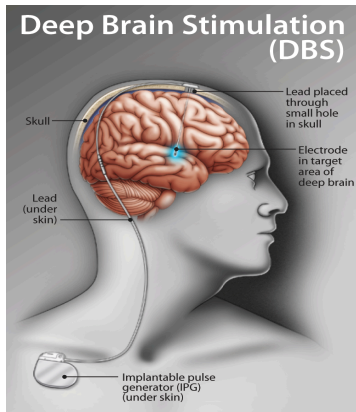




03 July 2024

National and International News

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

Think:

- Know about the **Karman line.**

Low-Frequency ARray (LOFAR)

Why in the news?

- Astronomers have recently discovered a new radio galaxy using the **Low-Frequency ARray (LOFAR)**.

About LOFAR:

- **Innovative Pan-European Radio Interferometer:**
 - First of its kind, **distributed across Europe.**
 - Developed by the **Dutch Institute for Radio**



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Astronomy (ASTRON).

- **Observation Capabilities:**
 - **Observes the Universe at low radio frequencies** (90 to 200 MHz), close to the FM radio band.
 - **Capable of exploring the early, distant universe, solar activity, and the terrestrial atmosphere.**
- **Geographical Distribution:**
 - **Main core located** in the north of the **Netherlands**.
 - Additional stations in France, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

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