

## 26 MARCH CURRENT AFFAIRS

### 1. First wildlife bond issued by World Bank to save Africa's black rhino



- The **World Bank (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, IBRD)** has issued the **Wildlife Conservation Bond (WCB)** to support of South Africa's efforts to conserve endangered species of **Black Rhino**. Wildlife Conservation Bond (WCB) is also known as "Rhino Bond". It is a five-year **\$150 million Sustainable Development Bond**. It includes a potential performance payment from the Global Environment Facility (GEF).
- The bond will contribute to protecting and increasing black rhino populations in two protected areas in South Africa namely the Addo Elephant National Park (AENP) and the Great Fish River Nature Reserve (GFRNR).
- **World Bank Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States**
- **World Bank Formation: July 1944**
- **World Bank President: David Malpass**

## 2. Yogi Adityanath take Oath as UP Chief Minister for 2nd Term



- **Yogi Adityanath** takes oath as chief minister of **Uttar Pradesh** for his **second term** in office. Governor Anandiben Patel administered the oath of office and secrecy to Adityanath at **Lucknow's Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Stadium** in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh and other central ministers.
- **Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak** also took oath as the Deputy Chief Ministers in the new government. The BJP-led NDA secured 274 seats out of 403, becoming the first party in over three decades to form a government for a second consecutive time in the state.

### 3. Hisashi Takeuchi named as MD and CEO of Maruti Suzuki



- **Hisashi Takeuchi (from Japan)** has been appointed as the **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Maruti Suzuki** for a period of three years with effect from April 1, 2022.
- Takeuchi will succeed Kenichi Ayukawa as the MD and CEO. Ayukawa will now be designated as Executive Vice-Chairman for a period of six months with effect from 1st April, 2022 till 30th September 2022. Ayukawa joined as MD, MSIL in 2013.
- Takeuchi, is a graduate from the Faculty of Economics, Yokohama National University, Japan. He joined Suzuki Motor Corporation (SMC) in 1986 and started his professional journey with Overseas Marketing Department, Europe Group of SMC.
- Prior to his joining as Joint Managing Director (Commercial) in MSIL in April last year, he was working as Managing Officer, Executive General Manager- Asia Automobile Marketing/ India Automobile Department at SMC.
- **Maruti Suzuki Founded: 1982, Gurugram**

- **Maruti Suzuki Headquarters: New Delhi**

#### **4. Pralay Mondal named as interim MD and CEO of CSB Bank**



- The **Reserve Bank of India** has approved the appointment of **Pralay Mondal** as the interim **Managing Director and CEO of CSB Bank**. Presently he is the Managing Director at CSB Bank.
- The post of MD and CEO at CSB Bank was lying vacant after its full-time MD and CEO, C V R Rajendran announces early retirement on health grounds (w.e.f March 31, 2022).
- RBI has approved the appointment of Pralay for three months from April 1, or till the appointment of a regular Managing Director and CEO of CSB Bank, whichever is earlier.

## 5. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw named for Fellow of Royal Society of Edinburgh



- **Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw**, the executive chairperson of Biocon and Biocon Biologics, has been elected as a fellow of the **Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE)** in **Scotland**.
- She will be joining RSE's current fellowship of around 1,700 fellows who are recognised as being some of the greatest researchers and practitioners working in or with Scotland.
- RSE is one of the world's oldest and most respected academic societies. Fellows are elected to join the RSE from across the fields of science, arts, education, business and public life in recognition of their impact in improving the world around them. The Biocon chief is among the 80 luminaries to be appointed to the RSE's Fellowship this year.

## 6. Ahmedabad IIM sets up retail tech consortium



- The **Indian Institute of Management (IIM)** in Ahmedabad's **Centre for Digital Transformation** recently launched a retail tech consortium, with intentions to partner with a number of retail and technology companies in India. The **consortium**, according to the centre, will strive to improve collaboration among **retail technology** firms in the country.
- **Flipkart** has joined the consortium as a main partner for the first year, bringing its industry **knowledge**, **experience**, and **consumer insights** into the internet ecosystem to the table.
- This collaboration would bring neutral customer perspectives on **retail digitalization** to the fore, allowing merchants to better understand their customers.



## 7. PFRDA and Irdai granted licence to FinMapp to sell NPS, insurance



- **FinMapp**, a financial services firm, announced that it has been granted a licence under the **National Pension Scheme** by the **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)**. It has also obtained a registration certificate as a corporate agent from the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai)**.
- On its app, the organisation offers a variety of financial goods, from mutual funds to bank accounts. “A one-stop marketplace for all financial products made digitally available by prominent **banks, NBFCs, insurance companies, mutual funds institutions, and capital markets**,” according to the company.”

## 8. Indian Army with Maharashtra Police conducted “Suraksha Kavach 2” Exercise



- Indian Army’s “**Agnibaaz Division**” organized a joint exercise “**Suraksha Kavach 2**” with **Maharashtra Police** at **Lullanagar, Pune**. The exercise aimed to counter any terrorist actions in Pune.
- The exercise involved the participation of the **Counter-Terrorism Task Force (CTTF)** of the Indian Army, Anti-Terrorism Squad of Maharashtra Police along with Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs), Dog Squads, and Bomb Disposal Teams of both agencies. The exercise aimed to harmonize the drills and procedures undertaken by Army and Police to counter-terrorism.



