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ZUM meet on Aug 27

NASHIK: The meeting of Zilla Udyog Mitra (ZUM) is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, August 27th, at the District Collectorate.

This meeting comes after a significant gap, with the last ZUM meeting held on December 28, 2023. Entrepreneurs are now voicing concerns about the effectiveness and urgency with which their issues will be addressed.

During the previous ZUM meeting, it was decided that separate meetings would be organized with the Municipal Corporation, MSEDCL, and MIDC to tackle the specific challenges faced by entrepreneurs. A total of 60 issues were listed on the agenda, with 48 being discussed and 12 added at the last minute.

Since then, three meetings have been conducted by

MIDC and one by MSEDCL. However, the Municipal Corporation, which handles the majority of the complaints, has shown little interest in these proceedings. Despite seven to eight reminders from the Nashik Industries & Manufacturers' Association (NIMA), no meeting has been held by the municipal administration, leading to frustration among the business community. Many entrepreneurs are beginning to question whether the upcoming ZUM meeting is merely a formality.

In the event that the ZUM meeting fails to address their concerns, entrepreneurs are considering the option of holding a divisional Zilla Udyog Mitra meeting through the Divisional Commissioner.



Women invited to attend a programme to promote and disseminate information about the Chief Minister's Majhi Ladaki Bahin Yojana at Sadhugram ground in the Tapovan area on Friday faced hardship. Chief Minister Eknath Shinde expressed his gratitude for their attendance and acknowledged the inconveniences they endured.

Pics: Satish Dvgire, Manoj Nikam

Couple arrested for cheating elderly man

NASHIK: The Mhasrul police's crime branch has arrested a couple for cheating an elderly man by transferring approximately Rs. 6.50 lakh from his account under the guise of offering an insurance policy. The incident occurred on August 18, 2024, when the elderly victim, Kalu Sakaram Kadale, aged 60, was approached by a man and woman in the Mhasrul area. The couple convinced Kadale to visit the Bank of India branch in Mhasrul, promising him a lucrative insurance plan. Once there, they deceitfully transferred Rs. 6.50 lakh from his account to their own via RTGS.

Following Kadale's complaint, the Mhasrul police, under the leadership of senior police inspector Atul Dahake, launched an investigation. Assistant police inspector Satyawar Pawar, along with the anti-chain snatching team, successfully traced the suspects without any prior leads. The arrested suspects, identified as Revati Raghu Pillay (31) and her husband, Chals Viju Indergi (34), were apprehended in Pune. The couple, residents of Saikrupa Society, Somnath Nagar, Vadgaon Sheri, Pune, were found to have committed the crime and have been detained. The police have recovered Rs. 5.47 lakh from the accused.

Two engineers duped of Rs 5 cr

NASHIK: In a shocking case of cyber fraud, two elderly engineers were swindled of Rs 5 crore by criminals posing as officials from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The scammers convinced the engineers that their names were implicated in money laundering cases and that they were under surveillance. To avoid arrest and further action, the victims were instructed to transfer funds into specified bank accounts.

The cyber criminals targeted the engineers—both retirees—over a period of eight to ten days. They transferred the amount, moving the money through major bank accounts to 1,500 different accounts within an hour.

The first victim, a 78-year-old retired IIT engineer living in the city, had lost his wife and has a son residing abroad. The second victim, also retired from a senior IT position, was similarly deceived. Despite not knowing each other, both were contacted between June 19 and July 6, 2024, via sudden WhatsApp video and audio calls. The scammers falsely claimed to be speaking from Mumbai's LT

Marg police station, the CBI, and ED offices, asserting that the engineers were involved in illegal financial investments and money laundering worth Rs 50-100 crore. They even claimed that arrest warrants had been issued against them by local courts and the Supreme Court.

To add credibility, the criminals displayed a fake WhatsApp display picture (DP) of the LT Marg police station and sent falsified documents, complete with fake signatures, stamps, and inward numbers. They further intimidated the victims, warning them not to inform local police or relatives, under the pretext that a "secret team" was monitoring their every move. They also falsely claimed to have found suspicious transactions in the engineers' bank accounts and demanded advance payments to avoid legal action.

Fearing for his safety and his family's, the first engineer transferred Rs 4 to 4.5 crore, while the second engineer, attempting to prevent his wife's arrest, transferred Rs 1 to 1.5 crore. In total, the two were defrauded of over Rs 5 crore. The case is currently under investigation by inspector Riyaz Shaikh.

Bank alert ignored

One of the victims, a 78-year-old, initially visited his bank to make the large transfer. The bank management questioned the purpose of the transfer, but the nervous complainant insisted that the funds were needed for urgent work. It was only after several days that he realized he had been scammed. The Nashik city cyber police conducted a thorough technical investigation and discovered that the funds had been dispersed to over 1,500 different bank accounts within an hour of the initial transfers. The main account holder, to which the money was first transferred, has been traced to Uttar Pradesh and is called by the Nashik cyber police for inquiry.

Police appeal

Police, ED, CBI, NIA, and other investigative agencies never ask anyone to deposit money into bank accounts. If you receive such calls threatening money laundering, drugs, or SIM card misuse for terrorist activities, immediately lodge a complaint at the nearest cyber police station. Citizens should remain alert and unafraid. If you receive such calls, ignore or block them.

- Riyaz Shaikh,
Sr PI, cyber police, Nashik

Cong review meet

NASHIK: Highest number of MPs of Congress party has elected in Maharashtra in Lok Sabha elections. The party also has the same opportunity in the upcoming state assembly elections. Everyone should forget their differences and work together and there will be good results, said Ramesh Chennithala, Maharashtra in-charge of Congress and urged party members to set aside their differences and work collaboratively to achieve success.

