

# Weekly Current Affairs Summary: 23 February

17th & 18th February 2025:

- 1. Ayushman Bharat Vay Vandana Scheme Launched in Puducherry**  
Senior citizens aged 70 and above will receive free health insurance coverage of up to ₹5 lakh per year.
- 2. IIT Kanpur Introduces Solar Dehydration Technology**  
IIT Kanpur, in partnership with NABARD, unveiled a solar dehydration technology to help preserve agricultural produce and reduce post-harvest losses.
- 3. BEL and Safran Electronics & Defense MoU**  
Bharat Electronics and Safran Electronics & Defense signed a MoU to jointly produce and maintain the HAMMER precision-guided missile system in India.
- 4. Cristiano Ronaldo Tops the List of Highest-Paid Athletes**  
Ronaldo earned \$260 million in 2024, maintaining his position as the highest-paid athlete globally.
- 5. Jannik Sinner Accepts Suspension Over Doping**  
World No. 1 tennis player Jannik Sinner accepted a 3-month suspension after testing positive for banned substances.
- 6. Commemorative Coin to Honor Mohammed Rafi**  
India announced a ₹100 coin to honor playback singer Mohammed Rafi on his 100th birth anniversary.
- 7. Kevin Durant Joins 30,000-Point Club in NBA**  
Durant reached the 30,000 career points milestone, becoming the eighth player in NBA history to do so.
- 8. Haryana Approves Nilgai Culling**  
The state approved culling of male Nilgais to manage human-wildlife conflicts and protect crops.

9. **West Bengal Launches "Nodi Bandhan" Scheme**

This initiative aims at river development and erosion control along the Ganga-Padma river.

10. **India to Supply Akash Missile System to Philippines**

India is set to supply the Akash surface-to-air missile system to the Philippines for \$200 million.

**19th February 2025:**

1. **Gyanesh Kumar Becomes Chief Election Commissioner of India**

Gyanesh Kumar took over from Rajiv Kumar, with a tenure running until 2029.

2. **Madhya Pradesh Unveils India's First GCC Policy**

Madhya Pradesh launched the GCC Policy 2025 to attract multinational companies to Tier-2 cities like Indore, Bhopal, and Jabalpur.

3. **Elon Musk Unveils Grok 3 AI**

Musk introduced the smartest AI developed by xAI, a chatbot that promises unprecedented intelligence.

4. **ISRO Roadmap for the Next 10 Years**

ISRO's new roadmap includes missions like Gaganyaan, Chandrayaan 4, and the Bhartiya Antriksh Station.

5. **Tata Group Chairman N. Chandrasekaran Honored with UK Knighthood**

N. Chandrasekaran received an honorary knighthood in recognition of his contributions to business.

6. **India's First Open-Air Art Wall Museum**

India unveiled its first "Open Air Art Wall Museum" to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the India Meteorological Department.

20th February 2025:

- 1. Vivek Joshi Assumes Charge as Election Commissioner**  
Vivek Joshi, an IAS officer from Haryana, became the new Election Commissioner of India.
- 2. Kerala Launches nPROUD for Safe Drug Disposal**  
Kerala initiated the nPROUD program to safely collect and dispose of expired and unused medications.
- 3. Shami Becomes Fastest Indian Bowler to Reach 200 ODI Wickets**  
Mohammed Shami achieved this feat in 104 matches, surpassing Ajit Agarkar's record.
- 4. Rohit Sharma Becomes Second Fastest to 11,000 ODI Runs**  
Rohit Sharma reached 11,000 ODI runs in record time during the Champions Trophy.
- 5. Nagaland's Forest Project Recognized with SKOCH Award**  
The Nagaland Forest Management Project won the SKOCH Award 2024.
- 6. Bengal Leads India in Bird Count for Third Consecutive Year**  
Bengal recorded the highest number of bird species in the Great Backyard Bird Count.
- 7. Bima-ASBA & RBI DATA App**  
IRDAI introduced Bima-ASBA for insurance premium payments, while RBI launched RBIDATA for macroeconomic data access.

21th February 2025:

- 1. Jharkhand Bans Gutka and Pan Masala for One Year**  
The Jharkhand government has imposed a one-year ban on the sale, production, storage, and distribution of gutkha and pan masala in the state.
- 2. Rekha Gupta Sworn in as Delhi's New Chief Minister**  
Rekha Gupta, BJP's first-time MLA from Shalimar Bagh, was sworn in as Delhi's fourth woman Chief Minister in a ceremony attended by PM Modi and other leaders.

- 3. Manu Bhaker Wins BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year Award**  
Olympian Manu Bhaker, a shooter, has been awarded the prestigious BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year (ISWOTY) 2024 for her achievements in sports.
- 4. LIC Launches 'One Man Office' Initiative**  
LIC introduced the 'One Man Office' initiative to empower its agents with 24/7 digital tools for policy sales, payments, and customer service.
- 5. India Elected Vice President of IALA**  
India has been elected Vice President of the International Organization of Aids to Marine Navigation (IALA) during its first General Assembly in Singapore, strengthening global maritime governance.
- 6. India and Argentina Sign MoU for Lithium Exploration**  
India and Argentina signed an MoU to expand cooperation in lithium exploration, with discussions led by Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy.
- 7. India and Nepal Sign MoU for Scientific Collaboration**  
India and Nepal have signed an MoU between CSIR (India) and NAST (Nepal) to enhance joint research, technology exchange, and capacity-building in fields like biotechnology and material sciences.
- 8. Nita Ambani Receives Governor of Massachusetts' Citation**  
Nita Ambani, Founder and Chairperson of Reliance Foundation, was honored with the Governor of Massachusetts' Citation for her contributions to education, healthcare, sports, arts, culture, and women's empowerment.

**22th February 2025**

- 1. Vivek Joshi Appointed Election Commissioner**  
Vivek Joshi, an IIT-Roorkee graduate and 1989-batch IAS officer, has been appointed as India's new Election Commissioner.
- 2. Kerala Launches nPROUD for Drug Disposal**  
Kerala's new initiative, nPROUD, aims to safely collect and dispose of unused and expired drugs, starting with pilot projects in Kozhikode and Ulliyeri.
- 3. Shami Breaks Record for Fastest 200 ODI Wickets**  
Mohammed Shami became the fastest Indian bowler to reach 200 ODI wickets, achieving it in 104 matches, surpassing Ajit Agarkar's previous record.
- 4. Rohit Sharma Reaches 11,000 ODI Runs**  
Rohit Sharma became the second-fastest cricketer to score 11,000 runs in ODIs during the Champions Trophy 2025.

**5. Nagaland's Forest Project Wins SKOCH Award**

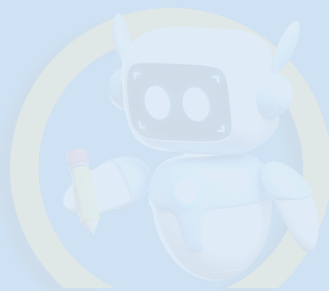
The Nagaland Forest Management Project received the prestigious SKOCH Award 2024 at the 100th SKOCH Summit in New Delhi.

**6. Bengal Tops Bird Count for 3rd Year**

Bengal led India in the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) 2025, recording 543 bird species for the third consecutive year.

**7. Bima-ASBA & RBI DATA App Launched**

IRDAI's *Bima-ASBA* will facilitate UPI-based insurance premium payments from March 1, 2025. The RBI has also launched the *RBIDATA* app, offering access to over 11,000 data series for research and public use.



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