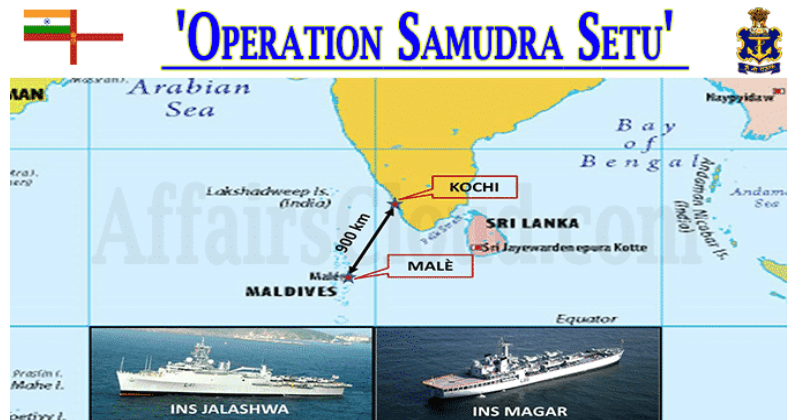


## Indian Navy's 'Samudra Setu' to bring stranded Indian citizens from Maldives; Air India will evacuate from other 12 nations



i. Indian Navy has sent two India Naval Ships (INS) viz. **Jalashwa** and **Magar** on May 5, 2020 to Maldives capital Male to commence the first phase of the evacuation operations of Indians stranded abroad from May 8, 2020.

ii. For a period of 1 week, Air India (AI) is set to operate 64 flights from May 7 to May 13 to bring back around 15,000 Indian nationals stranded in 12 countries including Middle East, UK, US, Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines and Bangladesh.

### INS Jalashwa (L41):

Procured in 2005 from United States (US), it was commissioned in Indian Navy in 2007. Formerly known as USS Trenton, is an amphibious landing dock capable of carrying over 1,000 people.

### INS Magar (L20):

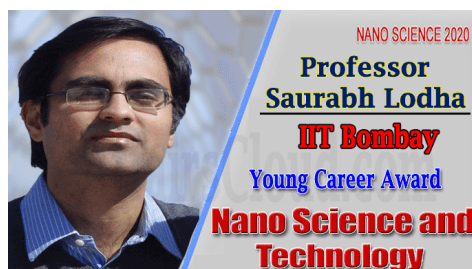
Commissioned in 1987, INS Magar is the lead ship of Magar-class amphibious warfare vessels of the Indian Navy. She was built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata, West Bengal

### About Maldives:

**Currency**– Maldivian rufiyaa

**President**– Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

## IIT-Bombay Professor Saurabh Lodha receives Young Career Award 2020 in Nano Science and Technology



Professor Saurabh Lodha of Electrical Engineering of IIT Bombay received Young Career Award 2020 in Nano Science and Technology given by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), GoI to recognize his contribution for the development of two

dimensional Van der Waals material based logic transistor technologies beyond silicon and nanoelectronic.

### IIT Alumni Council Launches India's first COVID-19 test bus in Mumbai



The Indian Institute of Technology(IIT) Alumni Council launched a “COVID-19 test bus” in Mumbai, Maharashtra and inaugurated by Chief Minister UddhavThackery, Health Minister Rajesh Tope and Praveen Pardeshi. **Said to be the first vehicle of its kind in the world,** the

bus has the facility of onboard genetic testing, Artificial Intelligence (AI) based teleradiology and contactless sample collection. It is capable of conducting 10 to 15 tests per hour. The special COVID-19 test bus is based on indigenous **Kodoy Technology Stack**, which involves:

- i.e-vehicles for sample selection and telemedicine,
- ii.algorithm-based pooled genetic testing and
- iii.indigenous megalabs capable of upto 5 million tests per month per lab.

### Vladimir Putin awards commemorative World War II medal to North Korean leader Kim Jong-un



The Russian embassy in Pyongyang, North Korea announced that the Russian President **Vladimir Putin** has awarded North Korean Leader Kim Jong-un a commemorative war medal marking the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany.

The medal has been conferred upon Kim Jong Un for his role in preserving the memory of Soviet soldiers who died on North Korean territory, fighting for its liberation.



## Economic Affairs Secretary Tarun Bajaj appointed as Director on RBI Central Board



**Tarun Bajaj**

**Appointed  
(Director)**



Central Board

The government appointed Economic Affairs Secretary **Tarun Bajaj**, a 1988 batch Indian Administration Service(IAS) officer, as a director on the **central board** of the Reserve Bank of India(RBI). He replaces Atanu Chakraborty, who retired on April 30.

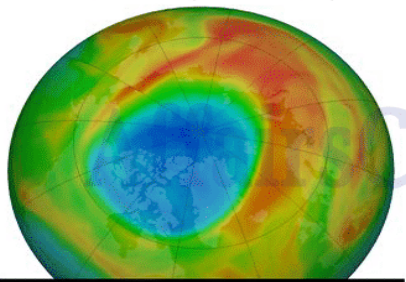
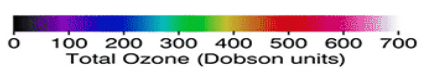
## Joseph J. Landsberg, Richard H. Waring and Nicholas C. Coops Jointly Wins 2020 Marcus Wallenberg Prize



Three researchers Joseph J Landsberg (Australia), Richard H Waring (USA) and Nicholas C Coops (Canada), has won the 2020 Marcus Wallenberg Prize, presented annually for contribution **in the field of forestry and forest industries**.

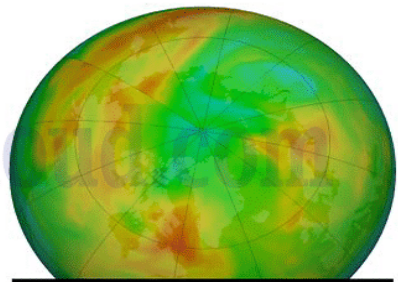
The trio have been awarded for their Physiological Principles Predicting Growth (3PG) model, developed to predict forest growth under changing environmental conditions. The purpose of the **Marcus Wallenberg Prize** is to **recognize, encourage and stimulate path-breaking scientific achievements** which contribute significantly to broadening knowledge and to technical development within the fields of importance to forestry and forest industries.

## North Pole's largest-ever ozone hole, 620,000 square miles, finally closes



**March 26, 2020**

### largest-Ever Ozone Hole Finally Closes



**April 26, 2020**

In accordance with the United Nations (UN) World Meteorological Organization (WMO), “record-level” ozone hole over the Arctic, which was in news in March 2020, has now closed. Scientists have been monitoring the hole at the Copernicus



Atmospheric Monitoring Service (CAMS), a European Union (EU) earth observation program.

- This ozone hole became the largest one ever recorded in the Arctic region spanning an area of over **620,000 square miles** (or 997793.28 kms).
- The last time such a strong chemical ozone depletion was observed in the Arctic occurred nearly a decade ago, in 2011.

**About World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**

**Headquarters**– Geneva, Switzerland

**Secretary-General**– Petteri Taalas