

Current Affairs April 2014

International:

- According to our sources, Pro-Russian militants dressed up in camouflage and black balaclavas has been spotted parading to captivate European military observers in front of the media on Sunday. This was done few hours after three captives of Ukraine guards were shown in bad conditions that were bloodied up and stripped of their clothes with bound taped arms. The increasingly ruthless pro-Russian insurgency in the east turns to kidnapping as an ominous new tactic which is resulting such provocative displays.
- The Los Angeles Clippers have decided not to respond publicly anything related to the owner Donald Sterling choosing to make a silent protest. On Sunday, the Clippers let their uniforms speak for their brotherhood as a way to respond to Mr. Sterling's comments urging a woman to not bring black people to his team's games.



- To pressurize the Russian leader to deescalate crisis conditions in Ukraine, the US exercised new sanctions on Monday on seven Russian Government officials along with 17 companies with links to Vladimir Putin's close associates.
- An Egyptian court has passed yet another judgement regarding to the ongoing crackdown against the supporters of deposed President Mohamed Morsy by sentencing death penalty to 683 backers of the Muslim Brotherhood, along with the inclusion of the organization's Supreme Guide, Mohamed Badie.
- It has come to our knowledge that the mayor of Ukraine's second-largest city was reported to have been shot from behind on Monday and pro-Russian insurgents seized yet another government building as tensions fired up in eastern zone of Ukraine ahead of a new round of U.S. sanctions.

National:

- The BJP, known as The Bharatiya Janata Party on Sunday inquired Congress president Sonia Gandhi on the issue to explain how her son-in-law, Robert Vadra, managed to gather a sum total of Rs. 300 crore with an investment of just Rs. 1 lakh, even during the economic crisis which had it slowed down for some period. Claiming it to be the "Vadra get-rich-quick model", senior BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad said that the party had yet another set of questions on the land deals struck by Mr. Vadra in collusion with the Congress govt. of Haryana and Rajasthan.
- Recently Maulana Maqsoom Ali Kazmi, AAP's National Council member, delivered a huge blow to Arvind Kejriwal in the midst of the ongoing electoral campaign with Narendra Modi in Varanasi along with raising allegations against the way AAP leadership has changed its shape.
- Ms Banerjee, the Trinamool Congress supremo responded to Narendra Modi on Twitter by saying "If he comes to power, India will plunge into darkness. We do not need gyan (lecture) on development from the architect of riots". This was tweeted in response to the accusations made by Mr. Narendra Modi that she was not doing a good job and had delivered more damage to the State of West Bengal in 35-months of period of her rule than the Left Front in 35 years.
- Delhi Government's decision to change "rule of game" in the middle of nursery admission process was put into question by The Supreme Court on Monday. SC asked Delhi Government to reconsider the decision and increase 5-6 seats in all institutions for nursery admissions to accommodate inter-state transfer cases for the betterment of the interest of individual students.

Business:

- As Neeraj N Kumar has recently assumed the position as Chairman let out the big news that the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust known as JNPT is going under enormous expansion program and is focusing on the target to be a part of world's top 10 container ports in this decade. About an investment of Rs. 50,000 crore is being processed to make JNPT a preferred port of call for each and every shipping process which will undergo in future.
- A senior US official says that she was "bullish" on India-US ties, and also declares that she thinks that the two countries can play a major role in the future increasing prosperity and undergoing stability in Asia, "a region with tremendous promise and potential" faces many challenges ranging from economic development to defeating terrorism and counter violent extremism, Nisha Desai Biswal, assistant secretary of state for South and Central Asian Affairs, said Friday.
- Finance Minister P. Chidambaram on Saturday said that assertions have been made and the economy is estimate to become stronger and is believed to improve due to the efforts made by the UPA government. Finance Minister P. Chidambaram also said that Current Account

Deficit (CAD) has been brought down significantly to \$32 billion and fiscal deficit contained within the target in 2013-14.

- Surrendering early trade gains, the rupee was observed to have closed on Monday five paise lower at 60.65 against the dollar on sudden demand for the US currency from importers, mainly oil refiners.
- Mutual Funds lost about 33 lakh investors which were measured in terms of individual accounts or folios in the last financial year, primarily on account of volatility in equity market, according to SEBI's data.

Sports:

- Delhi Daredevils achieved a comfortable win over Mumbai Indians in yet another low-scoring match of the Indian Premier League at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium on Sunday evening. After putting a stop to the reigning champion at 125 for six, Daredevils rustled up the required total with six wickets in hand and seven balls to spare.
- Chelsea put an end to the Liverpool's Premier League title charge and maintained its own pursuit of the trophy with a 2–0 victory against the leaders on Sunday. A resilient Chelsea successfully nullified a team on an 11–game winning streak, and Demba Ba seized on Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard's slip in first-half stoppage time to score the opener at Anfield.
- Tennis star Leander Paes and woman cricketer Anjum Chopra were declared to be among 56 distinguished people who were honored and awarded with the Padma awards from President Pranab Mukherjee at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on Saturday. Leander, who was bestowed with Padma Shri in 2001, was conferred Padma Bhushan for his outstanding contribution to the game, especially his brilliant showing in the Davis Cup for more than two decades.
- Brendon McCullum and Dwayne Smith have successfully given Chennai Super Kings a flying start in IPL 7 with their amazing partnership at the top of batting order and the New Zealander described his opening partner to be a “powerful” and “intelligent” cricketer and sportsperson.

Awards & Honors:

- The Goldman Environmental Foundation informed that India's Ramesh Agrawal received the prize for helping villager's fight regarding the coal mining in Chhattisgarh. Peru's Ruth Buendia was recognized for helping to prevent two dams in the Peruvian Amazon, while Russian zoologist Suren Gazaryan won for defending protected areas from Olympic development in Sochi.

