Topics - MINDS MAPS included (Daily current affairs 15th th March 2025

- CORONAL MASS EJECTION
- AVGC XR SECTOR
- UNCTAD:
- Mapping GOLAN HEIGHT
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THE HINDU

By saurabh Pandey

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By saurabh

pandey sir

Aditya-L1 mission: scientists observe a flareless coronal mass ejection

Hemanth C.S.

BENGALURU

Scientists from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) have reported observations of a flareless coronal mass ejection (CME) from the solar atmosphere with the Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC) instrument onboard Aditya-L1 mission.

The Aditya-L1 mission is India's first scientific mission dedicated to studying the sun and the VELC payload was developed by the Bengaluru-based IIA.

Scientists associated with the IIA said that using the VELC payload, it was possible to observe the corona not only closer to where its base is located in the solar atmosphere, but also obtain data at shorter time intervals compared with other existing coronagraphs in orbit.

The VELC team ob-

served the onset of a CME that erupted from the sun on July 5, 2024, with no association to any flare.

Magnetic instability

They said that the data obtained provide valuable clues to understand and differentiate the magnetic instabilities on the sun that causes the flares and the CMEs.

The results of the study will be appearing soon in the *Astrophysical Journal*, an international peer-reviewed scientific journal.

"Observation of CMEs as and when they originate on the sun and understanding their association with flares is one of the major science goals for VELC, and we are happy that the instrument is doing that," said R. Ramesh, senior professor at the IIA and the principal investigator for the VELC.

Prof. Ramesh added



The Aditya-L1 mission is India's first scientific mission dedicated to studying the sun.

that with the sun approaching the maximum phase of the current solar cycle 25, the CMEs are expected to occur frequently.

Closer monitoring

"Hence, uninterrupted monitoring of the sun with VELC for CMEs is expected to provide valuable data to the Indian and international scientific community. The unique design of VELC helps to observe the CMEs close to the limb of the solar surface, and their onset time. These advantages facilitate better investigation of the association between CMEs and flares near the solar limb," Prof. Ramesh added.

Flares and CMEs are explosive events in the sun. They are due to magnetic reconnection during which magnetic field lines rearrange.

During a flare, energy is released primarily as electromagnetic radiation from the heated plasma. Compared with flares, the CMEs are massive eruptions of plasma and magnetic field weighing about trillion kilograms that race outwards from the sun through the interplanetary space at speeds up to 3,000 kilometres per second. The association between flares and CMEs is ambiguous till date.

CORONAL MASS EJECTION Why in NEWS??



Aditya-L1 Mission: India's first scientific mission dedicated to studying the sun, utilizing the VELC instrument developed by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA).

WELC Instrument: The Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC) allows for closer observation of the solar corona and provides data at shorter intervals than existing coronagraphs.

CME Observation: A coronal mass ejection (CME) was observed on July 5, 2024, with no associated solar flare, highlighting the instrument's capabilities.

Magnetic Instabilities: The data collected helps differentiate between magnetic instabilities that cause flares and CMEs, contributing to a better understanding of solar phenomena.

ANATOMY OF THE SUN

Sunspots

Darker, cooler areas on the photosphere with concentrations of magnetic field

Prominence

Large structure, often many thousands of kilometres in extent

Granulation

Small, short-lived grainy features that cover the Sun, caused by thermal currents rising from below

Chromosphere

Layer above the photosphere, where the density of plasma drops dramatically

Photosphere The visible 'surface' of the Sun

Transition region

Thin, irregular layer that separates the relatively cool chromosphere from the much hotter corona

Flare Sudden release of energy in the form of radiation

Convective zone Rapid heating of plasma creates currents of heated and cooled gas

Radiative zone

Energy created in the core diffuses slowly through the plasma

Core

Where the Sun generates its energy via thermonuclear reactions

Corona

The Sun's outer atmosphere, which extends millions of kilometres into outer space

