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NASA Astronaut Anil Menon Undertakes Fourth Spacewalk on ISS

NASA astronaut Anil Menon undertook his fourth career spacewalk alongside Canadian astronaut Joshua Kutryk to install a new solar array on the International Space Station (ISS).

Anil Menon is an Indian-origin NASA astronaut with a professional background in medicine, engineering, and aviation, known for conducting maintenance missions on the International Space Station.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- NASA astronaut Anil Menon undertook his fourth career spacewalk on Thursday, October 29, 2026.
- Canadian Space Agency astronaut Joshua Kutryk accompanied Anil Menon on this spacewalk mission.
- The mission marked the 100th US spacewalk conducted at the International Space Station (ISS).
- The primary objective of the mission was to install a new roll-out solar array on the orbital laboratory.
- With four spacewalks, Anil Menon ranks second among Indian-origin astronauts, behind veteran NASA astronaut Sunita Williams.
- Sunita Williams holds the record among Indian-origin astronauts with nine spacewalks totalling 62 hours and six minutes.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

The **International Space Station** is a modular space station in low Earth orbit jointly operated by five space agencies including **NASA**.

Rakesh Sharma was the first Indian citizen to travel into space, flying aboard the Soviet spacecraft Soyuz T-11 in **April 1984**.

Kalpana Chawla was the first woman of Indian origin to go to space, participating in the Space Shuttle Columbia mission STS-87 in **1997**.

Sunita Williams has set multiple space endurance records during her long-duration missions aboard the International Space Station.

ISRO's **Gaganyaan** mission aims to demonstrate human spaceflight capability by launching a crew into an orbit of 400 km.

The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (**IN-SPACe**) acts as a single-window agency for private space activities in India.

REVISION FLASHCARD

NASA astronaut Anil Menon completed his fourth career spacewalk on October 29, 2026, ranking second among Indian-origin astronauts behind Sunita Williams.

Syllabus Relevance: Important for current affairs relating to space missions, international scientific achievements of Indian-origin persons, and general science updates.

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