

Maharashtra Weekly Current Affairs 08 to 14 January 2024

Maharashtra State News

Coastal road project

- The first phase of the coastal road, from Worli to Marine Drive, will be completed by January 31. It is likely to be toll free.
- The remaining part of the road will be opened by May 2024.
- Also, the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL) project will be opened soon.
- The MTHL will be inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi on January 12.

Decrease in Nashik city road accident numbers in 2023

- Nashik, Maharashtra, has seen a slight decline in the number of road accidents in 2023 compared to the previous year.
- In 2023, Nashik city witnessed a 6% reduction in fatalities.
- In 2023, there were 194 road accident deaths, a decrease from 207 in 2022.
- Also, the number of people injured in road accidents saw a 13% decrease.
- It dipped from 540 in 2022 to 468 in 2023

Govt amends PM-eBus Sewa tender

- The Union government has recently amended the PM-eBus Sewa scheme launched in 2023 to include 100 low-floor buses that are more accessible to persons with disabilities compared to the ones with standard floor.
- Center amended a tender for the procurement of 3,600 electric buses to address concerns raised by disability rights activists regarding the accessibility of the initially proposed standard-floor buses.

Think:

- Read about PM-eBus Sewa

Maharashtra govt donates Rs 11 Crore for Ayodhya Ram Mandir

- MH govt has donated Rs 11 Cr to the under construction Ram Temple in Ayodhya, UP

About:

- Ram Mandir is a grand Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Rama

- It is located at the disputed site of Ram Janmabhoomi, believed to be the birthplace of Lord Rama.
- The Temple will be inaugurated on January 22, 2024

7.95L prize money for Vid athletics

- Over 1,500 athletes from across Vidarbha will take part in the athletics competition in the sixth edition of Khasdar Krida Mahotsav (KKM)
- The event will begin at the synthetic track of Divisional Sports Complex in Mankapur from January 13.
- The four-day event will carry a prize money of 7.95 lakh and a total of 116 events in six age categories for men and women.

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (Overseas Indian Day) is a national day in India celebrated on January 9th every year.
- It recognizes and celebrates the contributions of the Indian diaspora to the development of India and strengthens the bond between India and its overseas communities.
- The date commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi to India from South Africa in 1915.
- Gandhi, himself a member of the Indian diaspora, played a pivotal role in India's independence movement.

100 percent land acquired for Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project

- National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL) has achieved 100 percent land acquisition for Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project
- NHSRCL is the executing the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed rail corridor,
- A total of 1389 hectares of land was required,
- It included 951.14 ha in Gujarat, 430.45 hectares in Maharashtra and 7.9 hectares in Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

## White toxic foam in River Indrayani rankles Maharashtra

- The **Indrayani River**, a vital lifeline for Pune and surrounding areas, has been **choked by a thick layer of white, toxic foam**, sparking outrage and concern across Maharashtra.
- The frothy menace is **attributed to industrial pollutants and untreated sewage**
- It **poses serious health risks to aquatic life and nearby communities.**

### Sources of the Foam:

1. Untreated industrial effluents
2. Domestic sewage
3. Use of detergents etc.,.

## Ambani, Jindal among those invited for 'Advantage Vidarbha'

- In a bid to **showcase the potential of the Vidarbha region in Maharashtra**, organizers of the "Advantage Vidarbha" event have extended invitations to prominent industrialists, including Mukesh Ambani (Chairman of Reliance Industries) and Sajjan Jindal (JSW Group Chairman).
- The event, scheduled for **January 27-29, 2024**, aims to **attract investments and boost industrial development in the region.**

## World Hindi Day

- **World Hindi Day**, celebrated annually on **January 10th**, is a day to **commemorate and promote the Hindi language on a global stage.**
- It's an **occasion to recognize the rich cultural heritage, literary depth, and growing influence of Hindi beyond its geographical borders.**

### Did you Know?

- Hindi, with over **600 million speakers worldwide**, ranks as the **third most spoken language globally.**

