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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

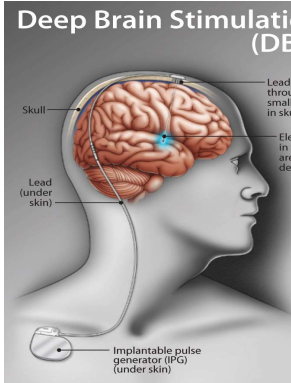
03 July 2024

### National and International News

<b>SEBEX 2</b>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● India has successfully developed and certified <b>SEBEX 2</b>.</li></ul> <p><b>About SEBEX 2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Description:</b> SEBEX 2 is one of the <b>most powerful non-nuclear explosives in the world</b>.</li><li>● <b>Composition:</b> Utilizes a <b>high-melting explosive (HMX) formulation</b>.</li><li>● <b>TNT Equivalence:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ SEBEX 2 is approximately <b>1.01 times more deadly than standard TNT (Trinitrotoluene)</b>.</li><li>○ <b>Explosive performance is measured by TNT equivalence</b>; higher values indicate greater lethality.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Manufacturing:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Manufactured by <b>Economic Explosives Limited (EEL), Nagpur, a subsidiary of Solar Industries</b>.</li><li>○ Developed under the <b>Make in India initiative</b>.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Certification:</b> <b>Evaluated, tested, and certified by the Indian Navy under its Defence Export Promotion Scheme</b>.</li></ul>
<b>AI washing</b>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Recently, it was revealed that <b>many tech companies and startups are marketing themselves as using AI, but are not actually doing so</b>. This practice is known as <b>"AI washing."</b></li></ul> <p><b>About AI washing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>AI Washing:</b> <b>Exaggerating or lying about a product or service's use of artificial intelligence (AI) to appear more advanced</b>.</li><li>● <b>Objective:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Capitalize on the interest in AI.</li><li>○ Make offerings seem more cutting-edge than they are.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Examples:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ A company claims their chatbot is "Powered by the latest AI technology" but it only matches keywords with pre-written responses.</li><li>○ <b>Businesses claim AI integration when using less sophisticated technology</b>.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Origins:</b> Derived from <b>"greenwashing," where companies exaggerate their environmental friendliness</b>.</li></ul>



Deep Brain Stimulation Device



Why in the news?

- A UK-based teenager, **Oran Knowlson**, has **become the first person globally to be fitted with a brain implant using a deep brain stimulation (DBS) device** to help control his epileptic seizures.

About Deep Brain Stimulation Device:

- The device uses **Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS)**, a technique also used for movement disorders associated with **Parkinson's** and other neurological conditions.
- **Working:** The neurostimulator delivers constant electrical impulses to the brain to disrupt or block abnormal seizure-causing signals.
- **Post-Surgery:**
  - The device was switched on after Knowlson recovered from surgery.
  - It can be **recharged by a wireless headphone**.

New Shepard Spacecraft



Why in the news?

- **Jeff Bezos-led Blue Origin** has **partnered with the Space Exploration and Research Agency (SERA)** to offer common Indian citizens the opportunity to travel into space aboard the New Shepard spacecraft.

About New Shepard Spacecraft:

- **Name and Inspiration:** Named after **Alan Shepard**, the first American in space.
- **Design:** Fully reusable rocket system designed for human spaceflight.
- **Components:**
  - Reusable booster
  - Pressurized crew capsule
- **Journey Details:**
  - **11-minute flight beyond the Karman line.**
  - Passengers experience several minutes of weightlessness.
  - Controlled descent back to Earth aided by parachutes.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Uses:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Space tourism</b></li><li>○ Platform for scientific research.</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>Think:</b> Know about the <b>Karman line</b>.</p>
<b>LOw-Frequency ARray (LOFAR)</b>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Astronomers have recently <b>discovered a new radio galaxy</b> using the <b>LOw-Frequency ARray (LOFAR)</b>.</li></ul> <p><b>About LOFAR:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Innovative Pan-European Radio Interferometer:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ First of its kind, <b>distributed across Europe</b>.</li><li>○ Developed by the <b>Dutch Institute for Radio Astronomy (ASTRON)</b>.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Observation Capabilities:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Observes the Universe at low radio frequencies</b> (90 to 200 MHz), close to the FM radio band.</li><li>○ <b>Capable of exploring the early, distant universe, solar activity, and the terrestrial atmosphere.</b></li></ul></li><li>● <b>Geographical Distribution:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Main core located</b> in the north of the <b>Netherlands</b>.</li><li>○ Additional stations in France, Germany, and the United Kingdom.</li></ul></li></ul>

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