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Matter of Thought Gangapur @ 54.28%, district dams 33.72%

Bhavli 100% full

A call for collective responsibility

In today's environmental landscape, we witness a burgeoning movement akin to "seed sprouts" in the wet soil." Numerous organisations are taking spontaneous initiatives to harmonise with nature, signifying a collective awakening to the urgent need for ecological restoration. In Deola taluka, the Malwadi Gram Panchayat officials have committed to planting around two thousand trees within the village area. Alongside this, they are developing comprehensive conservation plans to ensure the survival and growth of these trees. This initiative reflects a proactive approach to local environmental stewardship. Innovative methods are also being employed in Nashik district, where seed balls are being sown on the hills of Gangamhalungi with the aid of drones. This ambitious project covers an expanse of 100 hectares and is a collaborative effort involving the forest department, district administration, and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. Such initiatives highlight the potential of technology in enhancing traditional conservation efforts. The state government has set an ambitious target of planting over one crore trees. In Wardha, the Nisarga Seva Samiti is contributing to this goal by planting trees along roadways and successfully greening two hills. These efforts have garnered media attention, underscoring the widespread commitment to reforestation. Tree plantation and conservation are pivotal solutions to various forms of pollution. Thus, transforming tree plantation into a people's movement is imperative. However, it is crucial to remember that "what is sown must grow." This means selecting tree species that are native to the local environment and beneficial to the indigenous wildlife. Tree experts and naturalists advocate for planting trees that align with the local ecosystem. Understanding the purpose behind this is essential, as each region possesses unique biodiversity. Local tree species not only thrive better but also provide habitat for local bird populations. Planting native species increases the likelihood of successful growth and integration into the existing ecosystem. While tree-planting festivals and public participation in such events are commendable, the enthusiasm often wanes post-event. The survival of planted trees hinges on proper care and conservation efforts. Without sustained attention, newly planted trees are at risk of drying out and dying. Every year, hundreds of thousands of trees are planted on World Environment Day. Yet, the question remains: are these trees thriving and providing shade across the state? Effective conservation planning, as exemplified by the Fashicha Dongar and Borgad areas in Nashik, demonstrates the potential for successful outcomes when longterm strategies are in place.

NASHIK: In a muchanticipated respite, Nashik district has witnessed persistent and widespread rainfall over the past several days, significantly replenishing its crucial water reservoirs. This development has brought a wave of relief to both farmers and residents. who had been grappling with critically low water levels for months.

The Gangapur Dam, a vital water source that had plummeted to dangerously low levels, now stands at 54.28% capacity. This marks a substantial recovery from a mere 19.17% recorded on July 1, 2024. The resurgence in water levels is particularly significant given the dam's pivotal role in supporting ocal agriculture and providing potable water for city.

Similarly, the Gangapur Dam Complex, encompassing the Gangapur, Kashyapi, Gautami Go-



davari, and Alandi dams, has seen a remarkable improvement. From a water stock of just 14.73% on July 1, the complex now holds 46.14% of its total capacity as of July 26.

The broader picture across Nashik's district dams also reflects this positive trend. The collective water stock of the district's seven major and seventeen medium projects has surged to 33.72%,

a considerable leap from the precarious 7.61% recorded at the beginning of the month. This uptick, while encouraging, remains below last year's levels when the district dams were at 42.22% ca-

pacity on the same date. Reservoirs with zero stock include water Ojharkhed, Punegaon, Tisgaon, Nagasakya, and Manikpunj. The recent rains have provided a crucial lifeline to the agricultural

Rainfall

Since the onset of the monsoon in June, Nashik district has received 84% of its average rainfall, totaling 355.6 mm against a normal of 423.5 mm by July 25. Specifically, Nashik tehsil has recorded 216 mm of rainfall, amounting to 64.9% of its usual 332.6 mm for the same period. These figures underscore the uneven distribution of rainfall, with some areas like the drought-stricken talukas of Yeola, Nandgaon, and Malegaon still awaiting adequate rain.

sector, particularly benefiting Kharif crops. The improvement in water availability is expected to reduce reliance on water tankers, which had become a necessity due to the prolonged dry spell.

