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## 1 Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay (Source: PIB)

*Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay (also known as Bankim Chandra Chatterjee) was one of India's most celebrated novelists, poets, essayists, and journalists.*

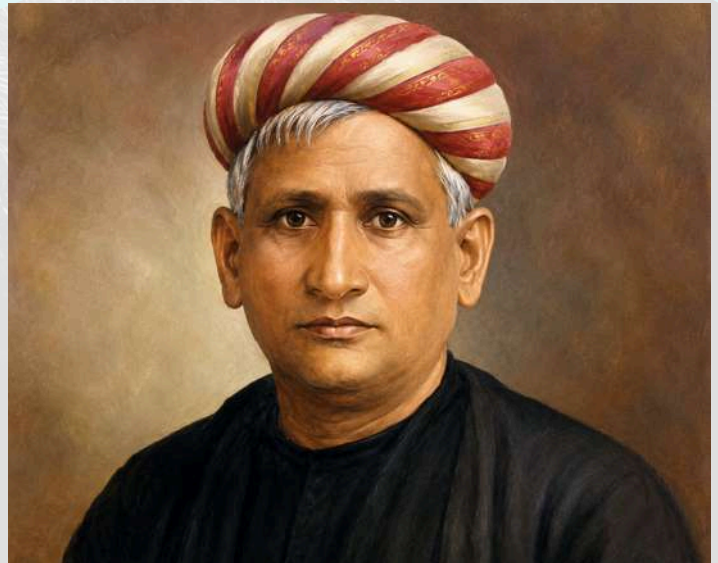
- **Birth:** Born on June 27, 1838, in a traditional Bengali family in Naihati, West Bengal.
- **Death:** April 8, 1894, in Calcutta.
- He was also part of the British administration.

### Literary Works

- **Durgeshnandini (1865):** His first major Bengali romance novel.
- **Anandamath (1882):** A historical novel set against the backdrop of the 18th-century **Sannyasi Rebellion**.
- **Devi Chaudhurani:** Novel emphasizing women's strength and active resistance against oppressive British tax-collecting systems.
- **Bangadarshan:** A radical literary monthly magazine he founded in 1872. It served as a major engine for the Bengali Renaissance, introducing essays on science, history, and social philosophy to the masses.

### Other Works

- Wrote **Vande Mataram** (a beautiful blend of Sanskrit and Bengali, the poem personified India as a nurturing yet powerful mother goddess) and **Amar Sona Bengala** (National Song of Bangladesh).



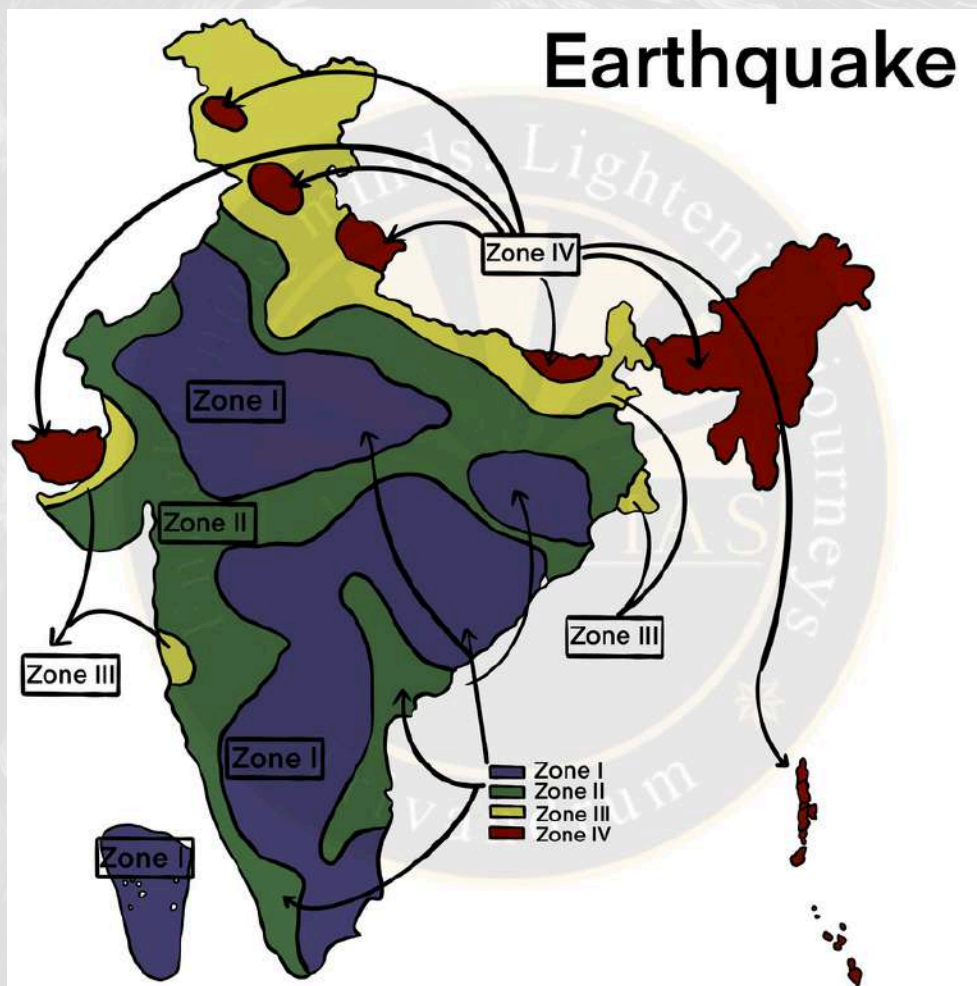
## 2 Earthquake (Source: The Hindu)

