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TABLOID | P3-5
SOUTH ASIAN TALENTS MAKE OSCAR HISTORY

NATION | P2

Al Neyadi's floating iPad video goes viral



THE VIEWS | P12

Why Republicans target critical race theory in US



BUSINESS | P8

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Al Neyadi's floating iPad video goes viral

Najmonaut asks 'smart people' to explain strange movement of device in ISS environment

DUBAI

BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN
Senior Reporter

A video of UAE astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi asking a tricky question about the movement of an iPad in the microgravity environment of the International Space Station (ISS) went viral.

The post was seen over 235,000 times, with over 60,000 views for the video alone, within two hours of him uploading it on Twitter yesterday afternoon.

Posing the question to "smart people", Al Neyadi, who is on the longest Arab space mission, shot the video in Arabic. The Najmonaut (Arab astronaut) is seen flipping an iPad aboard the ISS. When he flips it horizontally, the device rotates either sideways, forwards, or backwards. It also moves up and down if pushed vertically from its edges.

'Why does this happen?'

However, a curious phenomenon occurs when it is held vertically and flipped. The iPad twists and turns and moves diagonally as well. Why does this happen? Al Neyadi posed this question,



Courtesy: @Astro_Alneyadi

■ Sultan Al Neyadi demonstrates how an iPad behaves when flipped in the microgravity environment of the ISS.

adding "it's for smart people. I am waiting for your comments".

Al Neyadi's educational messages from space will also be featured on the ELF in Space website. In its first edition last Thursday, the programme taught students about the importance of doing exercise in space and how the astronauts actually exercise on the ISS.

On Monday, Al Neyadi and three oth-

235,000

views garnered by Al Neyadi's Twitter post within two hours of uploading it. The video got over 60,000 views.



Watch the video of the floating iPad

er Nasa SpaceX Crew-6 members completed over 10 days on the ISS.

200 experiments

Al Neyadi's six months aboard the ISS will be the longest space mission by an Arab. According to Nasa, Crew-6 will carry out over 200 science experiments and technology demonstrations during the mission.

These include Al Neyadi conducting at least 20 experiments, apart from the tasks consigned by Nasa and doing maintenance work on the orbiting station. Al Neyadi will be conducting dental and postural experiments in space for the universities in the UAE.