Ôn July 24, the Water Resources Department facilitated the discharge of 2498 cusecs of water from Darna Dam, capitalizing on the overnight rainfall to bolster the district's water reserves.

The department continues to monitor the situation closely, ensuring efficient management of the newfound water resources

Dam water stocks (%) Gangapur: 54.28

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Kashyapi: 26.62 Gautami: 52.78

Alandi: 19.12

Palkhed: 32.62

- Karanjwan: 16.24
- Waghad: 25.50

Darna: 82.61

Bhavli: 100

Mukne: 29.80

Valdevi: 58.96

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- Kadwa: 95.85
- NM weir: 98.44
- Chankapur: 20.97
- Haranbari: 29.50
- Kelzar: 9.62
- Girna: 11.75
- Punad: 45.33

Zero water stock

- Ojharkhed
- Punegaon
- Tisgaon Nagasakya
- Manikpunj

City pays tribute to Kargil War heroes



NASHIK: On the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas, Bhonsala Military School, Bhonsala Military College, and the Girls' School, all managed by the Central Hindu Military Education Society, paid heartfelt graced by Anand Deshpande, Treasurer Rahul Vaidya, School Chairman Shital Deshpande, the principal, and unit head teachers.

Colonel Vivek Kumar extended his wishes to all on Kargil Vijay Diwas. Reflecting on the silver jubilee year of the Kargil War, he remarked on the enduring legacy of dedication, sacrifice, and loyalty demonstrated by the soldiers. He highlighted the heroism of Captain Vijay Batra and others, praising their contributions to the nation's victory and emphasizing the pride felt in their perseverance through challenging times. The rally began at Hutatma Smarak with CMA Deshpande, Pagare, and Colonel Sandeep Puri, while the college rally started from Dongre Vasatigriha, flagged off by Treasurer Rahul Vaidya, Dr. Vijayprasad Awasthi, and Principal Dr. Dinesh Naik. The girls' school rally was supported by Anand Deshpande, and members Suvarna Dabak and Asawari Dharmadhikari.

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In total, 1,500 students from Bhonsala College, along with boys and girls from Bhonsala Military School, participated in the march past, covering various routes throughout the city and surrounding areas.

Youth saves migratory bird

NASHIK: In a heartwarming display of alertness and compassion, a young resident of Yeola in Nashik dis-

an



bird from the drain and administered first aid on the spot. Recognising the bird's critical need for professional care,

Shah promptly informed Akshay Netre, the Range Forest Officer of the Forest Department. The in-

jured bird,

identified as

ibutes to the martyred soldiers.

A grand rally was held in the city, featuring a captivating march past accompanied by a band. The disciplined movement, stunning decorations, and participation of horses were particularly noteworthy. The event saw the participation of over 1,500 Ramdandis, adding to the grandeur of the tribute.

Chief guest Colonel Vivek Kumar, along with CMA Hemant Deshpande, Nashik Division President Saniav Pagare, Executive Milind Vaidya, and School Commandant Sandeep Puri, offered floral tributes to honor the brave soldiers.

Students from Bhonsala School (both boys and girls) and the College performed a march past, saluting the martyred heroes. The event was Ex-servicemen at Hutatma Smarak

Kargil Vijay Diwas was solemnly celebrated at Hutatma Smarak in Nashik, honouring the bravery and valor of the soldiers who played a pivotal role in Operation Vijay. The commemoration event was graced by District Registrar Kailas Davange and witnessed the presence of representatives from various Sainik associations of Nashik. The gathering paid heartfelt tributes to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the nation's victory. Prominent ex-servicemen, including Laxmikant Parnerkar, Vijay Pawar, Dinkar Pawar, and Pandurang Chaudhary, attended the ceremony. The event was skillfully moderated by Sunil Pawar, ensuring a respectful and poignant atmosphere.

covered the exotic bird in distress, trapped in a nullah in front of a shoe shop at Bajrang Market.

