

# The streets are alive with the spirit of Navratri

## Sharadiya Navratri festival begins

**NASHIK:** The vibrant and much-anticipated Sharadiya Navratri festival has officially begun today, October 3, and will continue until Dussehra, bringing a festive atmosphere to the streets of Nashik. As every year, grand yatras and celebrations are expected around Nashik's iconic Kalika Mata Mandir and Renuka Mata Mandir at Bhagur. This year's Navratri commenced on October 2 at 11:13 PM, marking the official start of the festivities on October 3. The celebrations will culminate with Dussehra on October 12.

**GHATASTHAPANA:** The auspicious time for Ghatasthapana, a key ritual on the first day of Navratri, is set for October 3 from 6:07 AM to 9:30 AM. For those who missed this time, priests have suggested an alternative Abhijit Muhurat from 11:37 AM to 12:23 PM for the installation of the Kalash.

**RUSH FOR PUJA ITEMS:** As the celebrations kick off, braving the heat of October, devotees are flocking to markets to purchase puja essentials. Items in high demand include beautifully crafted Durga idols, along with kumkum, saffron, camphor, incense, flowers, and offerings such as betel leaves, coconut, honey, and Pan-chamewa. Materials for the worship of Navagraha and other rituals, including milk, curd, fruits, Ganga water, and floral offerings, are also being widely sought after. The hustle and bustle of devotees buying these items adds to the lively atmosphere of the festival.



Preparations for the Navratri festival dedicated to Goddess Adishakti, starting today (October 3), have been completed across the city and district. The vibrant celebrations have sparked activity in various temples, public spaces, and homes. Authorities, including the police, food and drug administration, and other organizations, have implemented appropriate measures to ensure the smooth conduct of the festivities. This year, various public bodies have organized Dandiya, Ras-Garba, and other cultural events, adding to the festive spirit. With the upcoming elections, a noticeable increase in enthusiasm can be felt, as the community embraces the celebrations with even greater energy and participation.

## Brahmotsav at Shri Venkatesh Balaji Temple

The historic Shri Venkatesh Balaji Temple in Kapad Peth, Nashik, is hosting its annual Brahmotsav, which begins today. The festivities will commence at 9:30 AM with the Punyah Vachan ceremony, followed by the grand Simha Vahan procession, where the divine idol of Shri Venkatesh Balaji is carried around the temple. Afterward, the Puja Murti Pranpratishtha ceremony will take place, followed by the Pavaman Abhishek for the deity.

**Sudarshan Digvijay Parikrama:** One of the highlights of the Brahmotsav is the Sudarshan Digvijay Parikrama, a Rath Yatra, which will begin at 6 PM today. The Rath Yatra will pass through prominent areas including Ganga Ghat, Nehru Chowk, and Saraf Bazar, with the deity seated on a flower-adorned chariot. Devotees from across the city will gather to witness this grand event, with Sevekaris, dressed in traditional attire, pulling the chariot as a symbol of their devotion. Rath Puja and Aarti will be performed at various stops along the route, with devotees eagerly awaiting the blessings and darshan of Shri Venkatesh Balaji.

**Breaking the fast: A sacred tradition:** Devotees observing fasts will break their fasts only after having darshan of the deity. Temple committee has extended an open invitation to all devotees to join in the grand Rath Yatra.



## Navratotsav

### Partial traffic diversions

**NASHIK:** With the commencement of the Navratri festival, the city traffic police have announced partial diversions in the Mumbai Naka and Bhagur areas to manage the large crowds attending the festivities.

The diversions will be in effect from today (October 3) until Dussehra (October 12), particularly

during the Kalika Devi and Renuka Devi temple yatras.

Deputy Commissioner of Police, Chandrakant Khandvi, has urged commuters to utilize alternative routes during this period. Police have implemented tight security measures at the yatras, temples, and Garba and Dandiya venues across the city.

### Key changes

#### Kalika Devi Yatotsav, Mumbai Naka

- **Barricading points:** Trimbak Naka Signal, Gadkari Signal, Mumbai Naka Taxi Stand, Chandak Circle, Municipal Commissioner's Bungalow, Shingada Talav, Sandeep Hotel.
- **No Entry:** From Gadkari Signal to Mumbai Naka Taxi Stand in both directions.

#### Renuka Devi Yatotsav, Bhagur

- **No Entry:** Rest Camp Road from Chintamani Chauphuli to Naka No. 2 (2 PM to 12 PM).
- **Alternative routes:** Vehicles coming from Bhagur village to Deolali Camp are advised to take the route via Central School on Rest Camp Road, Joshi Hospital-Snehnagar-Perumal Marg-Temple Hill Road-Jozila Marg-Rest Camp Road. Motorists are advised to plan accordingly and follow the prescribed routes to avoid inconvenience during the festival.

