SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 17 October 2026

IIIT-Dharwad team secures fourth place in ISRO robotics challenge

Team Icarus of IIIT Dharwad secured fourth place in the ISRO Robotics Challenge–URSC (IRoC-U) 2026 for developing an autonomous heavy-payload quadcopter.

IRoC-U is a national-level robotics competition organized by ISRO's U.R. Rao Satellite Centre to foster indigenous innovation in space robotics and autonomous systems.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- **Team Icarus** from the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Dharwad, secured **fourth place** in the ISRO Robotics Challenge–URSC (IRoC-U) 2026.
- The successful team was awarded a cash prize of **₹2 lakh** for their autonomous heavy-payload quadcopter innovation.
- The team members included **Jayesh Patil**, Saksham Gupta, Aswin Joseph, Priyanshu Mittal, Raskin Verma, Ankit Dash and Mohammad Rehan.
- The project was guided by **Mallikarjun Kande** under the leadership of institute director **Mahadeva Prasanna**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

U.R. Rao Satellite Centre (URSC) located in **Bengaluru** is ISRO's lead centre for the design, development, and integration of satellites.

ISRO was established on **August 15, 1969**, with its headquarters located in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

The **Department of Space** (DoS) manages ISRO and comes directly under the Prime Minister of India.

Vikram Sarabhai is internationally regarded as the Father of the Indian Space Programme.

YUVIKA (Yuva Vigyani Karyakram) is a special annual program conducted by ISRO for school students to impart basic space science knowledge.

SPARK is the virtual space tech museum launched by ISRO to showcase digital models of satellites, rockets, and scientific instruments.

REVISION FLASHCARD

IIIT Dharwad's Team Icarus secured 4th place in the ISRO Robotics Challenge–URSC (IRoC-U) 2026.

Syllabus Relevance: Important for current affairs relating to ISRO achievements, national science competitions, and technological innovations tested in TNPSC Unit 2.

Daily Current Affairs
Read the most important daily exam-relevant news summaries easily on Essaar.
Read Online: essaaracademy.in/ca