

# **Spardhaguru India Private Limited** Space & Astronomy:

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# Space & Astronomy:

### **Key Events and Celestial Observations**

Moon: A First Quarter Moon occurred at 8:41 A.M. EDT. Later in the day, at 4:36 P.M. EDT, it reached apogee, its most distant point from Earth in its orbit, at a distance of 251,134 miles.

Venus: The planet Venus reached its highest point in the eastern pre-dawn sky for the year, making it an excellent time for stargazers to observe it as the "morning star" near the constellation Orion.

**Mercury:** The planet Mercury was at its inferior conjunction, positioned between the Sun and Earth, making it invisible from our perspective. It will reappear in the morning sky later in August.

Planetary Alignments: There was a pre-dawn alignment of several planets, including Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Jupiter and Venus were visibly drawing closer together, heading for a spectacular close conjunction later in the month.

Other Noteworthy News: A new mission named ECHO (Exploring Cosmic History and Origin) is being planned, which aims to place a payload at a Lagrange point to study the origin of the universe and detect primordial gravitational waves. Scientists with the Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO) announced that their new radio telescopes, expected to be fully operational by 2030, will help reveal when the first stars and galaxies were formed.

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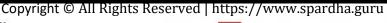
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## **MCQS**

- 1. What celestial event made Mercury invisible from Earth on August 1, 2025?
- a) Apogee
- b) First Quarter Moon
- c) Inferior conjunction
- d) Planetary alignment

**Answer:** c) Inferior conjunction

The news states, "The planet Mercury was at its inferior conjunction, positioned between the Sun and Earth, making it invisible from our perspective."

- 2. Which planet reached its highest point in the pre-dawn sky for the year?
- a) Jupiter
- b) Saturn
- c) Venus
- d) Neptune

**Answer:** c) Venus

The news states that "The planet Venus reached its highest point in the eastern pre-dawn sky for the vear."

- 3. What is the name of the new mission that plans to study the origin of the universe and detect primordial gravitational waves?
- a) SKAO
- b) ECHO
- c) Orion
- d) Apogee

Answer: b) ECHO

The news mentions that a new mission named ECHO (Exploring Cosmic History and Origin) is being planned to "study the origin of the universe and detect primordial gravitational waves."

- 4. When the Moon is at its "apogee," what is its position relative to Earth?
- a) It is at its closest point to Earth.
- b) It is at its farthest point from Earth.
- c) It is positioned between the Earth and the Sun.
- d) It is at a right angle to the Earth and Sun.

**Answer:** b) It is at its farthest point from Earth. The news states that the Moon "reached apogee, its most distant point from Earth in its orbit."

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