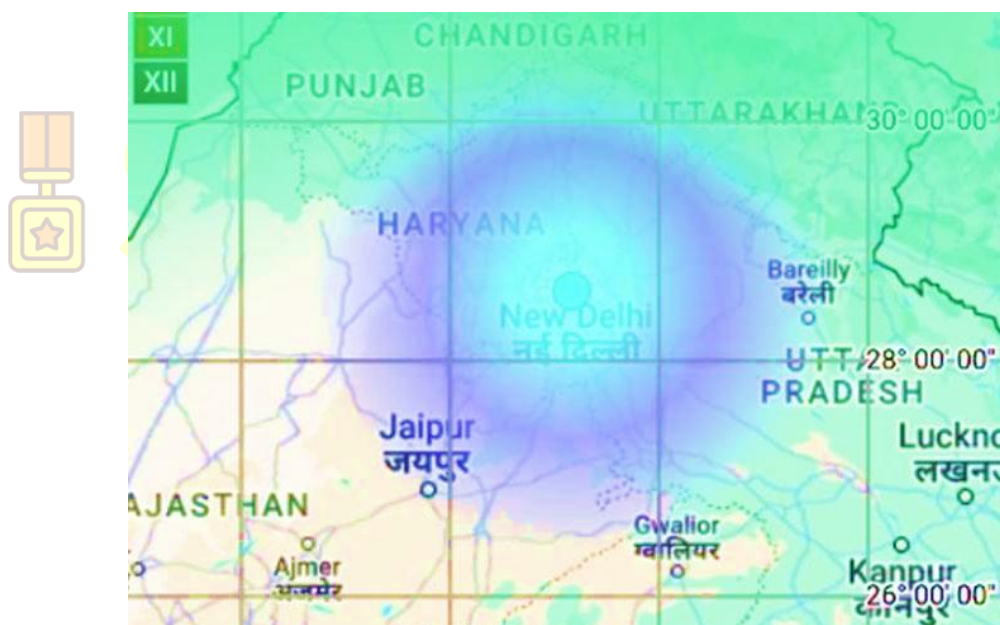


# Daily Current Affairs

## 17 February 2025

### Earthquake Of Magnitude 4 Hit Delhi

- An earthquake of **magnitude 4.0** hit **New Delhi** and several parts of northern India early this morning. According to the **National Centre of Seismology (NCS)**, the **origin time was 05:36 HRS**, and the **epicentre** was located at a depth of 5 kilometres, near Delhi. The NCS **informed that the quake, which struck Delhi**, Noida, Indirapuram, and other NCR regions, was at a **latitude of 28.59 North and a longitude of 77.16 East**. No immediate damage to properties or loss of life has been reported.



### Muscat Conference

- **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar** held meetings with his counterparts from Mauritius, Maldives, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka on the sidelines of the Indian Ocean Conference in Oman's capital Muscat.
- During his meeting with his **Mauritian counterpart Dhananjay Ritish Ramful**, Dr. Jaishankar emphasised upon the commitment to further strengthen "special bonds of friendship" between the two nations. It was Dr. Jaishankar's first meeting with Ramful.



- The External Affairs Minister, during his meeting with his **Maldivian counterpart Abdulla Khaleel**, discussed many facets of India-Maldives cooperation. With his **Sri Lankan counterpart Vijitha Herath**, Dr. Jaishankar discussed wide-ranging cooperation between the two nations. He also expressed India's commitment to the **economic recovery and progress of Sri Lanka**.
- During his visit to Oman, Jaishankar also met his counterparts from Oman, Brunei and Iran on the sidelines of the Indian Ocean Conference. He also held a meeting with Bangladesh Foreign **Affairs Advisor Md. Touhid Hossain**. The 8th Indian Ocean Conference is being organised by the **India Foundation in association** with Oman's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Muscat on February 16-17, 2025.



## Bharat Tex 2025

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that government aims to increase the **textiles exports to nine lakh crore rupees by 2030** from the present **three lakh crore rupees**.
- Addressing the gathering at **Bharat Tex 2025 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi**, Mr Modi said, country's textiles and apparel exports registered **seven per cent growth last year**. He highlighted that India is the sixth largest textile and apparel exporter. He said, **India is moving ahead in direction of manufacturing high-grade carbon fibre**. The Prime Minister also stated that Government is working on **creating skilled talent pool for textile sector**.



- Prime Minister Modi said that India's cultural diversity is reflected in the textiles originating from different parts of the country. Mr Modi said the vision of **Farm, Fibre, Fabric, Fashion and Foreign has become** a mission which is expanding areas of growth of India.
- The Prime Minister stated that earlier, Indians used to wear clothes that other countries suggested but now, India will tell the world what to wear. He also said that the **skill of handloom artisans should reach the world**, and their capabilities and opportunities should also increase. He informed that in the last ten years, **more than 2,400 big marketing events have been** organized to promote handlooms.



