



## Rapid Fire Current Affairs

### US and Palau Enhance Maritime Enforcement



- Recently, the **United States** and the **Republic of Palau**, a country in the **western Pacific Ocean**, signed an expanded bilateral law enforcement agreement to **enhance maritime governance**.
- The agreement enables the **U.S. Coast Guard to enforce regulations at sea in Palau's exclusive economic zone (EEZ)** on behalf of Palau even without the presence of a Palauan officer.
- The agreement will help increase maritime domain awareness and prevent **Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing** within Palau's EEZ.

Read more: [Rising Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated \(IUU\) Fishing](#), [Palau Joins ISA](#)

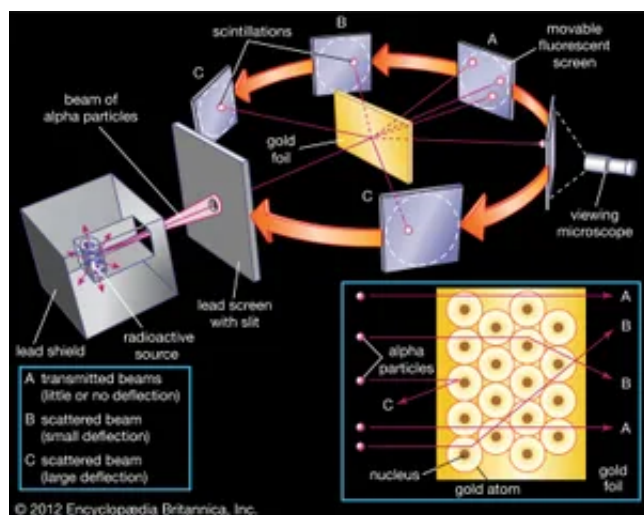
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### Mahendragiri

- Mahendragiri, the last **Project 17A Frigate**, will be launched on 1st September 2023.
- The ship is named after a **mountain peak in Eastern Ghats located in the state of Orissa**.
  - Project 17A Frigates are follow-ons of the **Project 17 Class Frigates (Shivalik Class)**, with improved **stealth features, advanced weapons and sensors, and platform management systems**.
- Mahendragiri is a technologically advanced warship and stands as a symbol of **India's determination to embrace its rich naval heritage**.
- Project 17A ships have been **designed in-house** by the **Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau**.

Read more: [Project 17A and INS Taragiri](#)

## Contribution of Ernest Rutherford



Ernest Rutherford **won the [Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1908](#)**. He hypothesised that [helium gas](#) could be formed from radioactive substances.

- He **discovered that there are at least two types of radiation, [alpha \( \$\alpha\$ \) and beta \( \$\beta\$ \)](#) particles**, coming from uranium.
- **His most famous experiment is the gold foil experiment:**
  - A beam of **alpha particles** was aimed at a piece of **gold foil**. Most alpha particles passed through the foil, **but a few were scattered backward**.
  - This showed that **most of the atom is empty space surrounding a tiny [nucleus](#)** (positively charged and surrounded at a great distance by the negatively charged electrons).

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