

Zero Shadow Day

April 26, 2023

In news— Bengaluru witnessed Zero Shadow Day at 12.17 p.m. on April 25.

What is Zero Shadow day?

- Zero Shadow day is a unique event that takes place twice a year at locations between +23.5 and -23.5 degrees latitude.
- On this day, the **Sun will be directly overhead and hence any vertical object will not cast a shadow.**
- According to the Astronomical Society of India (ASI), when the **Sun is precisely at the zenith position, it will not throw a shadow on an object.**
- The Sun is almost never exactly overhead at noon but usually transits a bit lower in altitude, a bit to the north or a bit to the south.
- The phenomenon occurs when the sun's declination matches the location's latitude.
- Even though it just lasts for a second, the impact can be observed for around two minutes.

The Astronomical Society of India-

- **It is an Indian society of professional astronomers** and other professionals from related disciplines.
- It was **founded in 1972**, with Vainu Bappu being the founder President of the Society, and as of 2010 has a membership of approximately 1000.
- Its registered office is at the Astronomy Department, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India.
- Its primary objective is the promotion of Astronomy and related branches of science.
- It organises meetings, supports and tries to popularise Astronomy and related subjects and **publishes the Bulletin of the Astronomical Society of India.**