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Current Affairs
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M. Rajeshwar Rao Reappointed as RBI Deputy Governor



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1. M. Rajeshwar Rao Reappointed as RBI Deputy Governor

The Central Government has re-appointed M Rajeshwar Rao as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India for one year, effective October 9, 2024, or until further notice. Rao initially took on the role in September 2020 for three years and received a one-year extension in 2023. He joined the Reserve Bank in 1984 and has extensive experience in various aspects of central banking.



Foot notes:

- Rajeshwar Rao has served as the Banking Ombudsman in New Delhi.
- He has worked in the Reserve Bank's regional offices in Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Chennai, and New Delhi.
- He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and an MBA from the University of Cochin.
- He is a Certificated Associate of the Indian Institute of Bankers.

2. Dipa Karmakar, India's trailblazing gymnast officially announced her retirement

Indian gymnast Dipa Karmakar has officially retired from professional competition after 25 years in the sport. She stepped back due to the physical demands on her body. Dipa is a celebrated figure in gymnastics, having made history as the first Indian woman to win a bronze medal in vault at the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, followed by another bronze at the 2015 Asian Championships.



Foot notes:

- Dipa Karmakar achieved a landmark feat at the 2016 Rio Olympics by becoming the first Indian female gymnast to qualify for the final vault event, finishing in fourth place.
- In 2021, she showcased resilience by winning a gold medal at the Asian Gymnastics Championships in Tashkent, despite career setbacks.
- Dipa has received numerous prestigious awards, including the Padma Shri, Arjuna Award, and Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.
- He will now focus on mentoring and supporting young athletes, ensuring her legacy continues to shape Indian gymnastics for years to come.

3. Sarthak clinches his maiden National crown

Pune's Sarthak Chavan, 17, made history by becoming the youngest to win the Open class title in the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship. He secured the crown with his eighth win in nine races at the Madras International Circuit, ensuring an unassailable lead in the points tally.



Foot notes:

- 17-year-old Sarthak Chavan became the youngest champion in the Pro-Stock 301-400cc category with his eighth win of the season.
- He tactically followed teammate Chiranth Vishwanath before overtaking on the final lap.
- Sarthak's win gave him a 57-point lead, securing the title with one race remaining.
- Veteran Rajini Krishnan finished third, adding to his impressive career podiums.

4. Coco Gauff won China Open Tennis Tournament title

Coco Gauff clinched victory in the 2024 China Open final, defeating Czech player Karolina Muchová 6-1, 6-3 in just 76 minutes. At 20 years old, the sixth-ranked American and last year's US Open champion became the youngest China Open champion in 14 years and the second American to win the tournament, following Serena Williams. She has now won eight singles titles in her career, with an impressive 8-1 record in finals and a perfect 7-0 record in hard-court finals in the Open era.



Foot notes:

- Coco Gauff hit 24 winners in a dominant performance to win the Beijing trophy.
- This victory adds to her Auckland Classic win earlier this year.
- Gauff has now secured her second WTA 1000 title, following her 2023 Cincinnati victory, where she also defeated Muchová in the final.

5. Scientist Gary Ruvkun Receives Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for Discovery of microRNA

Gary Ruvkun, a professor at Harvard Medical School, has been awarded the 2024 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for discovering microRNAs, small RNA molecules that regulate gene activity. He shares the prize with collaborator Victor Ambros from UMass Chan Medical School. Together, they identified the first animal microRNAs and showed their role in turning off essential developmental genes.



Foot notes:

- Dr. Victor Ambros is a professor of natural science at UMass Chan Medical School, Worcester.
- Dr. Gary Ruvkun is a genetics professor at Harvard Medical School and a researcher at Massachusetts General Hospital.
- MicroRNAs are critical regulators of gene activity and of the proteins that these genes make.
- Gene regulation by microRNA is an ancient mechanism that occurs in multiple organisms.

6. Nestle India Appoints Manish Tiwari as New MD

Nestle India has announced that Manish Tiwary, former country manager of Amazon India, will take over as Managing Director from August 1, 2025, following the retirement of current MD and Chairman Suresh Narayanan on July 31, 2025. Narayanan will step down after 26 years with the company. The appointments were nominated by Nestle SA, the Swiss parent company.



Foot notes:

- Manish Tiwary, a Director at Amazon Digital Services and More Consumer Brand, will step down on October 30, 2024.
- He is an IIM Bangalore alumnus with nearly 30 years of experience in e-commerce and consumer goods.
- He joined Amazon in 2016 after a 20-year career at Unilever.
- Manish Tiwary is a seasoned business executive with nearly 30 years of experience in e-commerce and consumer goods.

