

**1. Women officers in helicopter stream of Indian Navy**

- Two women officers: Sub Lieutenant (SLt) Kumudini Tyagi and (SLt) Riti Singh have been selected to join as “Observers” (Airborne Tacticians) in the helicopter stream. They would in effect, be the first set of women airborne combatants who would be operating from warships at a ceremony held on 21 Sep 20 at INS Garuda, Kochi.

**2. Lok Sabha passes National Forensic Science University Bill 2020**

- **Note:** The Bill establishes National Forensic Science University as an institute of national importance. The proposed university would facilitate and promote studies and research and help achieve excellence in the field of forensic science in conjunction with applied behavioural science studies, law, criminology and other allied areas.

**3. Direct cargo ferry service between India & Maldives jointly e- launched**

- During its maiden voyage, a vessel with a capacity of 200 TEU and 3000 MT of break bulk cargo will sail from Tuticorin to Kochi, from where it will proceed to Kulhudhuffushi port in North Maldives and then to Male port.
- **Note:** It is a merchant vessel used to carry passengers, and sometimes cargo and vehicles, across a body of water.

**4. Parliament passes Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Act, 2020**

- **Note:** The bill ensures that foreign funds are not utilized to tamper the social fabric or disturb the internal security in the country. The legislation will bring transparency in the transaction of foreign contributions and their usage. The Bill seeks to amend the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 which regulates the acceptance and utilization of foreign contribution by individuals, associations, NGOs and companies in the country.

**5. World Largest Telescope to have IT controls built in India**

- The square kilometer array also called the SKA, an international initiative building the world's largest radio telescope is to have control systems designed and built by Tata Consultancy Services, an IT company based in India. Several other multiple leading Indian scientific Institutions are also contributing to the project under the leadership of TCS.
- **Note: Square Kilometre Array (SKA)** is a next-generation radio telescope that will ultimately have a square kilometer of collecting area, making it the most sensitive radio telescope in the world. The project to design and build the SKA is an international collaboration, involving 15 countries. Site selection was decided in 2012; with one site in Australia, another in South Africa and headquarters in the United Kingdom.

**6. Eight Indian beaches for the globally recognized Blue Flag eco-label for the first time**

- The Indian beaches, selected are:
- **1. Golden Beach** (Puri), Odisha
- **2. Radhanagar Beach**, Andaman Island
- **3. Rushikonda**, Andhra Pradesh
- **4. Kappad**, Kerala
- **5. Kasarkod**, Karnataka



- **6. Padubidri, Karnataka**
  - **7. Ghogla, Diu**
  - **8. Shivrajpur, Gujarat**
  - **Note:** The **Blue Flag** is awarded to beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating tourism operators. For qualifying for the Blue Flag, a series of stringent environmental, educational, safety, and accessibility criteria must be met and maintained. There are nearly thirty three criteria that must be met to qualify for a Blue Flag certification, such as the water meets certain quality standards, having waste disposal facilities, being disabled-friendly, have first aid equipment etc.
- 7. Govt increases MSP of six Rabi Crops including Wheat, Chana, Masoor, Mustard, Jowar, Safflower**
- The MSP of wheat has been increased by Rs. 50 and now stands at Rs. 1,975 per quintal whereas the MSP for Masoor has been hiked by Rs. 300. Mustard's MSP has been raised by Rs. 225 while the same for Chana has been hiked by Rs. 225. Increase in Jowar's MSP is by Rs. 75 while the same for Safflower has been hiked by Rs. 112 per quintal.
  - **Note:** The **(MSP) minimum support price** is an agricultural product price set by the government of India to purchase directly from the farmer.
- 8. PM Modi to inaugurate VAIBHAV Summit on 2nd October 2020**
- **Note:** The **VAIBHAV Summit** is a joint initiative of all S&T and Academic Organisations of India (working in Research, Academic and Scientific fields) to enable deliberations on thought processes, practices and R&D culture with a problem-solving approach for well-defined objectives.
  - Summit aims to give an impetus to the objectives of Atal Innovation Mission by leveraging the collaborative experience and deep expertise of International and Indian subject experts.
  - Vaibhav summit seeks active support and ideation from Indian Diaspora for developing skills of Indian aspirants in alignment with the New Educational Policy.
- 9. PM Modi launches optical fibre for internet services in Bihar**
- It aims to connect all 45,945 villages in the eastern state through internet and provide digital services such as e-education, e-agriculture, tele-medicine and tele-law.
  - **Note: Optical fiber** is the medium and the technology associated with the transmission of information as light pulses along a glass or plastic strand or fiber.
- 10. Union Minister Jitendra Singh unveils the Logo and song for festival “Destination North East-2020**
- “Destination North East 2020” is also an effort to make everyone explore the Local Destinations rather than going anywhere abroad. The Minister said that people should take a pledge to Visit Local, Travel Local and Explore Local thus giving a boost to the local Tourism and Hospitality industry.
- 11. World Rose Day: A Day to Bring Happiness in the Lives of Cancer Patients**
- World Rose Day is observed On September 22 in the memory of 12-year-old Melinda Rose from Canada who was diagnosed with Askin's Tumour, a rare form of blood cancer.