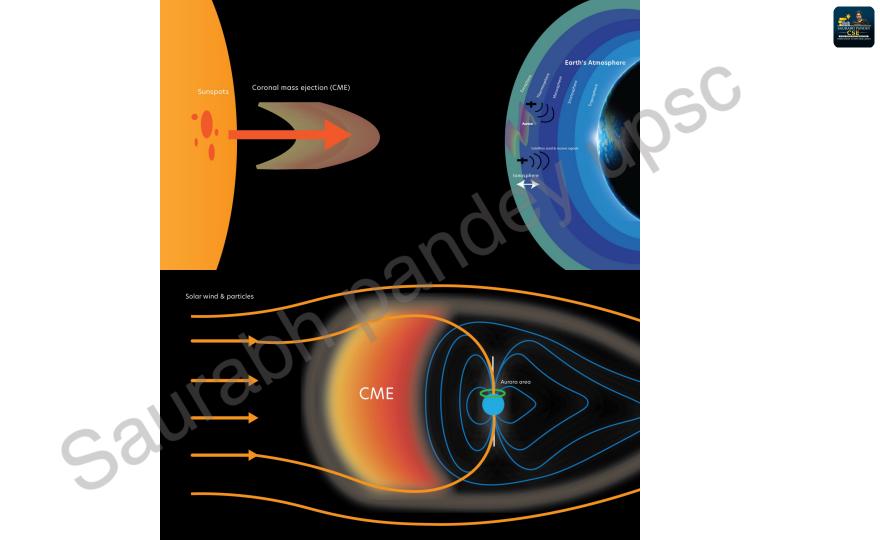
Coronal mass ejection

Vast eruption of billions of tonnes of plasma and accompanying magnetic fields from the Sun's corona

Solar wind

A continuous stream of charged particles released from the corona





What causes coronal mass ejections? CMEs occur due to the complex interactions of magnetic fields on the Sun's surface.

How often do CMEs occur? CMEs can happen several times a day, especially during solar maximum periods.

What are the potential dangers of strong CMEs? Strong CMEs can disrupt satellite communications, power systems, and even endanger astronauts in space.

How can we prepare for geomagnetic storms? Monitoring solar activity and having contingency plans for power outages can mitigate risks.

Can CMEs affect climate change?

While CMEs can influence short-term weather patterns, their long-term impact on climate change is still debated.

What technologies are most vulnerable to CMEs? Satellites, GPS systems, and power grids are particularly susceptible to geomagnetic storms.



Are there any benefits to CMEs?

They can create beautiful auroras and provide valuable data for scientific research.

How to track solar activity?

Websites and apps dedicated to space weather provide real-time updates on solar activity.

Will CMEs become more frequent in the future? Solar cycles dictate CME frequency; thus, activity may increase during solar maximum periods.

What is the difference between a solar flare and a CME? Solar flares are intense bursts of radiation, while CMEs involve the expulsion of large amounts of plasma and magnetic fields.





Bengaluru's AVGC-XR sector goes pale as Technicolor closes shop

As many as 3,000 employees in Bengaluru lost jobs recently. The company was the global face of the State's AVGCXR, a sector Karnataka has been ambitiously trying to scale up, reports Mini Tejaswi

The haddenness was truly shocking, it will have a conserve alternative the hard have a server range in the International Tech Park, now closed. The implosion of Technicolor finds, avoued by the Technicolor Group of Park, which developed the Technicolor Group of Park, which developed praphics for handweds of initialities, a scene to follywood, di ndied apport like a scene term of rest term of term term of term and the state of the state present of the scene of the term of term

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ight it was a prank' TECHNICOLOR IN BENGALURU "We had no clue about it until HR asked us to pack up and leave the office in 15 minutes on Fe bruary 24, 2025

our last working day. Some of us still thought it was a prank. It took time for us to digest that we ar part of the cloba closure of Techni color," claimed the rigging artist who chose to withhold his

identity. Technicolor in Bengaluru and Mumbai employed hundreds of beingauru ana bumba emproyee nunarees or animators, lighting artists, simulators, image ren-dering specialists, experts in shades and mate-rials, shadow and occlusion managers, collaborators, colour graders, post processing specialists special effects experts, graphic artists, atmosph-ere and volume metric experts who all worked for Hollywood movies by various production houses including DreamWorks Pictures, Univer sal Pictures, Paramount Pictures, Warner Brog sai Pictures, Paramount Pictures, warner Bros, MGM, Sony Pictures, The Disney Studios, 20th Century Fox, Marvel Studios, Amazon Studios, and many others.

