



# Current Affairs

15th April, 2024

## Today's Important News

Prestigious John Dirks Gairdner Global Health Award for Dr. Gagandeep Kang

### 1. Prestigious John Dirks Gairdner Global Health Award for Dr. Gagandeep Kang

- Dr. Gagandeep Kang, an Indian researcher, has been awarded the 2024 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award for her achievements in global health research. The Gairdner Foundation announced its 2024 Canada Gairdner Award winners, recognizing some of the world's most significant biomedical and global health research and discoveries.
- The Foundation awarded Dr. Kang “for extensive cohort-based epidemiological, environmental and clinical trial research on enteric diseases in children and their effects on life course, with significant impact on vaccine development and health policy in India and internationally.”



### 2. India Ranks 10<sup>th</sup> Globally in Cybercrime Study in World Cybercrime Index

- A newly developed World Cybercrime Index sheds light on the origins and prevalence of cybercrime across the globe. Compiled by a team of researchers including Miranda Bruce, Jonathan Lusthaus, Ridhi Kashyap, Nigel Phair, and Federico Varese, the index draws insights from surveys conducted among leading cybercrime experts worldwide.



- Despite challenges in pinpointing cybercriminal locations due to sophisticated masking techniques, the index identifies key countries where cybercrime thrives, emphasizing the urgent need for targeted preventive measures.

### 3. Reserve Bank of India Rejects Odisha-based Annapurna Finance Limited's Application for Universal Bank License

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in a cautious move, declined Annapurna Finance Limited's application for a universal bank license made in January 2023. The RBI expressed caution and hesitation about awarding a full-service bank license to the Odisha-based lender.
- Annapurna Finance Limited primarily focuses on microfinance loans, which raised concerns for the regulator regarding the bank's capability to operate as a universal bank.



#### Foot Note:

#### About Reserve Bank of India:

**Founded:** 1 April 1935

**Founder:** British Raj

**Governor:** Shaktikanta Das

### 4. India Post opens third post office in Antarctica

- The new post office was inaugurated at Bharati Station. Almost four decades later, letters meant for Antarctica will now have a new PIN code, MH-1718, with the Department of Posts opening a second branch of the post office on the Bharati research station in Antarctica.
- The inauguration coincided with the 24th Foundation Day of the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), The first post office was established in 1984 at Dakshin Gangotri, followed by another in 1990 at Maitri Station.



### 5. Arjun Kadhe and jeevan Nedunchezhiyan clinch ATP Challenger Tennis Tournament in Mexico

- American President Joe Biden hosted the inaugural trilateral summit among the United States, Japan, and the Philippines on April 11, 2024, at the White House in Washington D.C. The meeting underscored the commitment of the United States

to support its allies, Japan and the Philippines, amid escalating territorial disputes with China.

- Prior to the summit, the maritime forces of the Philippines, Japan, the United States, and Australia conducted a joint maritime exercise named Maritime Cooperative Activity (MCA) in the Philippines' exclusive economic zone on April 7, 2024, in response to Chinese harassment allegations by the Philippines.



## 6. Sachidananda Mohanty appointed as Member, UGC

- Sachidananda Mohanty has been appointed as a Member of the University Grants Commission (UGC) for a period of three years with immediate effect. The appointment was made by the Ministry of Higher Education, Government of India, as per a gazette notification.
- He is a former Professor and Head of the Department of English, University of Hyderabad. He has also served as the Vice-Chancellor of the Central University of Odisha. Mohanty has over three decades of experience in the field of education and culture.



### Foot Note:

#### About UGC:

**Founded:** November 1956

**Headquarters:** New Delhi

**CEO:** Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar

## 7. Radhika wins silver medal at Asian Wrestling Championships 2024

- Radhika clinches silver in the 68kg category after being bested by world champion Nonoka Ozaki of Japan. Shivane Pawar earns a bronze in the 50kg class, at the Asian Wrestling Championships 2024 in Bishkek.
- India's overall medal count stands at 5, including earlier wins in the men's freestyle events. Earlier, Udit won the silver while Abhimanyu and Vicky clinched bronze medals



## 8. Government issues tender to purchase of 97 LCA Mark-1A fighter planes

- Ministry of Defence, Government of India has issued a tender for procurement of 97 indigenously manufactured LCA Mark – 1A fighter aircraft from Hindustan

Aeronautics Limited (HAL). Their cost is likely to be more than Rs 65 thousand crore.

- This will be the largest ever order for indigenous military equipment placed by the Government of India. The LCA Mark-1A is an upgraded version of the Tejas aircraft, incorporating modernized features and capabilities. The Defence Ministry has recently issued this tender to HAL.



## 9. DRDO & Indian Army conducted successful trials of MPATGM Weapon System

- DRDO and the Indian Army have successfully conducted trial of the indigenous Man Portable Anti-tank Guided Missile System. The system consisted of the MPATGM, Launcher, Target Acquisition System, and the Fire Control Unit.
- The Warhead Flight Trials were successfully conducted at the Pokhran Field Firing Range, Rajasthan. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has complimented the DRDO and the Indian Army for the successful trials of the system, terming it as an important step towards achieving self-reliance in advanced technology-based defence system development.



### Foot Note:

#### About DRDO:

**Chairman DRDO** - Dr Samir V Kamat

**Headquarters:** DRDO Bhavan, New Delhi

## 10 . Nepal's Dipendra Singh created history to hit 6 sixes in an over

- Dipendra made history by hitting 6 sixes in 1 over in a T20I match, joining an elite list of Yuvraj and Pollard. This happened against Qatar in the ACC Men's Premier Cup, where he scored 64 runs off 21 balls. Dipendra has been significant in Nepal's cricket history, playing in their 1st-ever ODI in 2018 and hitting the fastest fifty in T20I cricket at the 19th Asian Games.



### Foot Note:

#### About Nepal:

**Capital:** Kathmandu

**Currency:** Nepalese Rupee

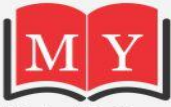
**President:** Ram Chandra Poudel

Prime Minister: Pushpa Kamal Dahal

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