

SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

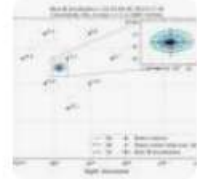
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Murchison Widefield Array (MWA)

Phys.org

New millisecond pulsar discovered with the Murchison Widefield Array

Using the Murchison Widefield Array (MWA), astronomers have discovered a new millisecond pulsar as part of the ongoing Southern-sky MWA...



Why in News

- Astronomers recently discovered a new millisecond pulsar using the **Murchison Widefield Array (MWA)** under the **Southern-sky MWA Rapid Two-metre (SMART) Survey**.

Geographical & Institutional Profile

- **MWA** is a low-frequency radio telescope located at the **Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory (MRO)**, Western Australia.
- It is a collaboration of **20 research institutions** from **Australia, Canada, China, Japan, and the United States**.
- The project is led by **Curtin University, Australia**.
- It is situated at the future site of the **Square Kilometre Array (SKA-Low)**.



Technological Features

- MWA consists of **4,096 spider-like antennas** operating in the **70–300 MHz** frequency range.

Pulsars: Key Facts

- Pulsars are rapidly rotating **neutron stars** emitting periodic beams of radiation.
- Their pulse intervals range from **milliseconds to seconds**.
- They possess extremely strong magnetic fields that generate powerful radiation beams.
- Most pulsars have masses around **1.35 times the mass of the Sun**.

- It possesses a wide field of view, high angular resolution, nanosecond time resolution, and digital pointing agility.
- These capabilities enable rapid sky surveys and detection of faint transient radio events.

Scientific Importance

- It studies the Epoch of Reionization, when the first stars and galaxies formed.
- It helps examine galaxies, galaxy clusters, cosmic magnetism, and the interstellar medium.
- It monitors solar flares, coronal mass ejections, pulsars, and fast radio bursts (FRBs).

SMART Survey & SKA

- SMART is the only low-frequency pulsar survey in the Southern Hemisphere (140–170 MHz).
- The survey is expected to discover hundreds of new pulsars.
- SKA is an international project to build the world's largest radio telescope, with sites in Australia and South Africa.
- India became a member of SKA in December 2022, and construction began on 5 December 2022.

Kisan Sarathi Platform

DD India

Kisan Sarathi: Bringing Digital Advisory Services to Farmers Across India

India's agricultural extension system is increasingly leveraging digital technology to provide farmers with timely, localized and...



Why in News

- The Kisan Sarathi Platform is providing information on about 610 government schemes, strengthening digital agricultural extension services.

Governance Architecture

- It is India's largest integrated digital agro-advisory platform launched in **July 2021**.
- It is a joint initiative of the **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare** and **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology**.
- It is implemented by the **Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI)** and **Digital India Corporation**.



Technology Backbone

- The platform operates through the **Interactive Information Dissemination System (IIDS)**.
- IIDS enables two-way communication between farmers and agricultural experts.
- It supports the **lab-to-land transfer** of agricultural knowledge.

Farmer-Centric Services

- It offers personalized advisories based on farm and farmer profiles.
- Farmers can interact live with experts in **13 regional languages**.
- It provides weather forecasts, market prices, and expert consultations.
- It facilitates access to both **Central and State/UT government schemes**.

Institutional Linkages

- It connects farmers with **Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)**, **ICAR institutes**, and agricultural universities.
- It integrates advisories related to crops, livestock, poultry, fisheries, and allied sectors.
- Farmers can directly raise queries and receive region-specific recommendations.

India's First Hub-and-Spoke International Flight Operation (Easy Connect)

NDTV

India's New Hub-And-Spoke Aviation Model That Will Cut Travel Time

The first service under the hub-and-spoke model, operated by Air India as an "Easy Connect" flight, was launched from Varanasi on Thursday.



Why in News

- The Ministry of Civil Aviation launched India's first "Easy Connect" Hub-and-Spoke international flight service from Varanasi's Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport.

Operational Framework

- Passengers complete check-in, immigration, and customs at the originating spoke airport before travelling through a designated hub airport such as Delhi.
- Both journey segments are treated as international operations to prevent passenger intermixing.
- Separate boarding passes with "D" (Domestic) and "I" (International) identifiers are issued.



Economic & Strategic Significance

- The initiative aims to expand international connectivity for Tier-II and Tier-III cities.
- It is projected to create around 4 lakh jobs and contribute USD 30 billion to India's GDP by 2030.
- The model supports regional economic growth and aviation infrastructure development.

Operation Amistad

DH Deccan Herald

Indian humanitarian assistance reaches Venezuela: Jaishankar on Op Amistad

New Delhi: Relief supplies, medical equipment and a field hospital unit, sent to quake-hit Venezuela under Operation Amistad,...



Why in News

- India launched **Operation Amistad** to provide humanitarian assistance to **Venezuela** after devastating earthquakes.

Relief Mission

- The operation follows earthquakes of **7.2 and 7.5 magnitude** that caused major casualties and damage.
- "**Amistad**" means "**Friendship**" in Spanish, symbolising India's solidarity with Venezuela.
- A **41-member team** from the **Indian Army's 60 Para Field Hospital** has been deployed.

