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2024 Nobel Economics Prize

Three U.S.-based academics won the 2024 Nobel Economics Prize for their research into why global inequality persists, especially in countries dogged by corruption and dictatorship.



Key Point

- ❖ Simon Johnson and James Robinson, both British-American, and Turkish-American Daron Acemoglu were commended for their work on “how institutions are formed and affect prosperity”
- ❖ They have identified the historical roots of the weak institutional

environments that characterize many low-income countries today.

- ❖ The prestigious award, formally known as the *Sveriges Riksbank Prize* in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, is the final prize to be given out this year and is worth 11 million Swedish crowns.
- ❖ The Economics Award is not one of the original prizes for science, literature and peace created by the will of dynamite inventor and businessman Alfred Nobel and first awarded in 1901, but a later addition established and funded by Sweden's central bank in 1968.
- ❖ In 2019, economists Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer won the
- ❖ award for work on fighting poverty.

Category	Winner	Contribution
Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2024	Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun	Discovery of microRNA and its pivotal role in post-transcriptional gene regulation.
Nobel Prize in Physics 2024	John J. Hopfield and Geoffrey E. Hinton	Discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning within artificial neural networks.

Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2024	David Baker, and Demis Hassabis and John Jumper	David Baker for computational protein design, and jointly to Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper for protein structure prediction.
Nobel Prize in Literature 2024	Han Kang	For her intense poetic prose that confronts historical traumas and exposes the fragility of human life.
Nobel Prize in Peace 2024	Nihon Hidankyō	For its efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons.
Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences 2024	Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson & James A. Robinson	For studies of how institutions are formed and affect prosperity.

Samarthak

The Indian Navy marked a significant milestone with the launch of Samarthak, the first vessel under the two Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV) projects being constructed by L&T Shipyard at Kattupalli.



Key Point

- ❖ According to a press release, the Ministry of Defence and L&T Shipyard signed the contract for two multi-purpose vessels on March 25, 2022. These vessels will serve a range of functions, including towing other ships, launching and recovering targets, operating unmanned autonomous vehicles, and testing indigenous weapons and sensors under development.

- ❖ With a length of 106 meters and a width of 16.8 meters, the vessel can achieve a maximum speed of 15 knots.
- ❖ The launch of Samarthak reinforces the Indian Navy's commitment to strengthening indigenous shipbuilding capabilities. "This collaboration with a private Indian shipyard is a testament to the Navy's strides towards self-reliance in maritime defence.

Europa Clipper To Examine Jupiter's Moon

NASA has launched the **Europa Clipper**, the largest spacecraft it has ever built for a planetary mission.



Key Point

- ❖ This spacecraft aims to examine whether Jupiter's moon Europa has conditions suitable to support life, with a focus on the large subsurface ocean believed to be lurking beneath its thick outer shell of ice.
- ❖ The robotic solar-powered probe is due to enter orbit around Jupiter in 2030 after journeying about 2.9 billion km in 5 years and 6 months.
- ❖ The Europa Clipper is named after its destination, Europa, an icy moon of Jupiter.
- ❖ Europa Clipper will be operating in an intense radiation environment around Jupiter, the solar system's biggest planet.

Murine Typhus

A 75-year-old man from Kerala, who recently returned from Vietnam and Cambodia, has been diagnosed with murine typhus, a rare bacterial disease, marking the state's first reported case of this disease.



Key Point

- ❖ Murine typhus is an infectious zoonotic disease caused by the flea-borne bacteria *Rickettsia typhi*.
- ❖ Zoonotic diseases are infectious illnesses that can be transmitted from animals to humans. Examples: Rabies, salmonellosis etc.
- ❖ It is transmitted to humans through the bites of infected fleas.
- ❖ It is Also known as **endemic typhus**, **flea-borne typhus**, or **flea-borne spotted fever**.
- ❖ Symptoms typically onset 7 to 14 days after exposure and include fever, headaches, body aches, joint pains, nausea, and skin rash.
- ❖ No vaccine is currently available.
- ❖ Antibiotic doxycycline is effective, but early diagnosis is crucial

ISSF World Cup

Indian shooter Sonam Uttam Maskar won the silver medal in the Women's 10m Air Rifle event at the ISSF World Cup 2024 final in Delhi



Key Point

- ❖ The 22-year-old Maskar excelled with a score of 252.9 to secure a podium finish.
- ❖ China's Yuting Huang won the gold medal in this event.
- ❖ French shooter Oceanne Muller took home the bronze.
- ❖ Tilottama Sen, the other Indian shooter in the final, finished sixth with a score of 167.7.

Short News

- ❖ India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah will act as deputy to Rohit Sharma for their three-match home test series against New Zealand.
- ❖ DG Paramesh Sivamani took over as the 26th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG).
- ❖ Telangana has become the third state to launch a caste-based census, following similar initiatives by Andhra Pradesh and Bihar.
- ❖ The 2024 Forest Declaration Assessment report, "Forests under fire: Tracking progress on 2030 forest goals," was released.
- ❖ Total enrolments under Atal Pension Yojana (APY) have crossed 7 crore, with over 56 lakh enrolments in FY 2024-25.
- ❖ The Ustad Allauddin Khan Festival was recently organized in Madhya Pradesh. The festival is held in Maihar, Madhya Pradesh,

Important Daily Current Affairs Question

1. Who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences in 2024?

- (a) Paul Krugman, Amartya Sen, and Esther Duflo
- (b) Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson
- (c) Joseph Stiglitz, Oliver Hart, and Bengt Holmström
- (d) Angus Deaton, Richard Thaler, and Jean Tirole

Answer – (b)

2. What is the primary goal of NASA's Europa Clipper mission launched in 2024?

- (a) To study the atmosphere of Jupiter
- (b) To determine whether Europa has conditions suitable to support life
- (c) To explore Saturn's rings
- (d) To examine Mars' polar ice caps

Answer – (b)

