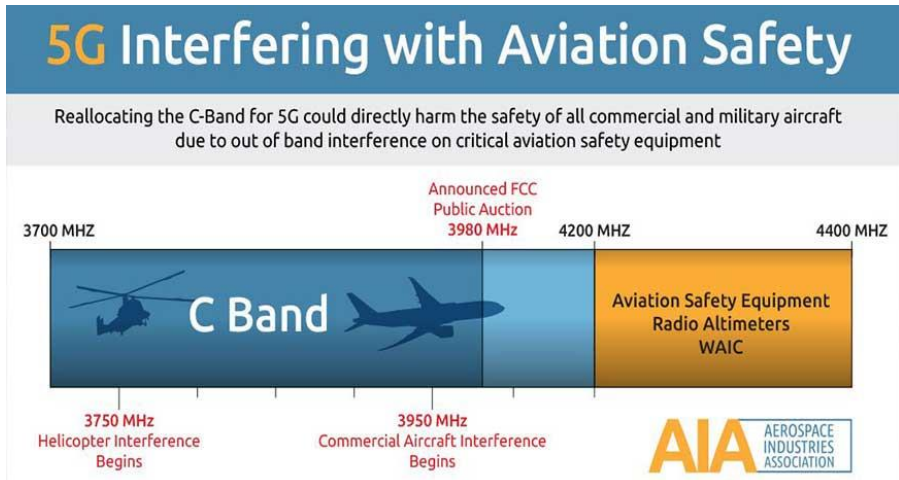
Current Affairs of the Day

Technology tangle

The roll-out of 5G services near airports is posing a challenge to airlines

Highlights:

1. Almost 11 months after the United States' leading



telecommunications companies won bids for \$81 billion worth of C-band radio spectrum to roll out 5G services, the much-awaited introduction hit a major snag this week after the country's leading airlines warned of massive flight disruptions if the wireless technology was put into operation, especially around the nation's airports.

2. In a compromise on the eve of the planned roll-out on January 19, AT&T and Verizon agreed to delay the introduction of the new wireless service near key airports.
3. The two major telcos' commitments notwithstanding, several domestic and international airlines flying to the U.S. have announced major rescheduling as well as the possibility of cancellation of flights to several destinations citing warnings from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and aircraft makers that accurate functioning of radar altimeters in some aircraft may be affected by the 5G radio frequencies.
4. The altimeters provide information on an aircraft's altitude and are a crucial part of flight operations for pilots, particularly while seeking to make low-visibility landings in inclement weather.



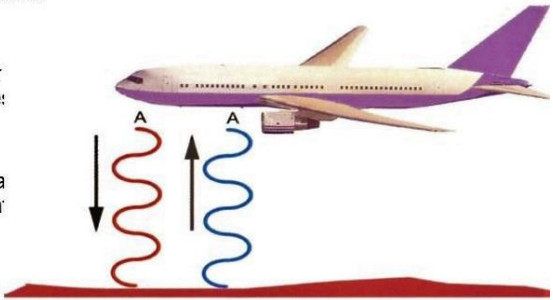
5. At the heart of the impasse lies the fact that both the 5G services and some flight equipment operate on the same C-band radio spectrum, with only the frequencies varying.

The airplane is shown over a point on the ground.

At this instant, the radar altimeter transmitting the carrier at its lower frequency (A).

The signal travels to the ground and is reflected back to the airplane at same frequency (A).

The returning signal reaches the airplane after an interval of time, the number of microseconds it takes for the round trip.



6. The FAA has said it is working with altimeter manufacturers to evaluate data from the wireless companies to determine how robust each model is, and, if required, have the devices retrofitted or replaced.

States weigh options on IAS cadre rule changes

1. The Union government is planning to acquire for itself overriding powers to transfer IAS and IPS officers through Central deputation, doing away with the requirement of taking the approval of the State governments.
2. The Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) wrote to the States that the Union government proposes to amend Rule 6 (deputation of cadre officers) of the Indian Administrative Service (Cadre) Rules 1954.
3. The Center's move is set to put it in a collision course with the States, particularly those ruled by the Opposition. At least six State governments had written to the DoPT opposing the move, and they include the States governed by the BJP and its allies.





- The letter comes in the wake of a shortage of All India Services (AIS) officers in Union Ministries. The DoPT said in its communication that the States “are not sponsoring an adequate number of officers for Central deputation”, and the number of officers is not sufficient to meet the requirement at the Center.

5(2) The Central Government may, with the concurrence of the State Government concerned transfer a cadre officer from one cadre to another cadre.

6. **Deputation of cadre officers** - 6(1) A cadre officer may, with the concurrence of the State Governments concerned and the Central Government, be deputed for service under the Central Government or another State Government or under a company, association or body of individuals, whether incorporated or not, which is wholly or substantially owned or controlled by the Central Government or by another State Government.

⁷Provided that in case of any disagreement, the matter shall be decided by the Central Government and the State Government or State Governments concerned shall give effect to the decision of the Central Government.

6(2) A cadre officer may also be deputed for service under -

(i) a company, association or body of individuals, whether incorporated or not, which is wholly or substantially owned or controlled by a State Government, a Municipal Corporation or a Local Body, by the State Government on whose cadre he is borne; and

Central deputation

- In normal practice, the Center asks every year for an “offer list” of officers of the All India Services (IAS, IPS and Indian Forest Service) willing to go on central deputation, after which it selects officers from that list.
- Rule 6(1) of the IAS Cadre Rules says an officer may, “with the concurrence of the State Governments concerned and the Central Government, be deputed for service under the Central Government or another State Government...” It says “in case of any disagreement, the matter shall be decided by the Central Government and the State Government or State Governments concerned shall give effect to the decision of the Central Government.”
- In a PIL in the Supreme Court petitioners pleaded that Rule 6(1) be struck down because of the Rule, states have to bear the brunt of arbitrary actions taken by the Center, while the Rule makes it difficult for the Center to enforce its will on a state that refuses to back down.



MAINS DAWP	<p>Q1. Discuss systemic and contingent challenges to urban finances in the pandemic period. Suggest all-around reforms to improve urban governance.</p>
MCQs	<p>Q1. Consider the following statements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 5G signals may interfere with civil aviation safety2. Both the 5G services and some flight equipment operate on the same C-band radio spectrum <p>Which of the above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. 1 onlyb. 2 onlyc. Both 1 and 2d. Neither 1 nor 2