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# Daily News Analysis

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**Thursday, 10 October 2024**

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**DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR**



David Baker



Demis Hassabis



John M. Jumper



Thursday, 10 October 2024

## Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2024: David Baker, Demis Hassabis, and John Jumper awarded for protein innovations

- The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced the winners of the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

### Laureates:

- David Baker (University of Washington, Seattle, USA) received one half of the prize for his work in "computational protein design."
- Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper (Google DeepMind, London, UK) shared the other half for their contributions to "protein structure prediction."

### Breakthroughs:

- Protein Design:** David Baker's work focuses on designing proteins with specific structures and functions.
- Protein Structure Prediction:** Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper's achievement involves predicting protein structures from amino acid sequences, a long-standing challenge in biology.
- Scientific Impact:** These discoveries enable the construction of new proteins and fulfill a 50-year-old goal of accurately predicting protein structures, opening up new possibilities in the field of protein science.

### Here are some brief facts about the Nobel Prize in Chemistry:

- First Awarded: In 1901 to Jacobus Henricus van 't Hoff.
- Laureates: Awarded 115 times to 193 individuals as of 2023.
- Posthumous Exception: Rarely awarded posthumously, with Jaroslav Heyrovský being an exception.

**Q.** Who were the winners of the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry? **David Baker, Demis Hassabis, and John M. Jumper**



**Thursday, 10 October 2024**

## **Repo rate remains unchanged at 6.50% for tenth time in a row**

### **Repo Rate Unchanged at 6.50%:**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), during the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting held on October 7-9, 2024, decided to maintain the repo rate at 6.50% for the tenth consecutive time. Since February 2023, the RBI has maintained the status quo on this key policy rate.

### **Other Rates:**

- The Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate remains at 6.25%, while the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and Bank Rate are unchanged at 6.75%.

### **Monetary Policy Stance:**

- The MPC has shifted its stance to a neutral position, emphasizing a clear focus on aligning inflation with the medium-term target while also supporting economic growth. The goal is to achieve the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation target of 4% ( $\pm 2\%$ ).

### **Economic Growth:**

- India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth for the first quarter of FY 2024-25 stood at 6.7%, driven by private consumption and investment.

**Q.** What is the current repo rate set by the RBI as of October 2024? **6.50%**



**Thursday, 10 October 2024**

## **Sri Lanka cabinet approves agreement to facilitate trade with Russia**

- The Sri Lankan cabinet has approved an agreement aimed at facilitating legally valid trade activities with Russia through transparent and predictable customs procedures. This agreement seeks to formalize trade cooperation between the two nations, ensuring smoother trade relations.

### **Timeline of Approval:**

- Although the initial cabinet approval for this bilateral trade agreement was granted on November 15, 2021, after several rounds of discussions between Sri Lanka and Russia, the agreement had not yet been signed. The latest cabinet approval, presented by President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, who also holds portfolios in finance, economic development, policy formulation, and tourism, seeks to officially finalize this trade pact.

### **Trade Relationship History:**

- Trade between Sri Lanka and Russia has witnessed significant growth since the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991. However, despite Sri Lanka maintaining a favorable trade balance between 2007 and 2014, a gradual rise in imports and a decline in tea exports since 2015 have caused fluctuations in the trade balance.

**Q.** Which country's cabinet approved an agreement to facilitate legally valid trade with Russia? **Sri Lanka**



Thursday, 10 October 2024

## Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari appointed Acting Chief Justice of Uttarakhand HC

- The Central government has approved the appointment of Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari as the acting Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court.
- **Transition:** Justice Tiwari will assume the role of acting Chief Justice upon the retirement of the current Chief Justice, Ritu Bahri, on October 10.
- **Supreme Court Collegium's Recommendation:** On September 24, the Supreme Court Collegium recommended Justice Narendar G for the position of Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court.
- **Current Position of Justice Narendar G:** Justice Narendar G is presently serving as a judge in the Andhra Pradesh High Court.
- **Pending Approval:** The Central government has not yet cleared the Collegium's recommendation for Justice Narendar G's appointment as Chief Justice.
- The Chief Justice of a High Court in India is appointed following a process that involves several constitutional authorities and steps. Here is a summary of the procedure:

### Appointment Process:

- **Recommendation by the Collegium:** The appointment of the Chief Justice of a High Court is initiated by the Supreme Court Collegium, which is usually composed of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court. The Collegium recommends the name for the position of Chief Justice.

**Q.** Who has been appointed as the acting Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court? **Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari**



Thursday, 10 October 2024

## Veteran Malayalam actor TP Madhavan passes away

- TP Madhavan passed away at the age of 88 in Kollam, Kerala, while being treated for various ailments.
- **Role in AMMA:** He served as the first General Secretary of the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA).

### Family Background:

- Nephew of the veteran dramatist TN Gopinathan Nair.
- Grandson of the eminent linguist Sahityapanchanan PK Narayana Pillai.
- Son of NP Pillai, who was the Dean at Kerala University.
- **Education and Early Career:** Madhavan held a postgraduate degree in sociology and was involved in the advertising business before beginning his acting career.
- **Acting Career Start:** He began his acting career at the age of 40, making his film debut with the movie "Raagam" in 1975, with his first break given by actor Madhu.
- **Career Span:** Over his career, Madhavan acted in more than 600 films.
- **Awards:** He was honored with the prestigious Prem Nazir Award and Ramu Karyat Award while staying at Gandhi Bhavan.
- **Notable Films:** Some of his notable works include "Nadodikkattu," "Pandippada," "Ordinary," "Ayal Kadha Ezhuthukayan," "Nammal," "Narasimham," "Oru CBI Diary Kuruppu," "Moonam Mura," "Achuvettante Veedu," "Sandesham," and "Aaram Thampuran."