7. Ajit Vinayak Gupte appointed as India's Ambassador to Germany

Ajit Vinayak Gupte, currently India's Ambassador to Egypt, has been appointed as the next Ambassador to Germany, the Ministry of External Affairs announced. A 1991 batch

IFS officer, Gupte previously served as Ambassador to Denmark from November 2017 to March 2021. He will assume the new role soon.

Foot notes:

- Ajit Vinayak Gupte studied Chinese (Mandarin) and handled China-related roles, including as Under Secretary (1995-1998) and in postings to Hong Kong (1998-2000) and Beijing (2000-2004).
- He served in Dhaka, Bangladesh (2004-2008) as First Secretary/Counsellor.
- He was Deputy Director General at ICCR (2008-2010), promoting India's cultural diplomacy.
- From 2010 to 2014, Gupte was Deputy Chief of Mission in Berlin and acted as Charge d'Affaires for 9 months.
- He held the roles of Joint Secretary (Haj) and Joint Secretary (Development Partnership Administration) from 2015 to 2017.



About Germany:

Capital: Berlin

Official language: German

President: Frank-Walter Steinmeier

8. Maharashtra & SAI Sign MoU for National Centre of Excellence

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed today between the Government of Maharashtra and the Sports Authority of India to establish a National Centre of Excellence in Kandivali, Mumbai, in the presence of Union Minister Piyush Goyal. Goyal emphasized the Central Government's efforts to enhance India's performance at global sports events and expressed confidence that India will host the 2036 Olympics, highlighting the Centre's significant role in achieving this goal.



Foot notes:

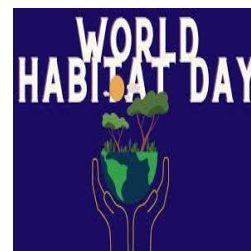
- The Sports Authority of India plans to develop international-standard sports infrastructure on a 37-acre leased land for 30 years at a nominal rate of Rs. 1 per annum.
- Sports Authority of India plans to develop modern sports infrastructure of international standards at the said land parcel of 37 acres which has been leased for 30 years at the rate of Re. 1 per annum to SAI.

The proposed Centre of Excellence will feature:

- Modern athlete hostel buildings
- A central kitchen and dining area for athletes
- An international-standard hockey turf with a floodlighting system
- A multipurpose sports hall
- A high-performance sports science center for injury prevention

9. World Habitat Day observed on 7th October

World Habitat Day, first observed in 1985, is celebrated on the first Monday of October to emphasize everyone's right to safe and decent housing. It calls on governments, communities, and individuals to improve housing conditions and create safer neighbourhood. The day highlights its history, significance, and theme to inspire action.



Foot notes:

- Theme: "**Engaging youth to create a better urban future**"
- It focuses on the opportunities and challenges of rapid urban growth.
- The aim is to encourage the younger generation to participate in planning their current and future environments.
- It reminds us that everyone deserves a comfortable and secure home.
- The day also highlights the importance of environmental preservation amid increasing urbanization.

10. Christopher Ciccone passed away at age of 63

Christopher Ciccone, a multitalented artist, dancer, designer, and younger brother of Madonna, has passed away at the age of 63. A dancer from a young age, Ciccone played a significant role in his sister's rise to fame in the 1980s, appearing in music videos such as "Lucky Star," art directing her Blond Ambition World Tour, and serving as the tour director for The Girlie Show. He also directed music videos for artists like Dolly Parton and Tony Bennett.

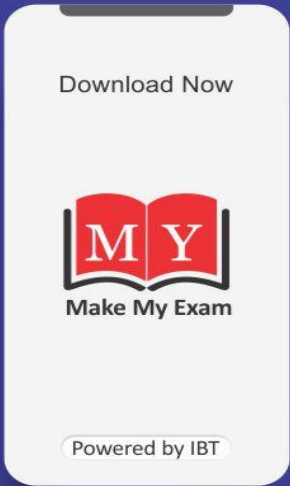


Foot notes:

- In 2008, Christopher Ciccone published a bestselling autobiography, *Life with My Sister Madonna,* discussing their strained relationship, her romantic involvements, and tour memories.
- He supported Madonna's career for two decades by choreographing, directing, and designing for her.
- The twins, raised in Michigan, shared a close bond from a young age.
- In the late 1970s, Christopher moved to New York City to work closely with his sister, launching his extensive and diverse career.

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