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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

16 September 2023

### Maharashtra State Specific News

#### Port Talbot



**In News:** Tata Steel, U.K. govt. to invest £1.25 billion in Port Talbot

- Tata Steel and the U.K. government have agreed to **invest in an electric arc furnace at Port Talbot** with a capital cost of £1.25 billion, including a grant of up to £500 million from the U.K.
- The project would bolster U.K.'s steel security and be the **first major step towards decarbonisation of the local steel industry**, reducing direct emissions by 50 million tonnes over a decade.

#### Key Points:

- Port Talbot is a town located in South Wales, United Kingdom, known for its rich industrial history, particularly in the steel and manufacturing sectors.
- Tata Steel is one of the largest and oldest steel manufacturing companies in India and among the top global steel producers.
- Tata Steel was founded by Jamsetji Tata in 1907, Tata Steel has a rich history of innovation, sustainability, and corporate responsibility.

#### Marbat festival



**In News:** Nagpur shines in vibrant Marbat festival celebrations.

- In Nagpur, Maharashtra crowds gathered enthusiastically to participate in the Marbat festival
- The focal point of this grand spectacle was the **clay effigies, known as 'Marbats,'** representing both Kali (in black) and Pivli (in yellow),

#### Key Points:

- The Marbat festival is a unique and traditional festival celebrated in Maharashtra, primarily in the city of Nagpur and its surrounding regions.
- It is a unique 150-year-old tradition celebrated exclusively in this region.
- As per the time-honored custom, devotees led a colorful procession, bearing effigies symbolizing evil forces



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### Access to Justice is a Fundamental Right

#### In News:

- Bombay HC observed that **access to justice is a fundamental right** and delay in filing appeals in NIA cases can be condoned.
- Bombay High Court ruled that appellate courts can condone delays and hear appeals filed beyond the mandatory 90-day period under the NIA Act.

#### Key points:

- The Constitution of India has provided for Constitutional articles (Article 39A, Article 14, and Article 21) that guarantee the citizens the right to access to justice.
- Right to legal aid is also now firmly entrenched in various acts including the Legal Services Authorities Act, the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and various Lok Adalats being set up in district and remote villages in India to provide legal help to the ones who cannot afford it.

### ICMR's National Institute of Virology, Pune



#### In News: ICMR's National Institute of Virology, Pune, sent its mobile BSL-3 lab to Kozhikode for early detection of Nipah virus cases.

- Aim is to test samples for Nipah virus in the Kozhikode district after five cases, including two deaths, were reported there.
- A team of experts from the Department of Animal Husbandry has also been deployed to assist the state in the surveillance of animals

#### Key Points:

- The National Institute of Virology (NIV) is a premier research institution under the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), dedicated to the study of viruses and viral diseases.
- NIV plays a crucial role in understanding, diagnosing, and combating viral infections that have public health implications.
- NIV is involved in the development and evaluation of vaccines against viral diseases.

#### About Nipah Virus:

- Nipah virus (NiV) is a highly contagious and deadly zoonotic virus that can cause severe respiratory and neurological diseases in both humans and animals.
- Nipah virus was first identified in 1999 during an outbreak in Malaysia. It was named after the village of Sungai Nipah, where the initial cases occurred.
- The natural hosts of the virus are fruit bats (*Pteropus* spp.), also known as flying foxes.
- Human infections often occur through direct contact with infected bats, consumption of contaminated fruits or date palm sap etc
- Nipah virus is categorized as a priority pathogen by the World Health Organization (WHO) due to its epidemic potential and high mortality rate.



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### Double-Decker buses of Mumbai



**In News:** Iconic double-decker buses of Mumbai retire after 8 decades of service

#### Key Points:

- After 86 years of serving various routes across 'Maximum City', these non-air-conditioned double-decker buses bid adieu to daily commuters and tourists
- It was in wake of a decision by Brihanmumbai Electricity Supply and Transport (BEST) authorities to phase out the diesel-run buses as part of modernisation and operational cost-cutting measures.
- Introduced in 1937, the double-decker buses became synonymous with the city itself, etching themselves into the collective memory of its residents and tourists.

### Marathwada Liberation Day

#### Did you know?

- Marathwada Liberation Day, also known as Marathwada Mukti Sangram Din, is celebrated in Maharashtra on 17 September annually.
- It marks the anniversary of Marathwada's integration with India when the Indian military, liberated State of Hyderabad, and defeated the Nizam on 17 September 1948, 13 months after Indian independence.
- Marathwada, Telangana and Kalyana-Karnataka were part of the former princely Hyderabad state.

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