53

The last full-length Hollywood feature film Technicolor India completed was Mufasa: The Lion King by Walt Disney, "Mufasa: The Lion King" has grossed a worldwide total of \$708 mi lion, with collections in India accounting for 132.65 crore. Some global releases that Techni-color worked from Bengaluru included Puss in Boots Madamskar 3 Kung Fu Panda series Snou White, Lion King and Mission Impossible. Plank ton: The Movie and Mickey Mouse Clubhouse. With the global closure of Technicolor, all fo

studiou' divisions of the company - MIC (2014). It is hubbled by its programble pedicis and support pedicid, the MIG delines for branch MISBIN delines for high environmenter for hubbled by the programble pedicis multi-support and the main constraints of minimal and imminimal and imminishing and environmenter for hubbled by the programble pedicis multi-support and the bibled by the programble pedicis multi-support the bible bibled by the program of the main constraints and discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the main constraints and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the the discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the the discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the the discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the the discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the the discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the the discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the the discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the the discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the the discusses and delicentations on the deline by the programment of the the deline by the programment of the the discusses and deline the the the deline by the programment of the deline by the programment of the the deline by the program

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some days prior, (KTU) and two legal counsels representing Tech-were in distress, nicolor on March II. He told *The Hindu*, "Em-unsure of their ployees have shared their grievances. They say future. FICCI for AVGCXR Gopalakrishna said the management has so far and Chairman of not officially terminated the services of the em-

"Unless use know whether it's an official baself retrenchment or closure, we are unable to decide the next course of action," the Labour Commis-

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incertain times

As uncertainty prevails, over 3,200 animators are in deep distress. Their salaries remain unpaid, and they say that they are not able to pay their rents and EMIs as "funds from the headquarters fid not arrive."

"We have relocated to Bengaluru for this job with our families. Our children are in school. We feel betrayed and abandoned by the company that we happily served for years. We were sud-denly sort of shooed away without even being al-lowed to take our personal belongings on that day" alleged a graphic artist with tears rolling

An email query sent to Technicolor headquar-ers in Paris didn't yield any response

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TOPIC - AVGC XR SECTOR



The AVGC (Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics) XR (Extended Reality) sector is witnessing a transformative phase in India, marked by significant developments that are reshaping its landscape.

Recent News Highlights

Technicolor's Closure: The recent shutdown of Technicolor in Bengaluru has raised concerns about the sustainability of the local AVGC-XR sector, emphasizing the need for strategic developments to fill this void. Tamil Nadu's Policy Development: The Tamil Nadu government is actively formulating a policy to enhance the AVGC-XR sector, aiming to create a robust ecosystem that fosters growth and job creation. National Centre of Excellence: The establishment of a National Centre of Excellence (NCoE) in Mumbai is poised to significantly uplift the industry by nurturing talent and innovation, akin to the impact of IITs and IIMs in their fields.

Job Creation in Madhya Pradesh: The Madhya Pradesh government's AVGC-XR policy is projected to generate over 20,000 jobs, with an investment of ₹2,000 crores, showcasing the potential for economic growth within the sector.

Future Directions and Opportunities



The future of the AVGC XR sector in India looks promising, with several key factors contributing to its growth:

Educational Advancements: The establishment of specialized institutions will equip aspiring professionals with the necessary skills to thrive in the creative industries.

Collaborative Efforts: Fostering partnerships among educational institutions, industry leaders, and governmental bodies will enhance resource sharing and innovation.

Global Positioning: By focusing on quality and creativity, the AVGC XR sector can position itself as a formidable global player, drawing international investments and collaborations.