## 9. Malaysia to host 4 nations for Bersama Shield 2022 military exercise



- **Malaysia** will host armed forces from 4 nations namely, **Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and the United Kingdom** in the annual **Bersama Shield 2022** training exercise.
- The exercise, referred to as BS22, is conducted within the framework of the **Five Power Defense Arrangements (FPDA)** – a series of bilateral and multilateral defence agreements established in 1971. Bersama means together in Malay.
- The exercise will involve sea and air drills, mostly in international waters but also in part of Malaysia's exclusive economic zone in the South China Sea.
- The exercise, referred to as BS22, is conducted within the framework of the Five Power Defense Arrangements (FPDA). The FPDA is the oldest defense arrangement in the region and includes counter-piracy operations as well as disaster relief and humanitarian assistance.

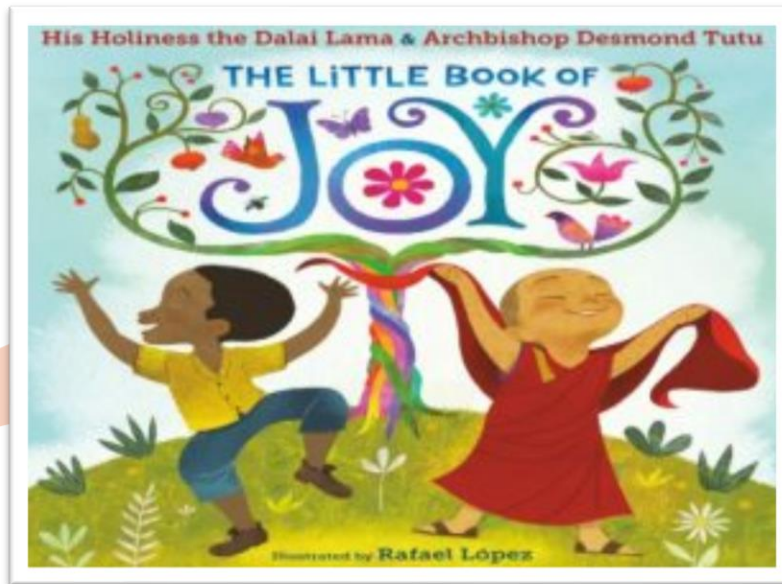
- **Malaysia Capital: Kuala Lumpur**
- **Malaysia Currency: Malaysian ringgit**
- **Malaysia Prime Minister: Ismail Sabri Yaakob**

## 10. Mario Marcel wins the Governor of the year award 2022



- **Mario Marcel**, the Governor of the **Central Bank of Chile**, has won the **Governor of the year award** at the **Central Banking Awards 2022**. Banco Central de Chile is the name of the central bank of Chile.
- When Mario Marcel was named governor of the Central Bank of Chile (BCCCh) in October 2016, he took over the leadership of an institution that had secured a reputation as one of the most independent and well-run central banks in Latin America.

## 11. A Children's Book 'The Little Book of Joy' authored by Dalai Lama & Desmond Tutu



- A picture book edition co-authored by Nobel Peace Prize winners **14th Dalai Lama (Tenzin Gyatso) & Archbishop Desmond Tutu**, titled **“The Little Book of Joy”** will be released in September 2022.
- The illustrations provided by artist Rafael López and Rachel Neumann & Douglas Abrams collaborated on the text. This book focuses on the meaning of true happiness, which is not in the materialistic world but lies in the nature of human beings.
- In 2016, they also co-authored the book titled **“The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World”**, which became a bestseller & sold more than 1 million copies and translated into more than 40 languages.

## 12. International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members 2022



- The United Nations observes the **International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members** on **25 March** every year. This is a day to mobilize action, demand justice and strengthen our resolve to protect UN staff and peacekeepers, as well as our colleagues in the non-governmental community and the press.
- The International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members is marked each year on the anniversary of the abduction of Alec Collett, a former journalist who was working for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) when he was abducted by armed gunman in **1985**. His body was finally found in **Lebanon's Bekaa Valley in 2009**.

### 13. International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade 2022



- **International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade** is marked on **25 March** every year to raise awareness about the dangers of racism and prejudice.
- The Day is observed with ceremonies and activities at United Nations Headquarters in New York and at United Nations offices around the world.
- 2022 Theme: **“Stories of Courage: Resistance to Slavery and Unity against Racism”**.
- International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade is a United Nations international observance designated in 2007 to be marked on 25 March every year. It was first observed in 2008 with the theme “Breaking the Silence, Lest We Forget”.

## 14. Former Chief Justice of India R C Lahoti passes away



- Former Chief Justice of India **Ramesh Chandra Lahoti** passed away at the age of 81 years. Justice Lahoti was appointed as the **35th chief justice of India** on June 1, 2004. He retired on November 1, 2005.
- After serving in the post for a year, Justice Lahoti resigned in May 1978 and returned to the Bar to practice mainly in the High Court.
- He was appointed an additional judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court on May 3, 1988, and made a permanent judge on August 4 the next year.
- He was transferred to Delhi High Court on February 7, 1994, and later appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court on December 9, 1998.



## 15. Creator of the GIF format, Stephen Wilhite passes away



- **Stephen Wilhite**, the creator of the **Graphics Interchange Format (GIF) format** passed away at the age of 74 years due to Covid-19 related issues. Wilhite devised the Graphics Interchange Format, or GIF, in 1987 while working at CompuServe.
- The Oxford American Dictionary named GIF the word of the year in 2012. He was honoured with a Webby Lifetime Achievement award in 2013.