- Mr Modi also visited the exhibition area and interacted with the exhibitors. Bharat Tex 2025, a major global event, is being held from February 14th to 17th. The event brings together the **entire textile value chain, from raw materials to finished products, including accessories**, under one roof. Bharat Tex platform is the **textile industry's largest and most comprehensive** event comprising a mega expo, spread across two venues, and showcasing the entire textile ecosystem.

## JICA, Uttarakhand

- **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)** and **the Department of Horticulture and Food Processing (DHFP)**, Government of Uttarakhand, have signed the 'Records of Discussions', an official agreement document, for a Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) titled 'Uttarakhand Integrated Horticulture Development Promotion Project'.
- The project aims to promote **stable production of horticulture crops and strengthen marketing system** through the dissemination of **integrated model of market-oriented production** and proper management of distribution facilities in Tehri Garhwal and Nainital districts of Uttarakhand.



## 31-member Select Committee

- **Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla** has constituted a **31-member Select Committee** to examine the new Income Tax Bill. The panel will be headed by BJP MP Baijayant Panda and it will submit its report by the first day of the next session.



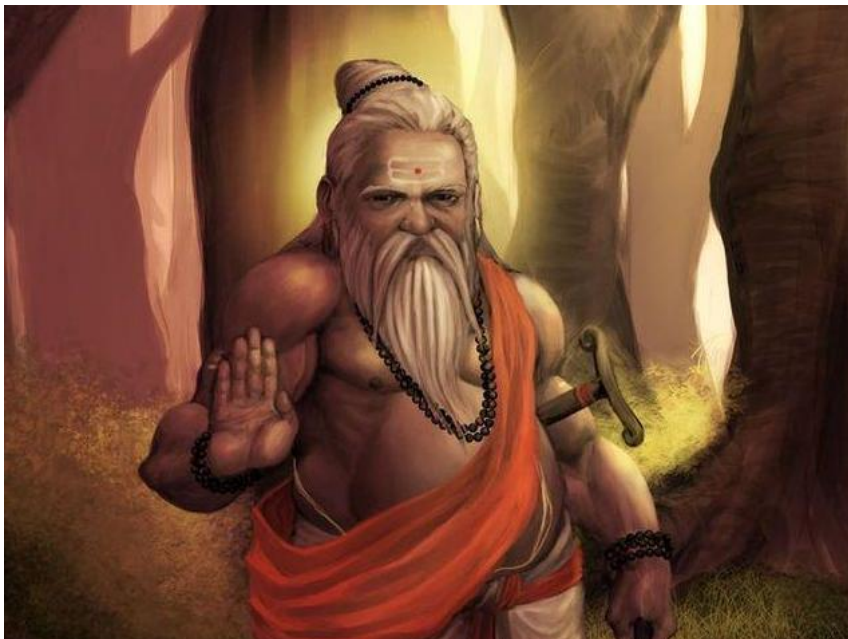
- The **Income-Tax Bill 2025** which aims at **consolidating** and amending the law relating to income tax was introduced in the Lok Sabha. While introducing the Bill, **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** had **urged** the Lok Sabha Speaker to refer the draft law to a Select Committee of the House.
- Speaking on the Bill, **Ms Sitharaman** said that the **new legislation** has fewer sections and chapters in comparison to the existing Income Tax Act, and it has been simplified for easy comprehension by the common people.

## Kashi Tamil Sangamam

- Third edition of the **Kashi Tamil Sangamam**, an initiative fostering cultural and intellectual ties between Tamil Nadu and Kashi, commence at Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.



- The initiative, organized by the **Ministry of Education in collaboration with various ministries and the Government of Uttar Pradesh**, aims to celebrate and strengthen the ancient civilizational bond between Tamil Nadu and Kashi.
- This year, the government has decided to bring around thousand delegates from **Tamil Nadu under five different categories**.



- The main theme of this year's event is highlighting the significant contributions of **Sage Agasthya to the world of Health, Philosophy, Science**, Classical Tamil Literature, and cultural unity of the Nation.
- This 10-day-long event will conclude on 24th February 2025.

## Navika Sagar Parikrama II

- **Lieutenant Commander Dilna K and Lieutenant Commander Rupa A** of the Indian Navy have achieved a historic milestone by **sailing INSV Tarini past Cape Horn**, the southernmost tip of South America, during the third phase of the **'Sagar Parikrama II' expedition**.



- Navigating this region demands exceptional maritime expertise and the resilience to endure the **harsh conditions of the Southern Ocean**. With this remarkable feat, the two officers have earned the prestigious title of **'Cape Horners,'** which is a recognition reserved for skilled sailors who successfully conquer Cape Horn.
- **Cape Horn is situated just over 432 nautical miles** from Antarctica, making it one of the closest land points to the icy continent. The journey through this region not only **requires exceptional navigational expertise but** also resilience to the harsh conditions characteristic of the Southern Ocean.

## BSNL Registers Profit Of Rs 262 Crore

- Government-owned **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)** has registered a profit of **262 crore rupees in the third quarter of 2024-25**. This achievement is a testament to the **government's commitment to strengthening public sector enterprises** and ensuring robust, affordable, and accessible telecom services for all.



