



UNITE Aware Platform

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Why in News

India, in collaboration with the **United Nations (UN)**, has launched a technology platform to ensure the safety and security of peacekeepers who are operating across the world.

The launch of the UNITE AWARE platform came as India assumed the **Presidency of the 15-nation UN Security Council** for the month of August.

Key Points

- **About the UNITE Aware:**
 - **Aim:** This project aims to demonstrate the impact of **modern surveillance technology** on the **detection of asymmetric threats**.
 - **Situational Awareness Software Programme:** It utilises modern surveillance technology for real time threat assessments to peacekeepers in maintaining security.
 - This will access live video and satellite imagery, and in very volatile circumstances can also deliver early warnings to peacekeepers.
 - It can also record data on critical incidents and events and follow daily operational activities.
 - Using the platform, the entire peacekeeping operation can be visualised, coordinated, and monitored on a real time basis.
 - **Partnership:** India has developed the technology platform in partnership with the **UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations** and the **Department of Operational Support**.
 - **Deployment:** The platform will be deployed initially in four UN Peacekeeping Missions: **MINUSMA (Mali)**, **UNMISS (South Sudan)**, **UNFICYP (Cyprus)** and **AMISOM (Somalia)**.
 - **India's Contribution:** India has contributed USD 1.64 million for this project.

- **UN Peacekeeping:**

- **Joint Effort:** It is a joint effort between the **Department of Peace Operations** and the **Department of Operational Support**.
 - It deploys troops and police from around the world, integrating them with civilian peacekeepers to address a range of mandates set by the **UN Security Council (UNSC)** and the **General Assembly**.
 - It helps countries navigate the difficult path from conflict to peace.
- **Financial Contribution:** The **financial resources of UN Peacekeeping operations** are the collective responsibility of UN Member States.
- **Legal Obligation:** According to the UN Charter, every **Member State is legally obligated** to pay their respective share for peacekeeping.
- **India's Contribution:**
 - India is a major contributing nation to UN peacekeeping activities.
Currently, there are 5506 troops and police from India who have been deployed to nine different UN peacekeeping missions, the second highest amongst troop-contributing countries.
 - More than 200,000 Indians have served in 49 of the 71 UN peacekeeping missions established around the world since 1948.
 - India has a long tradition of sending **women on UN peacekeeping missions**.
In 2007, India became the first country to deploy an all-women contingent to a UN peacekeeping mission.

Source: TH