## MOIL to bring country's longest triathlon to city

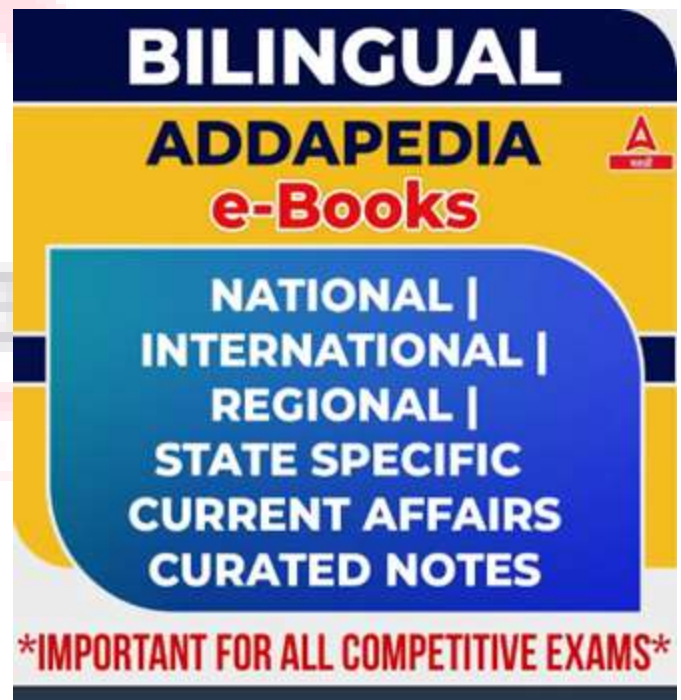
- The **country's longest triathlon, Tigerman Triathlon**, will be **organized by Manganese Ore India Ltd (MOIL) Ltd in Nagpur on February 10 and 11.**
- **Amit Samarth, the finisher of Race Across America**, is the race director of the two-day

event, presented by the largest manganese ore producer in the country, MOIL Limited, with an aim to foster health, sports and community empowerment.

- The competition will start with the participants swimming 5 kms in the Ambazari lake, before taking a 200km cycle ride and concluding with a 50km run.

## Summer onion plantation area falls by 50% in Nashik

- The **poor monsoon is affecting summer onion plantation in Nashik district.**
- This year, **summer onions have been planted on 81,000 hectares, compared to 2.2 lakh hectares last year.**
- The **low plantation will impact the availability of onions in the markets from April, leading to higher prices.**



## KMC converts roadside garbage dumping spot into public garden

- The **Kolhapur Municipal Corporation (KMC) has converted a roadside garbage dumping and waste disposal site near the land records office in Mangalwar Peth into a garden.**
- A **tree plantation drive is also being carried out to give the surrounding area a new look.**

- The road passing through the land records office is a bypass for motorists going towards the race course.

### **MH among top 3 States to contribute 40% of registered MSMEs in India**

- As per a CBRE-CREDAI report, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh collectively contribute nearly 40 percent of all registered micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in India
- According to government data, as of December 2023, there are over 3 crore MSMEs registered in the country

### **Maharashtra's Mahanand Dairy board passes resolution for takeover by NDDB**

- The board of directors at Mahanand Dairy, a once-profitable venture under the Maharashtra government, has sanctioned a resolution to transfer the dairy's control to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).
- However, milk producers in the State are expressing concerns and alleging that the government and the board have decided to facilitate Amul's expansion in Maharashtra.

### **IAF to Organise Aerial Display in Mumbai from January 12 to 14**

- The IAF will organize an aerial display in Mumbai as part of the Indian Air Force outreach programme in coordination with the Government of Maharashtra from January 12 to 14 between 12 pm to 1 pm over Marine Drive
- The displays and demonstrations by IAF personnel and aircraft will showcase the skills, capabilities and professionalism of the force.

### **VIIT bags top prize in poster presentation**

- Vignan's Institute of Information Technology (Autonomous) (VIIT) campus bagged the first prize in poster presentation at Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) regional meet organized by the Ministry of Education (MoE).