Actions by govts, businesses to shape trade resilience for years: UNCTAD

N. Ravi Kumar

HYDERABAD

Global cooperation and balanced policies are critical to preventing economic fragmentation and safeguarding long-term growth amid growing trade uncertainty, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has said. While China's stimulus and lower inflation in some regions are likely to support trade, protectionism and shifting policies in major economies are key risks, UNCTAD said in an update on global trade covering data through early March. The challenge in 2025 will be to prevent global fragmentation – where nations form isolated trade blocs – while managing policy shifts without undermining long-term growth. Actions taken now by governments and businesses will shape trade resilience for years to come. **UNCTAD: Navigating Global Trade and Development Challenges**



Introduction to UNCTAD

- UNCTAD, or the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, plays a pivotal role in shaping global economic landscapes.
- Established to promote trade and development, UNCTAD serves as a platform for dialogue among countries, especially focusing on developing nations. Its mission is not just about economic growth but fostering sustainable development that is equitable and inclusive.

Global Debt Management Conference



The latest conference on global debt management highlighted the staggering levels of debt faced by many nations, particularly in the developing world. Key points discussed included:

Debt Sustainability: Strategies to ensure that countries can manage their debts without compromising economic growth.

International Collaboration: The need for collaborative efforts between developed and developing nations to create effective debt relief frameworks.

Innovative Solutions: Proposals for innovative financing mechanisms that prioritize sustainable development goals.

Trade Resilience for 2025



As we look towards 2025, global trade resilience has become an essential topic. Several emerging trends indicate how nations are adapting:

Diversification of Supply Chains: Countries are rethinking their supply chains to reduce dependencies and risks.

Digital Trade: The rise of e-commerce and digital services is reshaping trade dynamics.

Sustainability: Increasing emphasis on sustainability in trade practices to combat climate change and promote green technologies

Climate Finance Goals for Developing Countries



UNCTAD is actively working to support developing countries in achieving climate finance goals. Key initiatives include:

Green Financing: Promoting investment in renewable energy and sustainable projects.

Capacity Building: Assisting countries in building the necessary infrastructure to access climate finance.

Policy Advocacy: Advocating for international policies that favor sustainable development financing.

Conclusion

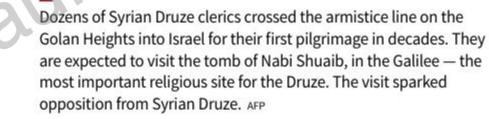
UNCTAD continues to be a beacon for global trade and development, navigating the complexities of modern economic challenges. As we move forward, the focus remains on fostering resilience, sustainability, and equitable growth for all nations

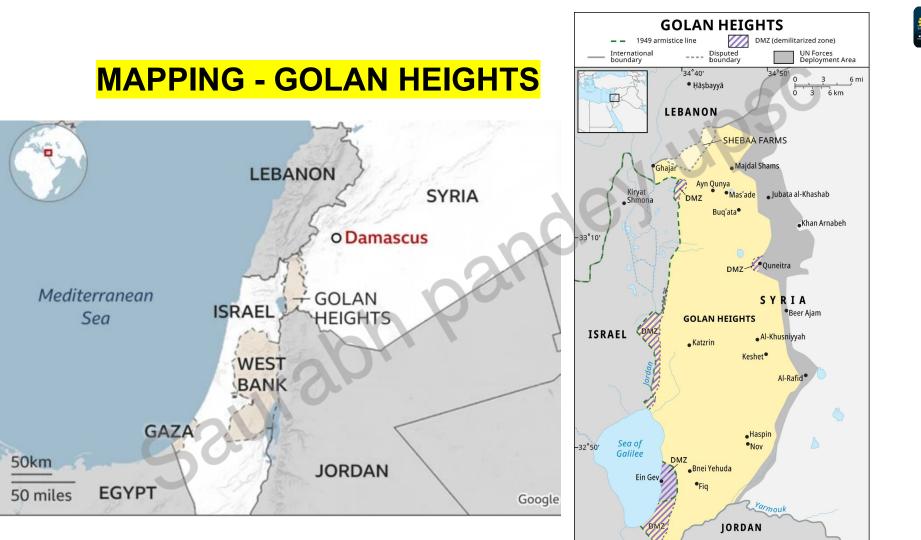
MAJDAL SHAMS

Syrian Druze cross armistice line on Golan Heights for pilgrimage



AP





Massive surveillance





Guatemalan soldiers patrol the shared border with Mexico as part of the Ring of Fire operation, aiming at strengthening border control, at the mouth of Suchiate River in Ocos, Guatemala on Thursday. AP



MAPPING - SUCHIATE RIVER









Migrant "caravan" continues towards the United States

Thousands of mostly Honduran migrants have entered Mexico, heading for the US.



