October 20th

INTERNATIONAL
1) India - 4th largest spender in Tourism
- As per the report titled "How India Travels" by Booking. com and McKinsey & Company, India is set to become the fourth-largest global spender in the travel sector by 2030, with total expenditures expected to significantly increase to $410 billion.

NATIONAL
1) Drones to transport Medicines
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) conducted a feasibility assessment in Himachal Pradesh's Lahaul and Spiti districts to transform healthcare delivery.
- The effort aims to harness the power of drones for transporting critical medical supplies, including medications, diagnostic samples, and sputum, to remote and challenging terrains.

2) 'Operation Chakra-2'
- 'Operation Chakra-2' was launched by Central Bureau of Investigation to crackdown on cyber criminals, conducting searches in 76 locations across the country.
- It was initiated after the registration of five separate cases of cyber-enabled financial fraud, including a ₹100-crore crypto scam.

3) "Virupaaksha" radar
- The Indian Air Force is undertaking a comprehensive upgrade program for its Su-30 MKI combat aircraft fleet.

- The centerpiece of this upgrade is the integration of an indigenous advanced radar system known as "Virupaaksha", takes its name from a deity revered by Hindus worldwide, Lord Mahadev.

4) SC asks States to appoint officers under POSH Act

- Recently, the Supreme Court ordered the Principal Secretaries of the Women and Child Ministries in the States to ensure appointment of a district officer.
- The Sexual Harassment of Women At Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, or POSH Act, of 2013 mandates the States to appoint an officers in every district.

STATE NEWS

1) Shraddhanjali flyover

- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated the Shraddhanjali flyover in Guwahati. It was completed in just 60 days. Length: 2.28-kilometer-long.
- The name "Shraddhanjali" was chosen for the flyover in honor of Shraddhanjali Kanan, a park situated inside the state zoo cum-botanical garden.

2) "Doubt Clearance Bot"

- The government of Andhra Pradesh inaugurated the smart learning in state-run schools by deploying the 'Doubt Clearance Bot,' an AI-powered app developed by ConveGenius AI Solutions.
- It is designed to assist students outside of regular school hours by addressing their questions and concerns in subjects like physics, chemistry, biology, mathematics, English, and TOEFL preparation.

3) "Heartland Tripura"

- A project named "Heartland Tripura" was launched to bolster the employability and skillsets of Tripura's youth.

- The initiative is a collaborative effort involving Deloitte India and the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) in Agartala.
- "Heartland Tripura" aims to create fresh avenues for career advancement and personal development for undergraduate students, encompassing both engineering and non-engineering disciplines.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) 2023 Sakharov Prize - announced by the European Parliament President, Roberta Metsola

- Jina Mahsa Amini and the Iranian "Woman, Life, Freedom" movement were awarded the 2023 Sakharov Prize.
- Mahsa Amini, a young woman of only 22, passed away on September 16, 2022, while in the custody of Iran's religious police. Her death galvanized global attention and support for the "Woman, Life, Freedom" movement. Her alleged offense was a breach of the Islamic republic's strict dress code for women.

2) UN award for ICAI

- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India received a prestigious UN award for its top-ranked sustainability initiatives, including the Sustainability Reporting Standards Board.
- The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development honored ICAI during the 8th World Investment Forum for its contributions to sustainability reporting.
- Note: UNCTAD - 8th World Investment Forum in Abu Dhabi.

3) Mohammed Shami

- Puma has announced the inclusion of Mohammed Shami, a prominent Indian fast bowler, as its brand ambassador.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) World Osteoporosis Day

- Every year, World Osteoporosis Day is observed on October 20th to shed light on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of osteoporosis.
- Theme of 2023: "Step Up for Bone Health – Build Better Bones".

2) World Statistics Day

- Every year, World Statistics Day is observed on October 20th to raising awareness about the pivotal role that advanced, reliable, and high-quality statistics play in the development of nations worldwide.
- National Statistics Day is celebrated on June 29 to recognize the contributions of PC Mahanalobis.
- In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly established World Statistics Day.

3) International Chef's Day

- Every year, International Chefs Day is observed on October 20th to pay tribute to the art and science of cooking.
- Theme of 2023: "Growing A Healthy Future".

GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENT

1) "Cyclone Tej"

- The Indian Meteorological Department has issued a cautionary notice regarding a potential cyclonic storm forming in the Arabian Sea.
- The cyclone has the potential to impact Mumbai, Pune, and other regions of Maharashtra and the Konkan area.
- The name of the cyclone was given by India.