

# NATIONAL

### 1) "Niveshak Sarathi"

- The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) and Common Service Centre have jointly launched "Niveshak Sarathi".
- It means "Investor Guide" or "Investor Mentor"
- It aims to enhance financial literacy and awareness about fraudulent schemes in the region.

# 2) Interpol Global Academy Network

- Recently, the Central Bureau of Investigation academy has joined the Interpol Global Academy Network as its 10th member.
- Interpol Global Academy Network is an initiative launched by Interpol in 2019 to enhance global law enforcement training.
- The CBI Academy is the training institution of India's premier investigative agency, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Established in 1996, the academy is in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.

# 3) India aims to enhance Natural Gas share to 15%

• As per the Information provided by Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural gas, India aims to enhance its current 6% share of natural gas within its energy mix to a robust 15% by the year 2030.



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# **BUSINESS AND ECONOMY**

### 1) Conversational Payments

- The Reserve Bank of India has launched "conversational payments" (audio interaction with AI bots) on UPI, enabling users to interact with an AI-powered system to initiate and complete transactions safely.
- It aims to enhance ease of use and expand UPI's reach.
- The RBI proposes enabling offline transactions using Near Field Communication (NFC) technology.
- The transaction limit for small-value offline digital payments will be increased to ₹ 500.

# **GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT**

#### 1) Pest Threats

- In South India, Tea planters are facing an urgent issue as the tea mosquito bug, a serious pest of fruits and tea plantations.
- It is spreading to high-elevation areas where it was previously uncommon.
- The bug is causing significant damage to tea production in both low and highelevation plantations across northern and southern states.

### 2) Mangroves Benefits

• In India, Mangroves make up only about 0.15% of India's land area but provide numerous benefits to coastal communities.





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- Mangroves act as natural barriers against erosion, storms, and cyclones. They reduce wave impact, protecting coastal areas from damage. Mangroves stabilize sedimentation and help mitigate coastal flooding.
- Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, hosts a diverse range of species, supporting biodiversity.
- Mangroves absorb and store carbon dioxide.

# **BOOKS AND AUTHORS**

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### 1) "Monsoon: A Poem of Love and Longing"

- Recently, Abhay Kumar launched his new book titled "Monsoon: A Poem of Love and Longing", a book length poem running across 150 fourline stanzas, in Delhi.
- The book is a poem that follows the monsoon which originates from Madagascar and travels to the Srinagar in the Himalayas and back to Madagascar.

# AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

### 1) Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors award

- Subhash Runwal has been recognized with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the first-ever RICS South Asia Awards.
- RICS (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) is a global industry body representing professionals across the country.



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# IMPORTANT DAYS

# 1) International Youth Day

• Every year on 12th August, International Youth Day is celebrated as a dedicated day of awareness and action, recognized by the United Nations (UN), to address pertinent issues affecting the world's youth population.

# 2) World Elephant Day

- Every year on 12th August, World Elephant Day is observed to raise awareness about the pressing challenges faced by elephants and advocating for their protection and conservation.
- World Elephant Day plays a crucial role in uniting groups and individuals worldwide to address the threats elephants encounter.

### **OBITUARY**

### 1) Bikash Sinha

- Nuclear physicist Bikash Sinha has passed away at the age of 78. He was a recipient of Padma Shri in 2001 and Padma Bhusan in 2010.
- Sinha specialized in nuclear physics, high energy physics, Quark Gluon Plasma and early universe cosmology. He led the Indian team for the first time to participate in the experiments at the European Organization for Nuclear Research in Geneva.



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