Upon noticing the bird's condition. The youth immediately sprang into action. Without wasting a moment, he carefully rescued the

a species that migrates from Africa, Australia, and South America, was then handed over to the Forest Department. The department has since taken charge of the bird's treatment, with plans to nurse it back to health before releasing it into its natural habitat.

The injured bird, a migratory species native to Africa, Australia, and South America, was delivered to the Forest Department. The department has since assumed responsibility for its care, with plans to provide medical treatment and rehabilitate the bird before returning it to its natural habitat.

Cyber fraud Stay informed and cautious

Cyber fraud is escalating at an alarming rate, outpacing even the growth of internet users. Every day, countless individuals find their bank accounts emptied due to a single misguided click. This method of duping unsuspecting individuals has become all too common, with people unwittingly sharing their passwords or OTPs, only to realize too late that they have been swindled. The aftermath often leaves them bewildered, not knowing where to turn or how to recover their losses

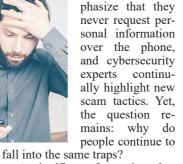
Governments and social organisations have been tireless in their efforts to combat this menace. Campaigns to raise awareness are ubiquitous: plaques with safety instructions are displayed prominently, blogs are written, and educational videos are uploaded to YouTube. These efforts aim to alert, educate, and arm the public against cyber threats.

The advice is clear and consis-

tent: never share OTPs or passwords over the phone, avoid using the same password across multiple platforms, guard your personal information, and refrain from setting overly simple passwords for your devices. The warnings against clicking on suspicious links are omni-







present. Banks em-

A significant factor is cyber illiteracy. Many people lack the basic knowledge necessary to navigate the digital world safely. While this is a critical issue, there is also an inherent responsibility on the part of individuals to educate themselves about the platforms through which they conduct financial transactions.

Awareness about where to report cyber fraud is crucial. There are government portals and various apps designed to facilitate this, yet their usage remains limited. How many people take the time to learn and utilize these resources effectively?

The allure of quick and easy money is a potent lure. Countless fraudulent schemes promise parttime jobs or financial rewards for simple actions like liking videos. The temptation to click on these links often overrides caution. This raises a deeper question about societal attitudes towards wealth and work.

Is it the desire to earn money with minimal effort that blinds people to obvious risks? While it is true that millions are in need of employment, but isn't it one's responsibility to seek out legitimate and reliable sources for that?

In the end, self-awareness and proactive learning are essential. It is everyone's responsibility to stay informed and cautious. Only through collective effort and personal vigilance can we hope to curb the growing tide of cyber fraud.

Nashik-Mumbai

Rasta Roko to highlight poor state of highway



NASHIK: To draw the government's attention to the deteriorating condition of the Nashik-Mumbai highway and address other significant issues in Nashik city, all major associations will stage a Rasta Roko agitation on Monday, July 29, near the Jain temple in Vilholi.

During a meeting held at NIMA House, members unanimously decided to cease paying tolls until a decisive resolution

is reached. The meeting featured the prominent presence of renowned realtor and Citizens Forum mentor Jitubhai Thakkar, along with NIMA President Dhananjay Bele. It was also agreed to send a letter and tweet to Prime Minister Narendra Modi concerning the pending demands.

Representatives from various sectors, including industry, business, healthcare, construction, audit-

ing, architecture, transportation, tourism, wholesale and retail trade, and nearly 26 major associations in Nashik city attended the meeting.

The condition of the Nashik-Mumbai highway has become dire, with large potholes in several areas forcing vehicles to proceed at a snail's pace, leading to an increase in accidents. The journey of 180 kilometres now takes eight to ten hours to complete.

