

NASA-ESA Solar orbiter (SolO)

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In news- NASA and European Space Agency's Solar orbiter has captured the first solar eruption.

More information-

- The Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) was captured by NASA instrument, the **Solar Orbiter Heliospheric Imager (SoloHI)** onboard the spacecraft.
- SoloHI watches the solar wind, dust, and cosmic rays that fill the space between the Sun and the planets.
- Two more imagers on Solar Orbiter – **ESA's Extreme Ultraviolet Imager and Metis**, also captured views of the CME.
- NASA's **STEREO-A spacecraft** also caught a glimpse from its COR2 detector.

About Solar orbiter-

- The **Solar Orbiter (SolO)** is a Sun-observing satellite, developed by the European Space Agency (ESA).
- It is intended to perform detailed **measurements of the inner heliosphere and nascent solar wind, and perform close observations of the polar regions of the Sun.**
- *Solar Orbiter* will be able to **observe the magnetic activity building up in the atmosphere** that can lead to powerful solar flares or eruptions.
- It was **launched on 10 February 2020** and the mission is planned to last 7 years.
- The total mission cost is US\$1.5 billion, with **both ESA and NASA contributions.**
- The science payload is composed of **10 instruments.**
- The spacecraft has already taken the closest picture of the Sun to date.

Researchers will also have the chance to coordinate

observations with ***NASA's Parker Solar Probe mission (2018-2025)*** which is performing measurements of the Sun's extended corona.