Chennithala made these remarks during a party review meeting held on Friday at Tupsakhare Lawns in Tidke Colony. He emphasized that constituency-wise reviews are being conducted across the state to gauge the sentiments of local activists and office bearers, ensuring the party is well-prepared for the elections.

Chennithala stressed

the importance of unity within the party, stating that the current political climate necessitates a collective effort to safeguard the Constitution and the interests of Maharashtra. He criticized the grand alliance government, claiming it was not formed by the people and has failed to address the needs of the common citizens, leading to widespread dissatisfaction. He encouraged Congress members to seize this opportunity to emerge as the state's leading party by working cohesively and setting aside internal differences.

As part of the Maha Vikas Aghadi, Congress will not field candidates in every constituency. However, Chennithala urged all party members to support the alliance's candidates, emphasizing that their collective effort is crucial for success.

Students honored at Horizon Academy

NASHIK: Horizon Academy celebrated the success of its students in a special programme honouring those who excelled in the taluka-level elocution competition and the SSC examinations. The programme was graced by guests, including the chairman of the school management committee, Suresh Kamankar, and Suryabhan Bhoj, along with all committee members and members of the Parent-Teacher Association.

The programme began with the hoisting of the flag by Ganesh Gaikhe, a member of the school

management committee.

The program featured various performances and speeches, with students presenting a soulful rendition of the Samaj Geet song. Teachers Jayashree Kushare and student Siya Vaishnav delivered inspiring speeches highlighting the contributions and legacy of Karmaveer. Raosaheb Chaudhary, a member of the school management committee, and Kalpana Sawant, joint secretary of the Parent-Teacher Association, provided further guidance and motivation to the students.

In his address, chief guest Suryabhan Bhoj

shared valuable insights about Karmaveer, encouraging students to follow in his footsteps and contribute positively to society.

The highlight of the programme was the recognition of the school's meritorious students. Among those honoured were Class X students Sanchit Jadhav, Om Ugale, Aditya Chaudhary, Ishwari Chaudhary, Anushree Maurya, and Rugved Gurgude, who secured third place in the taluka-level elocution competition held on Samaj Din. The programme was compered by teachers Sachin Awhad and Urmila Salunkhe.



Yog Darshan 2024 commences

NASHIK : The two-day national conference, 'Yog Darshan 2024,' began on Friday at Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University (YCMOU). Yogacharya Dr. Vishwasrao Mandlik, a recipient of the Prime Minister's Yoga Award, Dr. Manmath Gharote of Lonavala Yoga Institute and Dr. Vijay Kanchi were the chief guests.

The conference was presided over by YCMOU Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Sonawane. Pro Vice Chancellor Dr. Jogendra Singh Bisen, Director of the Faculty of Health Sciences Dr. Jaideep Nikam, Management Board members Dr. Anil Kulkarni and Dr. Sanjeevani Mahale, Vice Chancellor of Pravara Institute of Medical Science University Dr. Vishnu Magare, and University Registrar Dilip Bharad were also present.

During the inaugural ceremony, the conference souvenir 'Yog Darshan 2024' was released by the chief guests. Additionally, a book titled 'Yoga Teaching Methods,' written by Dr. Balwant Singh, was also released.

In his address, Dr. Manmath Gharote emphasized, "Yoga is intrinsically linked to the mind, with philosophy guiding us through the journey of life, helping us choose the right path." Dr. Vijay Kanchi echoed this sentiment, highlighting yoga as a valuable gift from India that aids in personality development, enabling individuals to positively contribute to society.

Alumni reunion at Rajarshi Shahu Maharaj Polytechnic



NASHIK : Thousands of former students, who have completed their education at various institutions under the Marathi Vidya Prasarak Sanstha (MVP), are now excelling in diverse fields, holding esteemed positions. Many of these alumni are actively involved with the MVP Alumni Association, contributing to the Sanstha's ongoing success. However, MVP general secretary Adv. Nitin Thakare, speaking at the alumni gathering organized at Rajarshi Shahu Maharaj Polytechnic, urged more former students to join the Association and support the institution.

MVP director Adv. Laxman Landge and education officer Dr. D D Lokhande, who were the chief guests. Prof. Dr. H K Mishra, the Secretary of the Alumni Association, provided a comprehensive review of the previous academic year and highlighted the significance of such gatherings in strengthening alumni ties.

During his address, Dr. Lokhande shared exciting developments, announcing that MVP has established separate hostel facilities for male and female students. He further revealed that the construction of a new hostel building, which

will accommodate 600 male students, is progressing rapidly and will soon be completed.

Principal Prashant Patil honored the alumni representatives, wishing them success in their future endeavors. He also shared that the college has applied for NBA accreditation and provided detailed information about the enhanced facilities available at the institution.

Alumni members, including Prathamesh Khule, Vaishali Tapkire, Shriram Belgaonkar, Janhvi Karki, and Raj Ranka, took the opportunity to reminisce about their time at the college, sharing fond memories and experiences.

The programme was organized under the guidance of principal Prashant Patil and Dr. H K Mishra. Prof. B S Deshmukh comper the programme. It received support from all department heads, faculty, and non-teaching staff.

MVP president Dr. Sunil Dhikale, chairman Balasaheb Kshirsagar, vice chairman Vishwas More, and other office bearers also extended their guidance and support to the programme.