

SHORTNEWS:

1.NISAR LAUNCH

Context: ISRO-NASA's NISAR, the heaviest Earth observation satellite, was successfully placed in orbit to deliver detailed global maps every 12 days for five years.

About the Launch

- **Launch Vehicle and Orbit:** Successfully launched on July 30, 2025, aboard **GSLV-F16** into a **747 km Sun Synchronous Polar Orbit (SSPO)**,
 - This is ISRO's **first SSPO mission** using GSLV due to **NISAR's heavy 2,392 kg payload**
 - SSPO is a **special type of polar orbit** where a satellite passes over a **specific point** on Earth at the **same local time** on every orbit

About NISAR Satellite

- NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) is the **world's first dual-frequency SAR mission**, using both **L-band** and **S-band** radars to provide **high-resolution, all-weather, day-and-night imaging** of Earth.

Key Features

- **Dual-Band Radar Capability:**
 - **L-band radar (1–2 GHz):** Developed by NASA, penetrates dense forests and vegetation.
 - **S-band radar (2–4 GHz):** Developed by ISRO, offers detailed surface imaging.
- **Large Deployable Antenna:** Equipped with a **12-meter deployable antenna** with an **18-meter radar swath**, enabling wide-area coverage.
- **SweepSAR Technology:** NISAR uses **SweepSAR**, allowing efficient and detailed Earth surface mapping over large areas
 - It will enable NISAR to observe earth with a **swath of 242 km and high spatial resolution** for the first time.

Applications

- **Environmental and Resource Monitoring:** NISAR enables **global scanning every 12 days** to monitor **tectonic activity, glaciers, permafrost, soil moisture, and surface water**, aiding in climate research, agriculture planning, and resource management.
- **Disaster and Ecosystem Management:** The satellite supports **natural disaster tracking, forest monitoring, and biodiversity conservation**, improving disaster preparedness, coastal resilience, and sustainable land-use strategies.

2.KLYUCHEVSKOY VOLCANO

Context: Recently the Klyuchevskoy volcano erupted in **Russia's Far East**, hours after an 8.8 magnitude earthquake struck the **Kamchatka region**, triggering tsunami alerts across the Pacific.

About Klyuchevskoy volcano

- It is an **active stratovolcano** in Russia's **Kamchatka Peninsula**, home to over **300 volcanoes**.
- Standing at at **15,597 feet (4,754 metres)**, it is the **tallest active volcano in Europe and Asia**.
- **Klyuchevskoy** is one of the **most active volcanoes** in Kamchatka:
 - At least **18 eruptive phases since 2000**
 - Over **60 eruptions in the past 100 years**
- The area is **seismically and volcanically active**, lying within the **Pacific Ring of Fire**.
- The eruption featured:
 - **Red-hot lava** flowing down the **western slope**,
- A **powerful glow** and **Explosions** at the summit.

3.THE RESISTANCE FRONT AND THE UNSC REPORT

Context: The **UN Security Council's 1267 Sanctions Committee Monitoring Team** has for the **first time** mentioned **The Resistance Front (TRF)**, a proxy of **Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT)** in connection with the **Pahalgam terror attack** in Jammu & Kashmir.

Implications for Pakistan

- The report undermines Pakistan's longstanding tactic of using modern names like TRF and People Against Fascist Front (PAFF) to **mask LeT and JeM proxies**.
- Observers stated that Pakistan's "**lies and deceitful narrative**" are now globally visible.

Strategic and Diplomatic Significance

- **Consensus-Based Process:** All Monitoring Team reports are adopted **by consensus** among UNSC member states, indicating **broad international agreement**.
- **First Mention :** This is the **first mention of LeT or any Pakistan-based group** in a UNSC sanctions report since 2019.
- **India's Credibility:** Enhances India's **counter-terror narrative** and **diplomatic leverage** in global forums.

UNSC 1267 Sanctions Committee

- **Establishment:** Formed through Resolution 1267 to impose an air embargo and asset freeze on the Taliban.
- **Evolution:** Expanded after the 9/11 attacks to include Al-Qaeda and later ISIL; now formally called the ***Da'esh and Al-Qaeda Sanctions Committee***.
- **Composition:** Comprises all 15 members of the UN Security Council, both **permanent and non-permanent**.
- **Purpose:**
 - Aims to combat terrorism linked to Al-Qaeda and ISIL.
 - Maintains a consolidated global list of designated terrorists and affiliated entities.

- Enforces sanctions such as travel bans, asset freezes, and arms embargoes.
- **Decision-Making:** Operates by consensus—any of the five permanent members (P5) can block a proposal.

4. OPERATION SHIVSHAKTI

Context: Recently, the Indian Army conducted **Operation Shivshakti** in **Poonch district**, Jammu and Kashmir, killing **two suspected Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists** attempting to infiltrate the LoC.

- **Operation Shivshakti** follows **Operation Mahadev**, where **three terrorists involved in the Pahalgam attack** were killed.
- Operation Mahadev was a **joint counter-terror effort** by Indian forces in **Jammu and Kashmir**.

Key Details of the Operation

- **Location:** **Maldivalan area, Degwar sector**, along the **Line of Control (LoC)** in **Poonch**.
- The operation was based on **synchronised intelligence inputs** from **Army intelligence units** and **Jammu and Kashmir Police (JKP)**.
- **Forces Involved:** Indian Army troops (White Knight Corps)

6. CENTRE NOTIFIES SINGLE WINDOW SYSTEM FOR APPOINTING STATE DGPS

Context: The Union Government has introduced a **Single Window System** for the appointment of State Director-General of Police (DGP)/Head of Police Force (HoPF).

- The new system addresses the **non-compliance by several states** with the **Supreme Court's Prakash Singh (2006) case** and the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) guidelines on the appointment of DGPs/HoPFs**.

Features of the Single Window System

- **Check-list and Standard Formats:** The system includes a **detailed check-list and standard formats** that make it easier for states to submit proposals for the **empanelment** of DGPs to the **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)**. This will ensure a smooth and expeditious process.
- **Certification of Eligibility:** To prevent discrepancies, the Centre has mandated that an **officer not below the rank of Secretary to Government** must certify **the eligibility of the proposed candidates**. This is to ensure that the **minimum tenure** and **other guidelines** are adhered to.
- **Supreme Court Guidelines:** The guidelines specify that a DGP/HoPF should have a **minimum residual service of six months** from the **date of the vacancy** and that states should send proposals **at least three months** before the vacancy or the retirement of the incumbent.

Current Appointment Process

- **Submission by States:** States must send a list of eligible officers to the UPSC at least **six months before the current DGP's retirement**.
- **Eligibility Criteria:**

- **Officers must have a minimum of 30 years of service or hold the rank of police chief (or one rank below) as stipulated for that state.**
- **Officers who have less than 6 months remaining before retirement are not eligible.**
- **UPSC Empanelment Committee:** The UPSC Empanelment Committee selects a panel of three officers (or two officers for smaller states) based on merit.
- **Selection by State Government:** The State government then selects the DGP from the panel of qualified candidates.
- The Supreme Court is currently hearing petitions related to the non-compliance of states with the norms prescribed for DGP appointments, specifically in the case of **Jharkhand DGP Anurag Gupta**.