Aditya-L1 Mission Captures Solar Flare

Source: TH

The **Aditya-L1 mission** has captured the **first-ever image of a <u>solar flare</u> 'kernel'** in the lower solar atmosphere using the **Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT) payload**.

- Solar Observation: SUIT detected an X6.3-class solar flare, one of the most intense solar eruptions, in the Near Ultraviolet (NUV) wavelength (200-400 nm).
- Solar Flares: Solar flares are massive explosions on the Sun's atmosphere that release energy, light, and high-speed particles into space, often linked to coronal mass ejections (CMEs).
 Solar flares are classified into A, B, C, M, and X categories, with each class increasing 10-fold in energy. X-class flares are the most powerful.
- Aditya-L1: It is India's first space-based solar observatory, designed to study the Sun from the Lagrange Point 1 (L1) in a halo orbit. This is ISRO's second astronomy observatory-class mission after AstroSat (2015).

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ADITYA-L MISSION

ABOUT

- India's 1st scientific expedition to study the Sun
- To be placed at halo orbit around L1 Lagrange point
- Launch date 02 Sept, 2023
- Time to reach 4 months; Mission Life 5 years

FIELDS OF STUDY:

- Sun's corona (Visible and Near-infrared rays), photosphere (soft and hard X-ray) and chromosphere (UV)
- Solar emissions, solar winds and flares and Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs)
- Carry out round-the-clock imaging of Sun

SIGNIFICANCE

- Solar weather/environment affects the weather of entire solar system
- Solar events help understand space weather
- Tracking Earth-directed storms can help predict their impact

ANATOMY OF THE SUN

LAUNCH VEHICLE

PSLV-C57

PAYLOADS:

- Visible Line Emission Coronagraph (VLEC) (primary payload)
- Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT)
- Solar Low Energy X-ray Spectrometer (SoLEXS)
- Aditya Solar wind Particle Experiment (ASPEX)
- High Energy L1 Orbiting X-ray Spectrometer (HEL10S)
- Plasma Analyser Package for Aditya (PAPA)
- Advanced Tri-axial High Resolution Digital Magnetometers

What are Lagrange Points?

Named after Italian-French mathematician Josephy-Louis Lagrange

- Positions in space where gravitational forces of a two-body system
- (e.g. Sun & Earth) produce enhanced regions of attraction and repulsion
- Spacecrafts placed at L points consume lower fuel to remain in position
- L1 will provide ISRO continuous view of Sun without any occultation/ eclipses



Read more: Aditya-L1 Mission, Solar Coronal Holes

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