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Indefinite strike by RTO employees commences



NASHIK: An indefinite strike by Regional Transport Office (RTO) employees began yesterday, as they seek to address a range of demands. Employees from the Nashik RTO office have joined the strike, which has led to significant disruptions

in functioning of the office. However, the issuance of learning and permanent driving licenses, along with vehicle passing, continued at the office.

The RTO State Employees' Association had previously warned of the strike,

citing demands that include the implementation of a rota system, immediate promotions, service entry adjustments, cancellation of revenue transfers, and the adoption of the Kalaskar committee's recommendations. Following an unsuccessful meeting with Transport Commissioner Vivek Bhimanwar, employees from nearly 52 regional and sub-regional transport offices across the state participated in the strike.

With participation from approximately 40 to 45 employees at the Nashik office, the premises appeared largely deserted. While senior officers and motor vehicle inspectors remained present. However, several vehicle-related services to come to a halt.

License, vehicle passing works continued

Despite the strike, applications for driving licenses, which are processed online with scheduled appointments, continued. Drivers who had previously secured appointments for learning and permanent licenses arrived at the office for their scheduled tasks. Motor vehicle inspectors managed to conduct some vehicle passing procedures.

No protests

The RTO State Employees' Association's indefinite strike has been started statewide. Association leaders, including president Dnyaneshwar Karanjkar, working president Santosh Naik, and secretary Shireen Shah, were present at the office. Notably, no protests or demonstrations were staged; instead, a notice regarding the strike was placed at the office. An additional board requesting public cooperation during this period was also displayed on the premises.

Provide facilities for disabled voters: District Collector to officials

NASHIK: In preparation for the upcoming State Assembly elections, District Collector and District Election Officer Jalaj Sharma convened a review meeting yesterday to discuss initiatives aimed at increasing participation among disabled voters in the district. He directed officials to reach out to disabled voters and ensure that all necessary services and facilities are available at polling stations.

During the meeting held in the central hall of the District Collectorate, Collector Sharma emphasized the importance of including tehsils with a significant population of

disabled voters in the electoral process. He instructed voter registration officers to conduct home visits for disabled voters aged over 100, providing them information about voting facilities and encouraging their participation. For those aged 80 to 90, Tehsildars are tasked with following a similar outreach approach.

Sharma urged all relevant authorities to take steps to enhance voter turnout, particularly in areas with historically low participation in State Assembly elections.

As the district gears up for the 2024 elections, there has been a notable increase in voter registra-

tion, with 119 new polling stations established. To boost turnout, the Collector advocated for innovative approaches alongside the existing SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) activities focused on voter awareness.

Recognizing the urban population's significance in influencing voter turnout, Sharma highlighted the need for targeted awareness programs within larger housing complexes and societies. He instructed Municipal Councils and Nagar Parishads to devise a comprehensive public awareness plan to facilitate this outreach.

Dr. Nikumbh honoured with Aryangla Ratna Award



NASHIK: Dr. Milind Nikumbh, Pro Vice-Chancellor of the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS), was conferred with the prestigious 'Aryangla Ratna-2024' award for his remarkable contributions to Ayurved education and research. The award was presented during a programme organized by the Sheth Chandanlal Mutha Aryangla Vaidyak College in Satara. Senior Ayurvedic experts, Dr. Nandkumar Kajrekar and Dr. Mohan Tambe, had the honour of bestowing the accolade upon Dr. Nikumbh.

MUHS Vice-Chancellor, Lt. Gen. Madhuri Kanitkar (retd.) and registrar Dr. Rajendra Bangal extended their congratulations to Dr. Nikumbh for his exceptional work in the Ayurvedic field.

While speaking on the occasion, Dr. Nikumbh highlighted the historical significance of Aryangla Vaidyak College, the first Ayurvedic institution in India. He emphasized that discipline, punctuality, and planning are key to success. He also noted that MUHS remains dedicated to advancing Ayurved through

integrated treatment methods that combine both traditional and modern sciences. Dr. Nikumbh expressed his gratitude, stating that the Aryangla Ratna-2024 award serves as recognition of his efforts thus far.

The alumni board of Sheth Chandanlal Mutha Aryangla Vaidyak College, affiliated with MUHS, played a pivotal role in honouring Dr. Nikumbh. Dr. D.P. Londhe, president of the alumni board, Dr. Shriram Ragad and Dr. Sunita Gaikwad also congratulated Dr. Nikumbh on receiving the award.

Bus hits vehicles

NASHIK: A Shivshahi bus collided with four to five vehicles near Pinnacle Mall on Nashik-Trimbak Road yesterday due to the driver mistakenly pressing the accelerator instead of the brake. Fortunately, there were no fatalities; however, two to three individuals sustained serious injuries, and two motorcycles were damaged in the incident.

According to reports, as the Shivshahi bus approached Pinnacle Mall from the bus stand, the driver attempted to apply the brakes but inadvertently stepped on the accelerator instead, causing the bus to accelerate unexpectedly. The bus struck four to five vehicles ahead, dragging two motorcycles along with it but narrowly avoiding a more severe outcome. While there were no fatalities, witnesses indicated that some people, including a woman, were injured.

Nation Builder Award presented to teachers



NASHIK: The Rotary Club of Nashik honoured nine women teachers for their exceptional contributions to education and social work with the prestigious 'Nation Builder' award. The programme took place at Rotary Hall, Ganjmal, with Leena Bansod, Executive Director of the Tribal Development Corporation, was present as the chief guest.

