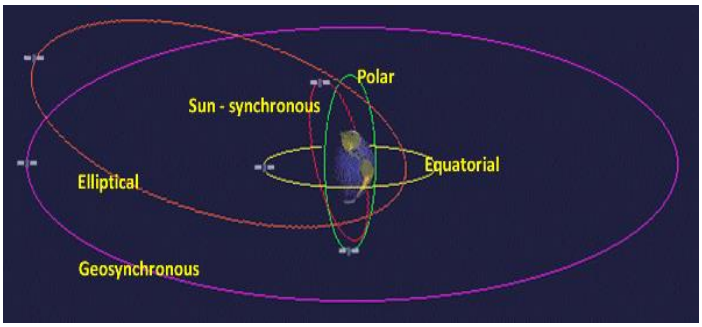
NOTES

**The Bhagavad Gita** was also sent on board an SD card to give the scripture, which teaches oneness as the highest form of humanity, the highest honour.




**What is PSLV?**

- Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle is an indigenously-developed expendable launch system of the ISRO.
- It comes in the category of medium-lift launchers with a reach up to various orbits, including the Geo Synchronous Transfer Orbit, Lower Earth Orbit, and Polar Sun Synchronous Orbit.
- All the operations of PSLV are controlled from the Satish Dhawan Space Center, Sriharikota.

**Difference between PSLV and GSLV:**

- India has two operational launchers- Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV).
- PSLV was developed to launch low-Earth Orbit satellites into polar and sun synchronous orbits. It has since proved its versatility by launching geosynchronous, lunar and interplanetary spacecraft successfully.
- On the other hand, GSLV was developed to launch the heavier INSAT class of geosynchronous satellites into orbit. In its third and final stage, GSLV uses the indigenously developed cryogenic upper stage.

## 3. EOS-01

EOS-01 launch. This was **ISRO's first mission since the launch of RISAT-2BR1.**

**What is EOS-01?**

It is **an earth observation satellite.**

EOS-01 is nothing but another **Radar Imaging Satellite (RISAT)** that will work together with RISAT-2B and RISAT-2BR1.

- Henceforth **all the earth observation satellites would be called EOS-series.**

**What are earth-observation satellites used for?**

Land and forest mapping and monitoring, mapping of resources like water or minerals or fishes, weather and climate observations, soil assessment, geospatial contour mapping are all done through earth-observation satellites.

**Advantages of radar imaging over optical instruments:**

Radar imaging is unaffected by weather, cloud or fog, or the lack of sunlight. It can produce high-quality images in all conditions and at all times.

## 4. Bhuvan

The Department of Space (DoS), under which ISRO comes, has signed an MoU with geospatial technology company CE Info Systems Pvt Ltd.

- The collaboration will enable them to jointly identify and build a holistic geospatial portal utilising earth observation datasets, **'NavIC', Web Services and APIs (application programming interface) available in MapmyIndia.**
- The geospatial portals will be called **'Bhuvan', 'VEDAS' and 'MOSDAC'.**

**Key facts:**

**Bhuvan** is the national geo-portal developed and hosted by ISRO comprising geospatial data, services, and tools for analysis.