Syria's new constitution gives sweeping powers, offers no protection for minority



Agence France-Presse BEIRUT

Syria's new temporary constitution concentrates power in hands of interim President Abu Mohammad al-Jolani, also known as Ahmed al-Sharaa, and fails to include enough protections for minorities, experts warn. The declaration, signed into law on Thursday, establishes a five-year transitional period and follows the toppling of Bashar al-Assad's repressive government by Islamist-led rebels after nearly 14 years of civil war.

"The constitutional declaration grants absolute powers to the interim President," said Sam Dallah, a constitutional law profes-



Abu Mohammad al-Jolani

sor and former spokesperson for the drafting committee of the 2012 constitution, who left Syria after the outbreak of the civil war.

He said it establishes "a presidential-type regime", where executive power rests with the interim President and the Ministers he appoints, and does not include a post of Prime Minister.

Under the new framework, elections based on a new constitution will take place only after the transitional period.

According to the temporary constitution, Mr. Jolani "appoints one-third" of the members of the future assembly and forms a committee to select the members of the electoral college that will elect the remaining parliamentarians.

Although the document describes the judiciary as "independent", it gives the interim President the power to appoint members of the Supreme Constitutional Court, the country's highest judicial authority. "The concentration of powers in the hands of a single person will inevitably lead to the monopolisation of decision-making," the expert warned.

While the constitutional declaration draws heavily from previous constitutions, it no longer includes mention of democracy.

One key change from the previous constitution is that Islamic jurisprudence is now described as "the principal source" of legislation, rather than just "a principal source".

Islam remains the religion of the head of state, Arabic the sole official language and the constitutional declaration offers no guarantees or protections for Syria's minorities.

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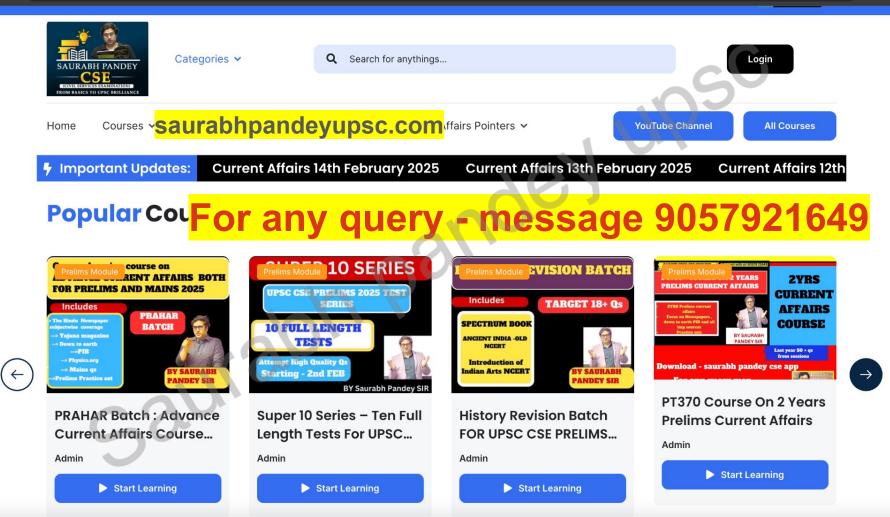
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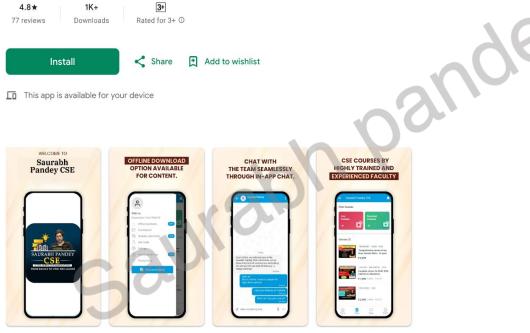






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