






12 December 2024

### National and International News

<p><b>Person in news: C. Subramania Bharati</b></p> 	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release a complete and annotated edition of the works of C. Subramania Bharati in New Delhi.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>He was a <b>poet, freedom fighter, and social reformer from Tamil Nadu.</b></li> <li>He was known as <b>Mahakavi Bharathiyar</b>, and the laudatory epithet Mahakavi means a great poet.</li> <li>He is considered one of <b>India's greatest poets.</b> His songs on <b>nationalism and freedom of India helped to rally the masses to support the Indian Independence Movement in Tamil Nadu.</b></li> <li>Bharathi joined as <b>Assistant Editor of the Swadesamitran</b>, a Tamil daily, in 1904.</li> <li>In 1907, he started editing the <b>Tamil weekly India</b> and the English newspaper Bala Bharatham with M.P.T. Acharya.</li> <li>He assisted Aurobindo in the Arya journal and later Karma Yogi in Pondicherry.</li> <li>Bharathi was essentially a lyrical poet. Bharati's best-known works included <b>Kaṇṇan pattu (1917; Songs to Krishna), Panchali sapatham (1912; Panchali's Vow), and Kuyil pattu (1912; Kuyil's Song).</b></li> <li>He also translated <b>Vedic hymns, Patanjali's Yoga Sutra and Bhagavat Gita into Tamil.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Eratosthenes</b></p> 	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Geological Institute of Israel uncovered a never before known underwater canyon near Cyprus.</li> <li>The canyon, known as Eratosthenes for the underwater mountain it is near, dates back to the Messinian Event that transpired about 5.5 million years ago.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The canyon, known as <b>Eratosthenes for the underwater mountain it is near, dates back to the Messinian Event that transpired about 5.5 million years ago.</b></li> <li>The canyon is about <b>10 km wide and 500 m deep</b> and was buried at the beginning of the Messinian period before the deposition of the salt layer.</li> <li>It was <b>created when the level of the Mediterranean Sea decreased at the same time there was a rise in the salinity of the water, which apparently created gravity currents or dense solutions that caused the destabilization of the submarine slopes and subsidence of the seabed.</b></li> <li>According to the institute in a broader aspect this work reveals the</li> </ul>



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	<p>environmental conditions of high salinity and lower sea level in the deep Mediterranean basin at the beginning of the Messinian event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Also known as the <b>Messinian salinity crisis</b>, the Messinian event was a geological event during which the Mediterranean Sea went into a cycle of partial or nearly complete desiccation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Species in news:</b> <b>Thrips Parvispinus</b></p> 	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Rajya Sabha was informed that invasive thrips caused 80% damage to chilli crops.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nature</b>– It is an <b>invasive pest species</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Origin</b>– This thrips <b>originates from Southeast Asia and was first found in Florida in 2020</b>. It is a polyphagous pest that causes damage to vegetable, ornamental, and fruit crops.</li> <li>• <b>Spread</b>– The last two decades have witnessed a drastic extension in the geographic distribution. It is now found in France, Greece, Hawaii, Mauritius, Reunion, Spain, Tanzania and the Netherlands, besides India.</li> <li>• <b>In India</b>– This species was <b>first reported on Papaya from Bengaluru in 2015</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Infestation</b>– Adults mainly colonize on flowers and underside of leaves whereas larvae suck sap from under the surface</li> <li>• <b>Impact</b>– Infestation <b>causes heavy flower drop and thereby reduces fruit production</b>. Its infestation <b>increases during heavy rainfall of the North East monsoon</b>. This has caused <b>40-80% damage to chilli crops in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana</b>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>GG Tau A System</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Astronomers have discovered a <b>protoplanetary disk (a swirling ring of gas and dust) in the GG Tau A system, located 489 light-years from Earth</b>.</li> <li>• The discovery offers valuable insights into planet formation in multi-star environments.</li> <li>• Researchers from the National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER) in Odisha utilized advanced radio telescopes in Chile's Atacama Desert for the study.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <p><b>About GG Tau A System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Triple-Star System:</b> GG Tau A <b>consists of three interacting stars, located 489 light-years from Earth</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Young Age:</b> The system is only 1–5 million years old, making it ideal for studying early planetary formation.</li> <li>• <b>Planet-Birth Environment:</b> The system features a gas and dust disk, which serves as the birthplace of planets.</li> <li>• <b>Star Interactions:</b> The three stars interact with each other, significantly affecting the disk and making planet formation more unpredictable compared to single-star systems.</li> <li>• <b>Unique Forces:</b> Forces between the stars cause the disk to behave</li> </ul>

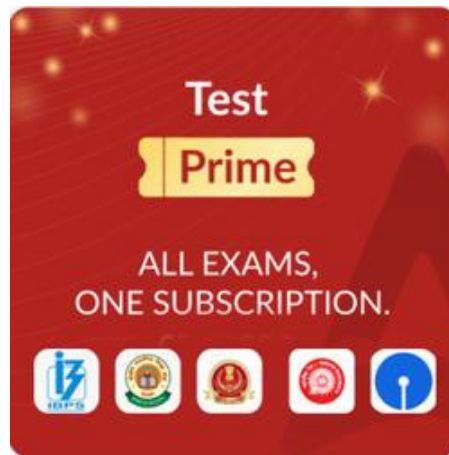


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	differently, offering insights into the complexities of multi-star environments.
Voronezh Radar	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India is set to finalise a <b>landmark USD 4 billion defence agreement with Russia</b>, aimed at acquiring a Russian Voronezh ballistic missile attack early warning radar.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Voronezh radar system is a <b>critical component of Russia's early warning and missile defence infrastructure</b>.</li> <li>It is capable of identifying and tracking a range of threats, including ballistic missiles and aircraft, over distances of up to <b>8,000 kilometers</b>.</li> <li>Introduced in 2009, these radars have been operational since 2012 and are strategically deployed across Russia to provide extensive coverage against potential missile threats.</li> <li>These radars <b>employ phased array technology, which allows for rapid electronic steering of the beam</b>. This makes them highly efficient and less mechanically complex than older systems.</li> <li>There are <b>several varieties of these radars operating in the meter (Voronezh-M), decimeter (Voronezh-DM), or centimeter (Voronezh-CM) wavelength range</b>, as well as a few others that <b>combine several ranges</b>.</li> <li>The different Voronezh radars can work in unison as part of an integrated Missile Attack Early Warning System to generate a comprehensive radar picture of potential missile threats and space activity.</li> <li>These radars are crucial for <b>early warning against ballistic missile threats and are positioned to optimise detection capabilities across various threat vectors</b>.</li> </ul>





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