**Q. What awards did TP Madhavan receive during his career?**  
**Prem Nazir Award and the Ramu Karyat Award.**



Thursday, 10 October 2024

## **Tata Electronics appoints Bobby Mitra as CIO & prez of AI, digital wing**

- Bobby Mitra has been appointed as Chief Information Officer (CIO) and President of AI and Digital Transformation at Tata Electronics.

### **Role and Responsibilities:**

- Mitra will drive enterprise-wide initiatives focused on AI and digital transformation across various sectors, including:
  - Electronic manufacturing services
  - Semiconductor assembly and testing
  - Semiconductor foundry
  - Design services

### **Strategic Goals:**

- He and his team will play a key role in advancing Tata Electronics' commitment to AI-led manufacturing excellence.
- Key projects include:
  - Establishing India's first semiconductor Fab in Dholera, Gujarat.
  - Setting up the first indigenous semiconductor assembly and test facility in Jagiroad, Assam.

### **Previous Experience:**

- Led smart manufacturing and industrial systems for Texas Instruments globally.
- Served as President and Managing Director of Texas Instruments India.
- Most recently worked at Deloitte Consulting as Managing Director, focusing on manufacturing and supply chain advancements.

**Q.** Who has been appointed as the Chief Information Officer of Tata Electronics? **Bobby Mitra**



Thursday, 10 October 2024

## **Romania to enhance air defense by acquiring US Sentinel radar systems**

- Romania plans to enhance its air defense capabilities by acquiring four AN/MPQ-64 F1 Sentinel radar systems.
- Procurement Method: The acquisition is being made through the U.S. Foreign Military Sales program.
- Deployment Purpose: The radar systems will be deployed within Romania's ground-based air defense battalions to improve airspace monitoring and counter modern aerial threats, especially from unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

### **Comprehensive Package: The procurement package includes:**

- Logistical support
- Communication equipment
- Training services
- Technical assistance
- Transportation
- Radar System Capabilities: The AN/MPQ-64 F1 Sentinel can track various aerial targets, including:
  - Manned and unmanned aircraft
  - Cruise missiles
  - Helicopters

**Q.** What radar systems is Romania acquiring to enhance its air defense capabilities? **4 AN/MPQ-64 F1 Sentinel radar systems.**





**Thursday, 10 October 2024**

## **South Korea, Singapore sign supply chain partnership arrangement**

- South Korea and Singapore agreed to strengthen cooperation in various sectors across supply chains, energy, bio and advanced technology.
- Cooperation Agreement: South Korea and Singapore have agreed to strengthen cooperation in various sectors, including supply chains, energy, bio, and advanced technology.
- Supply Chain Partnership: The agreement is based on a supply chain partnership arrangement signed during South Korean President Yoon's three-day state visit to Singapore.
- Significance: This marks the first supply chain deal between the two nations and follows a multilateral agreement signed by 14 members of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, initiated by the U.S. in May 2022.
- Action Plans: The agreement includes specific action plans aimed at boosting resilience in key sectors, with a focus on establishing a crisis response network.
- Crisis Response Network: The network will facilitate emergency meetings between the two governments within five days of detecting supply chain disruptions.
- Extradition Treaty: An extradition treaty was signed to enable the arrest and extradition of fugitives between South Korea and Singapore.

**Q.** What type of partnership agreement was signed during President Yoon's visit to Singapore? **A supply chain partnership arrangement.**



**Thursday, 10 October 2024**

## **Beckers-Vieujant appointed chair of French Alps 2030 coordination commission**

- Pierre-Olivier Beckers-Vieujant has been appointed as Chair of the French Alps 2030 Coordination Commission by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).
- Experience: He previously led the Coordination Commission for the 2024 Paris Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- Expertise and Leadership: Beckers-Vieujant's knowledge, insight, and leadership qualities are expected to be invaluable for the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games French Alps 2030.
- Proven Track Record: His successful track record with Paris 2024, understanding of the French governance system, and established relationships in France and internationally make him an ideal candidate for this role.
- Context of Appointment: His appointment follows the submission of the Games Delivery Guarantee provided by the French government.

### **What is French Alps 2030 Coordination Commission?**

- The French Alps 2030 Coordination Commission is a body established by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to oversee and facilitate the planning and organization of the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games set to take place in the French Alps in 2030.

**Q.** Who has been appointed as Chair of the French Alps 2030 Coordination Commission? **Pierre-Olivier Beckers-Vieujant.**



**Thursday, 10 October 2024**

## **Palmer named England men's player of the year**

- Cole Palmer, forward for Chelsea, has been named the England men's player of the year for 2023-24. He was voted by the public ahead of Jude Bellingham and Bukayo Saka, who finished second and third, respectively.

### **Career Highlights:**

- Palmer made his debut for the England national team in November 2023 in a 2-0 win against Malta. He has represented England nine times, including five appearances at Euro 2024, where he scored in the final against Spain, though England lost 2-1. Palmer also won the PFA Young Player of the Year award for 2023-24, following an impressive debut season with Chelsea, during which he scored 25 goals across all competitions.

### **Upcoming Matches:**

- Palmer is expected to participate in the upcoming Nations League fixtures against Greece and Finland.

### **Past Winners:**

- Palmer is the first Chelsea player to win the award since Ashley Cole in 2010, joining other notable winners like Bukayo Saka, Harry Kane, Wayne Rooney, and David Beckham.

**Q.** Who was named England men's player of the year for 2023-24? **Cole Palmer**



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