## Devotees flock to Ram Teerth



**NASHIK:** On the occasion of Sarvapatri Amavasya, large crowds of devotees gathered at Ram Teerth on Wednesday to perform the sacred 'Pind Daan' rituals in honor of their ancestors. Devotees from across the

state, including Mumbai, began arriving at Ram Teerth early in the morning. The heavy influx of visitors, coupled with the weekly market, led to significant traffic congestion in the area.

The rising water levels of the Godavari River caused an overflow from Gandhi Lake, creating favorable conditions for performing the rituals at this revered site. Additionally, ceremonies were conducted in the parking areas of Ram Teerth and on the grounds of Ahilyaram Vyayamshala, as devotees sought to pay their respects to their forebears.

## Good Laboratory Practice

### First workshop at MVP medical college

**NASHIK:** For the first time in Nashik, Dr. Vasant Pawar Medical College, Hospital, and Research Center, under the Maratha Vidya Prasarak Samaj (MVPS), hosted a workshop on 'Good Laboratory Practice' (GLP), organized by the Department of Pathology. The event aimed to enhance knowledge and implementation of best practices in the laboratory field, aligning with current advancements in healthcare and medicine.

This workshop is expected to significantly contribute to improving the quality of healthcare services, ensuring accuracy in laboratory tests, and fostering better patient care. Attendees, including MBBS students, postgraduate students, and faculty members from the Bachelor of Paramedical Technology (BPMT) program, expressed their appreciation for the workshop, acknowledging its relevance and benefits for their professional development.

Dean Dr. Sudhir Bhamre highlighted the importance of such initiatives, emphasizing that regular workshops on Good Laboratory Practices will help laboratory professionals ensure accurate test results and deliver up-to-date healthcare services. He also stressed the need for consistency in organizing such educational events.

The workshop was conducted under the leadership of MVPS General Secretary Adv. Nitin Thakare, along with the support of Education Officer Dr. Dnyaneshwar Lokhande, Dean Dr. Sudhir Bhamre, and Professor and Head of the Pathology Department, Dr. Preeti Bajaj.

A total of 85 participants, including teaching staff, technicians, postgraduate (MD Pathology) trainee doctors, and students from the Paramedical Technology Course (BPMT), actively engaged in the workshop.

## SMBT monsoon league cricket tourney kicks off

**NASHIK:** The SMBT Monsoon League Cricket Tournament, organized by the Nashik District Cricket Association (NDCA), began on Wednesday, marking the start of the 2024-2025 season.

In the opening match, Nashik Gymkhana triumphed over Krishna Cricket Academy (KCA) by 7 wickets, led by an impressive all-round performance from Yasser Sheikh.



Ojas Shirule

Yasser, along with Tanmay Shirde, claimed 3 wickets each, while Vikas Waghmare and Akash Borse contributed 2 wickets apiece, restricting KCA to a modest 78 runs. Ramesh Ubale scored 27 for KCA, while Kapil Shirath and Yasser scored 34 and 23 runs respectively for Nashik Gymkhana.

In the second match, Dwarka Cricket Academy (DCA) defeated

HAL by 17 runs. DCA posted a total of 262 all out, with Ranji player Murtaza Trunkwala leading the charge with a top score of 76, supported by Dhananjay Thakur's 61 runs. HAL's Deepak Shimpi took 4 wickets, while Samadhan Pangare claimed 3.

In response, DCA's Ojas Shirule took 5 wickets and Kshitij added 2, restricting HAL to 245 runs, securing a win for DCA. Yogesh Rajdev scored 63 runs, and Samadhan added 49 for HAL.

## Gandhi and Shastri Jayanti celebrations

**NASHIK:** The students across city schools marked Gandhi Jayanti and the birth anniversary of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri with great patriotic zeal.

The celebrations were held within the school premises, aimed to educate the young minds about the profound contributions of these national leaders. Students were introduced to key moments from the lives of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri, learning about their values and the events that shaped India's history. Activities also held at P E School, Dr. Gujar Subhash High School, and Vidyat Bhawan Nashik Road.

### Gurukul Academy English Medium School



Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti were celebrated at Gurukul Academy English Medium School, Panchavati, Nashik yesterday with great enthusiasm and togetherness. The birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi who showed the world the path of non-violence and truth was celebrated as well as the birth anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri

who gave the slogan "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan".

A special programme was organized in the school to commemorate the contribution of these two great freedom fighters. The programme was moderated by teacher, Jayashree Badgujar. School Principal Poonam Shinde started the programme by worshipping the image and lighting the lamp.

### The Nalanda Academy



In a heartwarming celebration, The Nalanda Academy honoured the birth anniversaries of two of India's most revered leaders -- Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri. The event, held on the school campus, aimed to introduce young students to the timeless values of peace, truth, and simplicity.

Teachers shared inspiring stories about both leaders, focusing on Gandhiji's philosophy of non-

violence and Shastriji's powerful message of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan." These stories instilled a deep sense of respect and admiration for the two national icons in the young minds.

By introducing these values at an early age, The Nalanda Academy encouraged students, parents, and teachers to work together in nurturing a sense of patriotism and responsibility in the children.

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