

**DESCRIPTIVE SESSION****❖ International Red Panda Day**

- The International Red Panda Day (IRPD) is celebrated on the third Saturday of September every year to raise public awareness and support for red panda conservation issues.
- In 2022, the IRPD is being observed on 17 September. The day was launched by the Red Panda Network in 2010. The first international red Panda day was celebrated on 18th September 2010.
- There are two distinct species of red pandas *Ailurus fulgens* is commonly known as Himalayan Red Panda and *Ailurus fulgens styani* commonly known as Chinese Red Panda, these are mostly found in the Eastern Himalayan region and southwestern China. Genetically the red pandas belong to the order of Carnivora, but mostly eat bamboo shoots, mushrooms etc and also eat birds, eggs, and insects. The average lifespan of these red pandas is 23 years and the female pandas stop breeding after the age of 12.

**❖ World Bamboo Day**

- World Bamboo Day is observed every year on 18 September to raise awareness of the benefits of bamboo and to promote its use in everyday products. Bamboos are used for various purposes mainly in East and Southeast Asia. Bamboo is a tall, tree-like grass of the family Poaceae. It comprises more than 115 genera and 1,400 species.
- This year the theme of World Bamboo Day 2022 is- "Bamboo for Green Life and Sustainable Development".
- WBD was officially declared by the World Bamboo Organization on September 18 at the 8th World Bamboo Congress held in Bangkok in 2009.

### ❖ **‘Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer’s Ideas Performer’s Implementation’.**

- Former President Ram Nath Kovind launched a book titled ‘Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer’s Ideas Performer’s Implementation’.
- The book, compiled by Bluekraft Digital Foundation, explores the life and works of Dr BR Ambedkar while drawing a parallel with the initiatives and reforms taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to implement the ideals of the social reformer.
- Its foreword is written by composer and Rajya Sabha member Ilaiyaraaja.
- The book not only presents Dr. Ambedkar’s vision of India, but also takes into account the many achievements of the Narendra Modi’s government.

### ❖ **UNICEF appoints climate activist Vanessa Nakate as Goodwill Ambassador**

- 25-year-old Ugandan climate activist Vanessa Nakate has been appointed as the newest UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador.
- Inspired by Sweden's Greta Thunberg, Nakate began her climate action in 2019 and has since founded the Rise Up Movement and addressed global climate summits.
- In 2020 she came to further global prominence when she was cropped out of a news photo she appeared in alongside Thunberg and other white climate activists.
- She has addressed world leaders at the COP25 and COP26 climate summits and appeared on the cover of TIME magazine.

### ❖ **Sunil Barthwal named as new Commerce Secretary**

- Sunil Barthwal, a Bihar cadre IAS officer of 1989 batch, has been designated the new commerce secretary, replacing BVR Subrahmanyam. Arti Ahuja, who is currently chemicals secretary will replace Barthwal in the labour ministry

### ❖ **PM Modi releases 8 cheetahs at Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh**

- After a long gap of 70 years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given a historic gift to Madhya Pradesh and the country today.

- The Prime Minister has released eight cheetahs (three males and five females) brought from Namibia in the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh. The male cheetahs are named Freddie, Elton and Oban, while the female cheetahs are named Siyaya, Aasha, Tbilisi, Sasha and Savannah. Aasha was named by PM Modi.
- It is the world's first inter-continental large wild carnivore translation project.
- It is the world's first transcontinental project to restore large wild animals.
- The introduction of wild cheetahs from Namibia is part of PM Modi's efforts to revive and diversify India's wildlife and its habitat.
- Cheetahs were declared extinct from India in 1952 and those that have been introduced are from Namibia and have been brought under a memorandum of understanding signed earlier this year.
- The last cheetah died in 1948 in the Sal forests of Koriya district of Chhattisgarh.

#### ❖ **Joao Lourenco Re-elected as President of Angola**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated H.E. Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco on being re-elected as the President of Angola and emphasized on working together to strengthen the bilateral relations between India and Angola.

#### ❖ **Federal Bank ranked 63rd in Best Workplaces in Asia 2022**

- Federal Bank was ranked 63rd on the Best Workplaces in Asia 2022 and becomes the only bank in India to be listed by 'Great Place to Work', the global authority on workplace culture.
- The list is based on over one million survey responses across Asia and West Asia, representing the experience of over 4.7 million employees in the region.
- Federal Bank Limited is an Indian private sector bank headquartered in Aluva, Kochi.
- CEO: Shyam Srinivasan; Founder: K.P Hormis; Founded in : 23 April 1931, Nedumpuram.

## ❖ EAST ASIA SUMMIT (EAS)

- Minister of Commerce and Industry, Anupriya Patel, attended East Asia Summit Economic Ministers' Meeting in Siem Reap City of Cambodia.
- The meeting saw representation from all 10 ASEAN countries as well as eight partner countries including Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Russia and the US.
- The East Asia Summit (EAS) is the Indo-Pacific's premier forum for strategic dialogue.
- The EAS has 18 members - the ten ASEAN countries (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) along with Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States. ASEAN leads the forum, and the chair position rotates between ASEAN Member States annually.
- The EAS calendar culminates in the annual Leaders' Summit, which is usually held alongside ASEAN Leaders' meetings in the fourth quarter of every year.
- In addition to the Leaders' Summit, meetings of EAS Foreign Ministers and Economic Ministers are held annually.

## ❖ CSB Bank appoints Pralay Mandal as MD & CEO

- CSB Bank Limited announced the appointment of Pralay Mondal as the managing director and chief executive officer of the bank for a period of three years starting 15 September..
- Prior to joining CSB Bank, Mondal was Executive Director and Head, Retail Banking at Axis Bank.

## ❖ IndusInd Bank re-appoints Sumant Kathpalia as MD & CEO

- IndusInd Bank has approved the re-appointment of Sumant Kathpalia as managing director and chief executive officer for three years with effect from March 24, 2023, the private lender informed exchanges.
- Kathpalia was appointed as MD & CEO of IndusInd Bank in March 2020.

## ❖ **Border Security Force (BSF) inducts women's camel riding squad for the first time**

- The female camel riding squad participated for the first time in the BSF Raising Day Parade on 1st December. This Squad is the first of its kind in the world.
- Border Security Force (BSF) will soon deploy its first female camel riding squad along the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- The BSF is the only force in the country to have the Camel Contingents and the Camel Mounted Band.
- BSF, traditionally known as the 'first line of defence', the Camel Contingents are used to keep a vigil in the vast expanse of the Thar Desert.
- It is one of the 7 Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) in India. It was set upon 1 December 1965.
- It is the only CAPF which has an Air Wing, Water wing and Artillery wing.
- It comes under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
- It is also known as the 'first line of defence' in India.
- Director General of BSF: Pankaj Kumar Singh