Gaia BH3

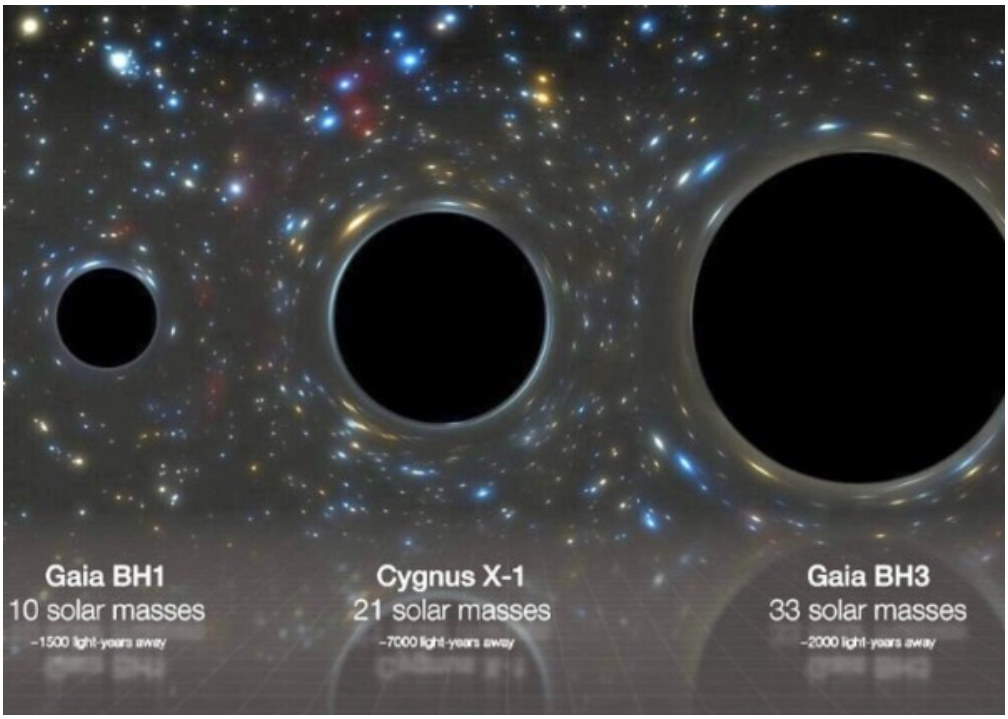
Why in News?

Recently, the astronomers have discovered a gigantic black hole, Gaia BH3.

- **Gaia BH3** – It is a ***dormant black hole***, and it is the 3rd kind of Gaia Black Hole.
- It is the ***1st black hole*** found in the Milky Way galaxy's outer reaches and the largest known stellar-mass black hole in the galaxy.
- **Discovered in** – ***2024***.
- **Discovered by** – European Space Agency's Gaia telescope.

> ***Gaia telescope*** *has been constantly monitoring the motions of billions of stars in the galaxy since 2013 under European Space Agency's astrometry mission.*

- **Distance** – 1,926 light-years from Earth, which makes it the ***2nd closest black hole to the Earth.***
- **Located in** – About 2,000 light years away in the constellation.
- **Constellation** – *Aquila* and appears to be a passive black hole.
- **Solar Mass** – Nearly 33 times the mass of the Sun.



- **Features** – It isn't actively pulling material from its surroundings due to lacks of significant supply of matter in its neighborhood.
- It doesn't have associated X-ray emissions either.

Gaia's Black Hole

Gaia BH1	• It is the closest black hole to the earth. • **Located in** – About 1,560 light years away in the constellation Ophiuchus. • **Distance** – 1.4% of Milky Way's width. • **Galaxy's centre** – 26,670 light years away.
Gaia BH2	• **Located in** – About 3,800 light years away in the constellation Centaurus. • **Solar Masses** – 9 times that of the sun.

References

1. The Hindu| Gigantic Black Hole, Gaia BH3
2. ESA| Gaia BH3

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