*An earthquake is the violent shaking of the earth's surface due to the release of energy by the breaking of rocks under the surface, and these are tectonic in origin.*

### Causes of Earthquake

- Natural Causes: Tectonic activities, volcanic eruption, rockfall, landslides, etc.
- Man-made Causes: Mining, construction of dams.

### Seismic Zones in India





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Zones	Explanation
Seismic Zone I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Safe zone</li></ul>
Seismic Zone II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Areas with minor damage from earthquakes corresponding to intensities V to VI of the MM scale (MM-Modified Mercalli Intensity scale).</li></ul>
Seismic Zone III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Moderate damage corresponding to intensity VII of MM scale.</li></ul>
Seismic Zone IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Major damage corresponds to intensity VII and higher on the MM scale.</li></ul>
Seismic Zone V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Earthquake zone V is the most vulnerable to earthquakes, where historically some of the country's most powerful shocks have occurred.</li><li>• Earthquakes with magnitudes over 7.0 have occurred in these areas, and have had intensities higher than IX.</li></ul>

## Impact of Earthquakes

- On Ground
  - Fissures in the crust of the earth.
  - Disrupting population settlements, loss of lives and livelihoods and migration to safer areas.
  - Loss of agricultural productivity.
- Destruction of Manmade Structures
- On Nature
  - Trigger tsunami
  - Trigger avalanche, landslides
  - Change in the river courses.



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## 3 Telecommunications Act, 2023 (Source: The Hindu)

### Unified Authorisation

- The Act replaces the old fragmented licensing system with a simpler, unified authorisation framework.
- This is meant to reduce compliance burden and make telecom regulation more technology-neutral.
- It supports easier entry and smoother expansion for telecom operators.

### Spectrum Management

- The Act gives a clearer legal framework for spectrum assignment and use.
- It supports efficient use through measures like re-farming and harmonisation.
- This is important because spectrum is a scarce national resource.

### Right of Way

- The law strengthens provisions for the right of way on public and private property.
- This helps speed up the laying of cables, installation of towers, and rollout of telecom infrastructure.
- It aims to reduce delays, disputes, and duplication in network expansion.

### Consumer Protection

- The Act includes provisions for user protection and grievance redressal.
- It also addresses issues like spam and unwanted communications.
- These measures are meant to improve service quality and user trust.

### National Security

- The Act allows lawful interception, monitoring, and access in specified cases.
- It gives the government powers to safeguard public safety and national security.
- This also creates a policy debate on the balance between security and privacy.

### Adjudication and Penalties

- The Act provides for adjudicating officers and a structured penalty mechanism.
- This is intended to ensure quicker resolution of violations and disputes.
- It reduces dependence on prolonged court processes for routine telecom issues.

### Innovation and Growth

- The law supports innovation through regulatory sandboxes.
- It encourages investment, digital infrastructure growth, and adoption of new technologies.
- This is useful for 5G, future telecom services, and broader digital inclusion.