

Daily Editorial Analysis

16 June 2021



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Bracing for a threat: On dangers of emerging coronavirus variants

The article talks about an emerging form of delta variant that has become a global concern. India too has its five laboratories dedicated to the GISAID. The UK has revealed that out of 63 genomes in its repository, six are from India and they have delta variant mutation characteristics in them.

The delta variant is the most prevalent in India and is found in those who have no travel history and is associated with resistance to monoclonal antibody treatment.

The scientists claim that AY.1 is the evolution of the Delta variant and has increased the overall infectivity. Such mutations are beneficial for viruses in infecting humans rapidly. Till this battle against the virus is on, the mutation study is necessary to improve upon the vaccines and develop patches to limit the threats from the evolving variants.

India has restricted 10 labs to continue with genome sequencing research. Despite having the capability and expertise, the private labs have not been chosen for the mission. It is highly crucial now for the country to work on preparedness.

Words to look out for

Thwart:

- **Synonyms:** frustrate, foil, hinder
- **Antonyms:** aid, encourage, assist
- **Word usage:** No one, said his younger brother Lucien, liked to thwart him.

Oblivion:

- **Synonyms:** limbo, obscurity, forgetfulness
- **Antonyms:** awareness, concentration, attention
- **Word usage:** Her work was rescued from oblivion when it was rediscovered in the early 1900s.

Dialectical:

- **Synonyms:** argumentative, controversial, polemical
- **Antonyms:** convincing, illogical
- **Word usage:** Maintenance of personal health is dialectical.

Article Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/bracing-for-a-threat-on-dangers-of-emerging-coronavirus-variants/article34825370.ece>



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The Guardian view on delaying lockdown easing: sadly unavoidable

The article talks about easing covid restrictions, where the progress has been steady in England. It has come up with a four-step roadmap for it and the challenges are way less than what they were before. This is because of the successful rollout of the vaccination program.

But the major challenge now is the Delta variant that accounts for 96% of cases in the UK. The variant has increased the risk of hospitalization raising an alarm for the third wave. Even the scientists are dicey as to what extent would the countermeasures work.

That is why the UK's PM is delaying lifting the Covid restriction, hoping to counter the third wave. This delay is surely going to adversely affect the hospitality industry. Also, for the ones who planned for their wedding in summer, the restriction limit which was 30 guests is likely to be eased a bit for funerals and weddings. The government feels the delay is necessary to help vaccination speed win against the pace of virus spread.

Words to look out for

Serene:

- **Synonyms:** calm, tranquil, peaceful
- **Antonyms:** frantic, disturbed, wild
- **Word usage:** Her features were more defined and had a calm, soft, and serene expression.

Abject:

- **Synonyms:** miserable, low, despicable
- **Antonyms:** happy, noble, proud
- **Word usage:** The poor surroundings caused abject misery.

Virulence:

- **Synonyms:** bitterness, acrimony, venom
- **Antonyms:** inner beauty, kindness, affection
- **Word usage:** The disease is seen to have attained its maximum virulence in 1883.

Article Link: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/jun/14/the-guardian-view-on-delaying-lockdown-easing-sadly-unavoidable>

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