



President Joe Biden speaks at the 2024 White House Tribal Nations Summit at the Department of the Interior in Washington



A person protesting the not guilty verdict of Daniel Penny is arrested by police outside the criminal court, in New York, on Tuesday



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau attends a fireside chat with the Halifax Chamber of Commerce in Halifax, on Tuesday



Members of the band play as attendees take part in a Tea Dance at the Royal Opera House in London, on Tuesday

allovertheworld



Shigemitsu Tanaka, representative of the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Japan's atomic bomb survivors' group Nihon Hidankyo, poses with the Nobel medal after the group was awarded with the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize on Tuesday, at Oslo City Hall in Oslo, Norway. Survivors of the US atomic bombings of Japan received the Nobel Peace Prize but, after years of anti-nuclear campaigning and showing the world their scars, they still retain the painful memories of the discrimination they have faced

South Korea slaps travel bans on more top officials

SEOUL: South Korean authorities banned more top officials from leaving the country Tuesday, in the wake of President Yoon Suk Yeol's bungled attempt to impose martial law. A day after Yoon himself was hit with a travel ban, his party was meanwhile forging a "resignation roadmap" that reportedly could see him step down in February or March before fresh elections, while the opposition plans to organise an impeachment vote every Saturday. Yoon suspended civilian rule a week ago and sent special forces and helicopters to parliament, before lawmakers forced him to rescind the decree in a country assumed to be a stable democracy. Investigators are probing the president and a cabal of allies - many from the same school - for alleged insurrection over the sequence of extraordinary events. On Tuesday Cho Ji-ho, commissioner general of the Korean National Police Agency, and two other top police officials became the latest to be barred from foreign travel, police told AFP. Yoon narrowly survived an impeachment effort in parliament on Saturday as tens of thousands braved freezing temperatures to call for his ouster.

Suspect in CEO murder faces multiple charges

PTI, ALTOONA: Authorities arrested a suspect and charged him with murder Monday in the brazen Manhattan killing of UnitedHealthcare's CEO after a quick-thinking McDonald's customer in Pennsylvania spotted a man who officers found with a gun, mask and writings linking him to the ambush.

The chance sighting at the restaurant in Altoona led to a dramatic break in a challenging but fast-moving investigation that captivated the public in the five days since the shooting that shook the business world.

Luigi Nicholas Mangione, a 26-year-old Ivy League graduate from a prominent Maryland real estate family, had a gun believed to be the one used in last Wednesday's shooting of Brian Thompson, as well as writings suggesting anger with corporate America, police said.

Late Monday, Manhattan prosecutors filed murder and other charges against Mangione, according to an online court docket. He remained jailed in Pennsylvania, where he was charged with possession of an unlicensed firearm, forgery and providing false identification to police.

Mangione was sitting in the rear of the McDonald's wearing a blue medical

mask and looking at a laptop computer, court documents said. A customer saw him and an employee called 911, said Kaz Daughtry, an NYPD deputy commissioner.

Altoona Police Officer Tyler Frye said he and his partner recognized the suspect immediately when he pulled down his mask. We just didn't think twice about it. We knew that was our guy, he said.

When one of the officers asked if he'd been to New York recently, he became quiet and started to shake," according to a criminal complaint based on their accounts of the arrest.

In his backpack, police found a black, 3D-printed pistol and a 3D-printed black silencer, the complaint said. The pistol had a metal slide and plastic handle with a metal threaded barrel. He was taken into custody at about 9:15 a.m., police said.

Thousands scour Syria's most horrific prison but find no sign of their loved ones

PTI, DAMASCUS: They came from all over Syria, tens of thousands. The first place they rushed to after the fall of their longtime tormentor, former President Bashar Assad, was here: Saydnaya Prison, a place so notorious for its horrors it was long known as the slaughterhouse.

For the past two days, all have been looking for signs of loved ones who disappeared years or even decades ago into the secretive, sprawling prison just outside Damascus.

But hope gave way to despair Monday. People opened the heavy iron doors lining the hallways to find cells inside empty. With



People pick up metal and unexploded ammunition from the site of the previous evening's Israeli airstrike that targeted shipments of weapons that belonged to Syrian government forces in Qamishli, in mainly Kurdish northeastern Syria

sledgehammers, shovels and drills, men pounded holes in floors and walls, looking for what they believed were

secret dungeons, or chasing sounds they thought they heard from underground. They found nothing.

Insurgents freed dozens of people from the Saydnaya military prison on Sunday when Damascus fell. Since then, almost no one has been found.

Where is everyone? Where are everyone's children? Where are they? said Ghada Assad, breaking down in tears.

She had rushed from her Damascus home to the prison on the capital's outskirts, hoping to find her brother. He was detained in 2011, the year that protests first erupted against the former president's rule before they turned into a long, gruelling civil war. She didn't know why he was arrested.

Israel's Netanyahu vows to challenge 'absurd' corruption charges as he takes stand in his trial

PTI, TEL AVIV: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promised defiantly on Tuesday to knock down corruption allegations against him as he began testifying in his long-running trial, becoming the first sitting Israeli leader to take the stand as a criminal defendant.

The testimony is another low point for Israel's longest-serving leader, who also faces an international arrest warrant for alleged war crimes in Israel's war in Gaza.

In his opening testimony in a packed Tel Aviv courtroom, Netanyahu argued that he was a dedicated leader and a defender of



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks during a press conference in Jerusalem

Israel's interests, swatting away the charges against him as a drop in the sea compared to the challenges he has faced protecting his country.