- The main objective of the IICs is to show how MoE and All India Council for Technical Education support innovation and development in educational institutions.

### **National Youth Day**

- National Youth Day, observed on January 12th in India, celebrates the vibrant energy and immense potential of the nation's young people.
- This day coincides with the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, a renowned philosopher and spiritual leader whose teachings emphasized character building, social responsibility, and the power of the youth to shape the future.
- The day acknowledges the significant role young people play in driving social progress, innovation, and development.
- It serves as a platform to inspire young people to embrace their potential, engage in their communities, and strive for positive change.
- The theme for National Youth Day 2024 is "Arise, Awake, and Realize the Power You Hold."

### **PM Modi to inaugurate youth festival in Nashik**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Mumbai Trans-harbor link, connecting Mumbai International Airport and Navi Mumbai International Airport.
- It is now named 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewari-Nhava Sheva Atal Setu'
- He will also launch various rail projects and the underground road tunnel in Mumbai.

### **Ports Minister optimistic about job surge with planned Wadhwan port**

- Union Ports Minister Sarbanand Sonowal said that the proposed Wadhwan port near Dahanu will fuel substantial industrial growth in the region
- It will also create job opportunities for thousands of young individuals.

#### **About:**

- Wadhwan Port, also known as Vadhavan Port, is a proposed deep-sea port located on the coast of Maharashtra,

- It's envisioned as India's first foreshore port
- The project is a joint venture between Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) and the Maharashtra Maritime Board

### PM to launch projects worth Rs 30,500 crore in Maharashtra

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi would launch, commission and dedicate projects to the tune of Rs 30,500 crore in Maharashtra.
- He will also inaugurate, dedicate to the nation and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth more than Rs 12,700 crore in the public programme in Navi Mumbai.
- He would lay the foundation stone of the underground road tunnel connecting Eastern Freeway's Orange Gate to Marine Drive.
- It will reduce travel time between Orange Gate and Marine Drive.

### Jijabai Jayanti 2024

- The 426th birth anniversary of Rajmata Jijabai was celebrated with grand celebrations at the Rajwad (palace) of Raja Lakhujji Rao Jadhav in Sindkhed Raja.
- She is the mother of the Maratha warrior king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.
- Descendants of the Jadhav clan from Sindkhed Raja and nearby villages, including Kinagaon Raja, Umerad, Deulgaon Raja, gathered at the palace to perform a grand puja (prayer ceremony) at the sacred site believed to be Jijabai's birthplace.

### Navi Mumbai Airport to Open by Year-End

- Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia announced that the long-awaited Navi Mumbai international airport will begin operations by November or December this year.
- At least 10 Indian cities will have two airports each within the next 10 to 15 years.
- Navi Mumbai airport's opening marks the culmination of a 60-year wait for connecting Mumbai with its satellite city.

### Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Park Art Festival

- Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Park Art Festival returned for its third edition.
- It offers a vibrant showcase of art forms and provides a platform for artists to connect with art lovers and potential buyers.

#### About:

- The Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Park Art Festival is a four-day extravaganza.
- It honors the rich heritage and traditions of Maharashtra, fostering a sense of pride and belonging.

### Atal Setu Bridge

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL), known as Atal Setu, today, marking a historic moment in India's infrastructure development.
- It is dedicated to the memory of the late BJP veteran and former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

#### Key Features:

- **Length and Lanes:** Atal Setu is a 6-lane bridge spanning 21.8 km, making it the longest sea bridge in India.
- **Geographic Extent:** Connecting Sewri in Mumbai to Nhava Sheva in Uran taluka, Raigad district, the bridge is expected to have a transformative impact on the region's economic development and connectivity.

### Mumbai-Pune Expressway

- Road crash fatalities in Maharashtra saw a slight decrease in 2023

#### Key Points:

- Nearly 32% decrease can be seen in road fatalities
- The overall death toll dropped marginally from 15,224 in 2022 to 15,009 last year.



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