- Speaking to the media in New Delhi, Union Communications **Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia** said that, for the **first time in 17 years, BSNL has posted a profit** on a quarterly basis. He added, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has envisioned that the telecom sector will be the carriageway for the digital future of India.

## Uganda's Jacob Kiplimo

- **Jacob Kiplimo from Uganda has made history** in the half-marathon. He became the first person to run the race in **under 57 minutes**. Kiplimo finished in **56 minutes, 42 seconds in Barcelona**. The 24-year-old set the record at the World Athletics Gold Label race.





- **He broke the old record of 57:30 set by Ethiopia's Yomif Kejelcha in October. Kiplimo beat the record by 48 seconds, the biggest improvement ever.**
- **He was the half-marathon record holder from 2021 to 2024. With this run, he reclaimed his title. Kiplimo also set a world best time of 39:47 for 15 kilometers during the race.**

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. 'Uttarakhand Integrated Horticulture Development Promotion Project' Signed In Collaboration with**

- A. World Bank
- B. FAO
- C. JICA
- D. UNESCO

**ANSWER: C**

**2. Kashi Tamil Sangamam Commenced In**

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Gujarat
- D. Kerala

**ANSWER: A**

**3. Main Theme Of Kashi Tamil Sangamam Is Highlighting Contributions Of**

- A. Sage Agastya
- B. Sage Atri
- C. Sage Gautama
- D. Sage Bhardwaja

**ANSWER: A**

**4. India Aims To Increase Textiles Exports To 9 Lakh Crore Rupees By**

- A. 2028
- B. 2029
- C. 2030
- D. 2035

**ANSWER: C**

**5. Jacob Kiplimo Seen In News Belongs From**

- A. Kenya
- B. Uganda
- C. Sudan
- D. Ethiopia

**ANSWER: B**

**6. Who Is The Author Of The Book Titled “The New Icon: Savarkar And The Facts”**

- A. Ramachandra Guha
- B. Arun Shourie
- C. Nandan Nilekani
- D. Shashi Tharoor

**ANSWER: B**

**7. Who Chaired The 12th All India Pension Adalat In New Delhi**

- A. Nirmala Sitharaman
- B. Amit Shah
- C. Dr. Jitendra Singh
- D. Piyush Goyal

**ANSWER: C**

**8. Which Company Has Won Forward Faster Sustainability Award 2025 In Water Resilience Category**

- A. Tata Power
- B. Adani Power
- C. NHPC Ltd.
- D. NTPC Ltd.

**ANSWER: D**

**9. Who Is The Head Of The Select Committee Examining The New Income Tax Bill**

- A. Nirmala Sitharaman
- B. Piyush Goyal
- C. Amit Shah
- D. Baijayant Panda

**ANSWER: D**

**10. BrahMos NG Missile Is Jointly Developed By India And Which Country**

- A. Russia
- B. China
- C. Australia
- D. Japan

**ANSWER: A**

**11. Name Of The Scheme Launched By The Anusandhan National Research Foundation For Senior Indian Scientists**

- A. J. C. Bose Grant scheme
- B. INSPIRE Fellowship scheme
- C. Raman Research Fellowship scheme
- D. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Fellowship scheme

**ANSWER: A**

**12. What Type Of Disease Is Sudan Virus Disease**

- A. Bacterial infection
- B. Viral hemorrhagic fever
- C. Fungal infection
- D. Autoimmune disorder

**ANSWER: B**

**13. Jotham Napat Has Been Elected As Prime Minister Of Which Country**

- A. Papua New Guinea
- B. Fiji
- C. Vanuatu
- D. Tonga

**ANSWER: C**

**14. Which City Is The Host Of First-ever Regional Dialogue On Social Justice**

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Chennai
- C. New Delhi
- D. Chandigarh

**ANSWER: C**

**15. When Is National Productivity Day Celebrated In India**

- A. February 12
- B. February 20
- C. March 12
- D. January 26

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Who Wrote The Memoir 'I Am A Soldier's Wife: Life And Love Of Toni Lidder'**

- A. Upendra Dwivedi
- B. Geetika Lidder
- C. Brigadier LS Lidder
- D. Toni Lidder

**ANSWER: B**

**17. How Many Sinhala-translated Jataka Tales Books Were Launched By Sri Lanka**

- A. Five
- B. Ten
- C. Three
- D. Seven

**ANSWER: A**

**18. Where Is The 14th Asian Fisheries And Aquaculture Forum (AFAF) Being Held**

- A. Tokyo
- B. New Delhi
- C. Bangkok
- D. Singapore

**ANSWER: B**

**19. Where Did The Electric Energy Conference 'Elecs Korea 2025' Begin**

- A. Seoul
- B. Busan
- C. Incheon
- D. Daegu

**ANSWER: A**

**20. The IX Mandala Of The Rigveda Samhita Is Dedicated To**

- A. Soma
- B. Purushkuta
- C. Gotra
- D. Gayatri Mantra

**ANSWER: A**