But the charges have torn open divisions in Israel and

complicated Netanyahu's legacy, which has also been tainted by the war in Gaza and the growing international isolation Israel faces because of it.

Speaking freely and appearing at ease, Netanyahu

said he could balance appearing at his trial with his duties as prime minister at a time when Israel is still fighting a war in Gaza and contending with the fall of Bashar Assad in neighbouring Syria.

I waited eight years for this moment, to say the truth, Netanyahu said, standing at a podium, with his son Avner and several members of his Likud party seated on the courtroom benches. He said his testimony would poke holes in the absurd accusations." Netanyahu will answer during his court appearances to charges of fraud, breach of trust and accepting bribes in three separate cases.

voice of business

Finmin-RBI ties the best in my stint: Outgoing RBI guv Das

Will work to understand all perspectives: RBI Guv-designate

PTI, NEW DELHI: Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra on Tuesday said he will work to understand all perspectives and do what is best for the economy after he takes charge as the RBI Governor on December 11.

Malhotra said, "One has to understand the turf, all perspectives and do what's best for the economy."

While Das kept benchmark interest rates unchanged for almost two years in a bid to control inflation, the incoming governor is said to be a team player who believes prices cannot be managed by the RBI alone and the task needs govt help as well.

He takes over as the 26th governor of the RBI at a time when it is under pressure to cut interest rates to support growth.

The GDP growth slowed to a seven-quarter low of 5.4% in the July-September period while the inflation accelerated to a 14-month high of 6.21% in October.

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SITUATIONS VACANT

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SITUATIONS VACANT

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THANKSGIVING

Prayer to thank Jesus, Mother Mary and Holy Spirit for answering my prayers. A F'des.

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Thank you Jesus, Mother Mary and Holy Spirit for answering my prayers. A.Fernandes

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2024/020972

PTI, MUMBAI: Outgoing Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Tuesday said he gave his best to the institution, and asserted that ties between Mint Road and the finance ministry were "the best" in his six-year stint.

Speaking to reporters on the last day of his term, Das said the "perspectives" of the central bank and the finance ministry can be different on many issues and the phenomenon is seen the world over.

"...in my tenure, I think we have been able to resolve all such issues through internal discussions," Das, the career bureaucrat-turned-central banker, said.

"The relationship between the government, and the finance ministry in particular, and the Reserve Bank of India... I think they have been at their best. We had excellent cooperation, excellent coordination," Das added.

Das, who had served as the secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs and also worked closely on demonetisation in 2016, was appointed as the RBI Governor in 2018 following the sudden resignation



Outgoing RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das during his farewell at RBI headquarters, in Mumbai, on Tuesday

tion of Urjit Patel.

Under Patel, the ties between the finance ministry and the RBI had touched a new low, after the government invoked a sparingly used statute which undermines the autonomy of the central bank.

Das said whenever a governor

assumes office, he looks at things with a "wider economy" perspective, which includes what is the best for the central bank given its mandate and how he or she shall fulfil the mandate.

"It is your responsibility, it is your mandate...because you are oc-

Growth slowdown due to multiple factors, not just repo rate: Das

PTI, MUMBAI: The growth slowdown is due to a multiplicity of factors, and not due to the Reserve Bank's repo rate, outgoing Governor Shaktikanta Das said on Tuesday.

Addressing a press conference on his last day at work, Das said restoring the growth-inflation balance is the most important task ahead for the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

The six years during which Das was the RBI governor included the Covid period and major geopolitical upheavals like the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East.

The RBI has chosen to maintain interest rates at elevated levels for nearly two years, with

the Das-headed Monetary Policy Committee opting for a status quo at 11 consecutive meetings.

Making it clear that people are entitled to their views, the outgoing governor told reporters that the effort has been to make the monetary policy "as appropriate as possible", keeping in mind the ongoing conditions and also future outlook.

Urging people to not look at the issue of rate-setting in a simplistic way, Das said, "as I look at it, I think growth is impacted by multiplicity of factors, not just one factor of, you know, the repo rate."

"Within the MPC and RBI, I think we are convinced that what we have done was the best op-

As I look at it, I think growth is impacted by multiplicity of factors, not just one factor of, you know, the repo rate. Within the MPC and RBI, I think we are convinced that what we have done was the best option available... under the circumstances

— Shaktikanta Das

tion available... under the circumstances," he added.

Union ministers Nirmala Sitharaman and Piyush Goyal are among those who have publicly pressed for a reduction in lending rates in the recent past, and the calls for action among some watchers only got louder after official data suggested real GDP growth hitting a seven-quarter low of 5.4% for the July-September period.

Das said the Indian economy is resilient and robust, and has the

capacity to deal with global spillovers very effectively.

Das said he does not see an issue with the major changes in the MPC, which will soon have five of six members with a small rate-setting experience.

A big institution like the RBI is always a work in progress and there will always be tasks that need to be finished, Das said, when asked about his unfinished agenda.

He hoped that the "transformational" unified lending interface

will have a nationwide launch, and also for Central Bank Digital Currency to be carried ahead as it is the "future of currency".

On the RBI's increased propensity to slap business restrictions on regulated entities under him, Das said efforts are always made to avoid such outcomes by engaging with entities and sometimes conversations stretch up to a year before a decision is made.

Once restrictions are in place, the RBI considers it unnecessary to prolong such orders and is fine to ease them once it sees efforts on compliance by the entity, he said, citing the case of a non-bank lender where it lifted restrictions within two months.