In an emotional speech, Leena Bansod shared a heartfelt tribute to her late father, who was pursuing another Ph.D. at the age of 96, underscoring that learning has no age limit. Reflecting on her

upbringing, Bansod said, "I inherited a rich legacy of education and the desire to make a difference in society. It was during my school years that I became aware of the damaging effects of social inequality. With the conviction that administrative power and resources can be used to combat these inequalities, I decided to enter administrative service."

Nine distinguished women teachers were recognized for their outstanding work, including: Vandana Tulshiram Bhoje (Vittthalrao Patwardhan Utarkash Ashramshala, Waghara), Pramila Shriram

Shinde (Shri Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vidyalaya, Nashik), Nivedita Swapnil Potdar (Vidhya Prabodhini Prashala, Nashik), Lata Vishnu Awhad (Bhavana Chandak Mahanab School for the Blind, Nashik), Chhaya Namdev Mali (Nashik Municipal School No. 43), Sunanda Raosaheb Sor (Shrimati Mai Lele Shrivani Vikas Vidyalaya, Nashik), Vaishali Deepak Barve (Savitribai Phule Madhyamik Ashramshala, Mahiravani), Surekha Mohan Gavit (Unnati Madhyamik Vidyalaya) and Malshree Mahesh Thakurdas (Global Vision

International School).

Following the programme, Leena Bansod, along with Rotary Club president Omprakash Rawat and secretary Shilpa Parakh, discussed Rotary's various initiatives and expressed hope that Rotary could serve as a bridge to support underprivileged tribal communities.

Rotary Club president Omprakash Rawat praised the awardees, calling them role models and guides for educators across the region. The programme was compered by Dr. Supriya Mangulkar and Mona Samnerkar and vote of thanks proposed by secretary Shilpa Parakh.

On this occasion, Rotary Club president-elect Dr. Gaurav Samnerkar, project secretary Hemraj Rajput, public relations director Nilesh Sonje and others were also present.

School Carrom Competition
Apeksha wins title

NASHIK: The School Carrom Competition for the 17-year-old girls' category saw an intense showdown on Tuesday at the Divisional Sports Complex, Nashik. The competitions, held on the third day was inaugurated by District Sports Office's kabaddi coach Preeti Karwa. Sports teacher Shivani Kulkarni, Bharat Khatri, Dipali Shinde, District Carrom Association representative Anand Khare and others were also present. The competition witnessed participation from 83 talented players.

In the thrilling final match, Apeksha Sonawane from Chhatrapati Shivaji Vidyalaya, Satpur, faced off against Gauri Telangade from Ravindra Vidyalaya, Kathe Lane. Gauri took an early lead,



winning the first set 4-0. However, Apeksha made a strong comeback, securing the second set 5-0, ultimately winning the match by a narrow margin of just one point, earning her the title. Gauri Telangade finished as the runner-up.

Other notable performers included Samruddhi Hiray from Chhatrapati Shivaji Vidyalaya, Makhalabad, who secured third place, followed by Poonam Gurjar of Eng-

lish Medium School, Untwadi in fourth. Aditi Jadhav from R J Chouhan Girls High School, Nashik Road, claimed fifth place, and Harshita Londhe of Nashik Cambridge School took sixth. These top six players have been selected to compete in the divisional competition. Preeti Karwa also announced that the competitions for the 19-year-old boys and girls groups will take place today (Sept. 25).

Inter College Swimming Competition

RYK College students shine



NASHIK: The Inter College Swimming Competition, organized under the Savitribai Phule Pune University, took place on Monday, September 23, 2024, at the Rajmata Jijau International Swimming Pool in Nashik Road. Students from RYK College showcased exceptional talent and brought home multiple accolades.

Chirantan Khairnar, a second-year B.Sc. (Computer Science) student, claimed first place in both the 200m breaststroke and 200m butterfly events. He also secured second place in the 100m breaststroke.

Varad Kuwar also made a strong impression, finishing first in the 50m butterfly, second in the 200m freestyle, second in the 400m freestyle, and first in the 400m individual medley. Kartik Bhadange added to the college's medal tally by winning the 100m butterfly event.

In the 4x100m freestyle relay, the team consisting of Varad Kuwar, Chirantan Khairnar, Kartik Bhadange, and Om Yadav earned second place. Additionally, the water polo team, featuring Varad Kuwar, Chirantan Khairnar, Kartik Bhadange, Om Yadav, Ishan Dangrikar, Vaibhav Dagrekar, and Shahid Shaikh, also secured second place in the competition.

Technical Day celebrated at Boys' Town Public School



NASHIK: Boys' Town Public School and Junior College celebrated 'Technical Day' with great enthusiasm on September 13, marking the birth anniversary of Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya. The programme, held annually, saw active participation from students of the technical department. Shailesh Pandit, director of Shalaka Shaft Private Limited, Ambad, Nashik, was present as the chief guest.

Educational director Dr. Manisha Pawar and headmistress Swati Kulkarni extended a warm welcome to the guests. The students were intro-

duced to the remarkable life and contributions of Sir Visvesvaraya through a visual presentation.

As part of the celebration, students from Class IX and X of the technical department were felicitated by the guests for their achievements. Avanti Deshmukh, a Class X student, was awarded the prestigious 'Boys' Town Trophy' for being the best student.

In his address, the chief guest, Shailesh Pandit, enlightened the students about various opportunities in the field of engineering, emphasizing the importance of technical

education. A question-and-answer session followed, allowing students to interact and gain insights from the guest.

Dr. Manisha Pawar, in her speech, highlighted the increasing competition for securing admission to reputable engineering colleges, urging students to strive for excellence. The programme concluded with the singing of the national song, 'Vande Mataram'.

Chairman Ratan Luth and managing trustee Meghana Luth extended their full support to the successful organization of the programme.