

## **24 February 2018 Current Affairs**

### **India Successfully Test-Fires 'Dhanush' Missile**

India has successfully test-fired the nuclear-capable surface-to-surface Dhanush ballistic missile with a strike range of 350 km from a naval ship off Odisha coast. This naval variant of the indigenously-developed Prithvi-II missile was test-fired from the ship positioned near Paradip in the Bay of Bengal. It was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation. 'Dhanush' missile is capable of carrying a payload of 500 kg and hitting both land and sea-based targets.

### **US wins Ice Hockey Gold at Winter Olympics 2018**

The US won the gold medal of Women's Ice Hockey at 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics, thus breaking the 20-year medal drought. They last won the medal in 1998 Nagano Games. To win the medal, the women team defeated Canada in the final in dramatic shootout. Canada had won four straight Olympic Golds, three times beating the United States in the final including twice in overtime.

### **CBI arrests Rotomac Pens' owner Vikram Kothari**

The CBI arrested Rotomac Pens' owner Vikram Kothari and his son Rahul for allegedly defrauding banks of Rs3,700 crore. Kothari's company had submitted forged documents to get loans and created shell firms to carry out illegal activities. Earlier, authorities had notified all land, sea, and air ports to prevent Kothari and his family members from leaving India.

## **Maldives announces Presidential elections in September this year**

Despite facing these worse situations, Maldives started doing preparations for the upcoming Presidential elections to be held this year. The first round of the elections is to be held in early September. It is mentioned that the authorities welcome the election body to start the preparations for the elections. The Government took note of its announcement to hold the first round of Presidential elections during early September and encouraged all relevant stakeholders to offer the Commission their full, unreserved support for the conduct of their work.

## **Cricket Canada unveils ICC-approved T20 League**

Canada's own first franchise-based Twenty20 league "Global T20 Canada", was announced in New Delhi. The Global T20 Canada League will begin functioning from July 2018 at three venues in Toronto. It is conceptualised, designed, developed and managed by Mercuri Group with Cricket Canada. Global T20 Canada League has received official sanction of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Cricket Canada has become the first Associate member of the ICC to start a Twenty20 franchise league in the North America market.