Humanitarian Assistance

- Relief is being transported by **Indian Air Force C-17 Globemaster** aircraft from **Hindon Air Force Station**.
- The mission includes **two BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita & Maitri) Cubes** and nearly **35 tonnes** of medical and relief supplies.
- The operation highlights India's growing role in **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)** and **Global South diplomacy**.

Other Important News of the day

Places in
News

Albania

Why in News

- Large-scale protests recently occurred in **Tirana**, Albania, against a proposed **\$1.6 billion luxury coastal development project**.

Geographical Location

- Albania is located in **Southeastern Europe**.
- Its capital city is **Tirana**.
- It is bounded by the **Adriatic Sea** to the west and the **Ionian Sea** to the southwest.



Regional Linkages

- It shares borders with **Montenegro**, **Kosovo**, **North Macedonia**, and **Greece**.
- The **Strait of Otranto** connects the Adriatic Sea with the Ionian Sea.

Physical Features

- Major mountain systems include the **Albanian Alps**, **Korab Mountains**, and **Pindus Mountains**.
- The highest peak is **Mount Korab**.
- Important lakes include **Shkodra**, **Ohrid**, and **Prespa**.

Economic Resources

- Albania possesses reserves of **petroleum**, **natural gas**, **coal**, and **chromite**.
- It also has deposits of **copper**, **iron ore**, **nickel**, and significant **hydropower potential**.

Exercise RIMPAC 2026

MI Marine Insight

[World's Biggest Maritime Exercise, RIMPAC 2026, Sees Participation From 30 Nations & 30 Plus Warships In Hawaii](#)

The United States officially launched Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2026 on June 24, bringing together military forces from 30 countries for...



Why in News

- The **United States** recently launched **Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2026**, the world's largest international maritime exercise.

Strategic Significance


- **RIMPAC** is hosted by the **U.S. Navy's Pacific Fleet**.
- It aims to strengthen collective maritime capabilities and support a **Free and Open Indo-Pacific**.
- The exercise promotes interoperability among partner navies.

Operational Profile

- It is conducted **biennially** and was first held in **1971**.
- The exercise takes place in and around the Hawaiian Islands in the Pacific Ocean.
- The **2026 edition** is the **30th edition**, running from **24 June to 31 July 2026**.

Military Dimensions

- The exercise involves **31 nations**, about **40 surface ships**, **5 submarines**, **140 aircraft**, and over **25,000 personnel**.
- Activities include **anti-submarine warfare**, **air defence**, **missile proficiency**, **mine clearance**, **amphibious assaults**, **disaster response**, and **gunnery training**.

	<p>India's Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Indian Navy is participating in RIMPAC 2026. • India first joined the exercise in 2014. • The theme of the 2026 edition is "Partners: Integrated and Prepared."
<p>Science and Technology</p>	<p>GPS Aided GEO Augmented Navigation (GAGAN)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p><small>Gulf News</small></p> <p>India's first satellite-guided commercial jet landing marks aviation milestone</p> <p><small>IndiGo's Airbus A320 completes India's first satellite-guided commercial jet landing using GAGAN, marking a major aviation safety and...</small></p> </div>  <p>Why in News</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the first time, a private jet was recently landed under the supervision of DGCA using GPS Aided GEO Augmented Navigation (GAGAN). <p>Institutional Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GAGAN is India's Satellite-Based Augmentation System (SBAS). • It was jointly developed by ISRO and the Airports Authority of India (AAI). • It enhances the accuracy and integrity of GPS signals for civil aviation. <p>Aviation Significance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It improves Air Traffic Management (ATM) over Indian airspace. • It ensures seamless navigation through interoperability with other global SBAS systems. • It enhances safety during aircraft navigation and landing operations. <p>Ground Segment</p>

- INRES (Indian Reference Stations) collect GPS data from across India.
- **INMCC (Indian Master Control Centre)** generates correction messages.
- **INLUS (Indian Land Uplink Station)** transmits corrections to satellites.

Space Segment

- The system uses **GSAT-8 (2011), GSAT-10 (2012), and GSAT-15 (2015)**.
- These satellites carry GAGAN payloads and broadcast corrected navigation signals to aircraft.

Uttar Pradesh in News

TOI The Times of India

Matritva, Shishu Evam Baalika Madad Yojana: What it means for women and children in Uttar Pradesh

Matritva, Shishu Evam Baalika Madad Yojana is a welfare scheme launched by the Uttar Pradesh government, primarily implemented through the...



Uttar Pradesh's Digital Transformation in Child Nutrition

Why in News

- Uttar Pradesh has significantly improved child nutrition outcomes through governance and digital reforms in its welfare delivery system.

Governance Reforms

- Since **2017**, contractor-led distribution has been replaced by **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)**, improving accountability and rural livelihoods.
- Over **1.23 lakh smartphones** and the Poshan Tracker App enable real-time monitoring.



- A **Facial Recognition System (FRS)** verifies genuine beneficiaries.

Outcomes & Infrastructure

- Child stunting declined from **46.3% (NFHS-4)** to **31.5% (NFHS-6)**.
- The **MANUSH Multidimensional Poverty Index** score improved from **0.93 to 0.56**.
- About **23,697 Anganwadi Centres** have been upgraded with an investment of **₹2,236 crore**.