

Matter of Thought

Promoting legal adoptions

November, recognised as National Adoption Awareness Month, serves as a reminder of the need to support and promote legal adoptions, providing orphans with stable and loving homes. Adoption offers orphans the chance for a nurturing family environment, security, and the emotional and financial support necessary for their growth and well-being. In recent years, interest in adoption has grown steadily, with reports indicating that over 8,000 prospective parents have registered to adopt children in certain regions. While these numbers are encouraging, they also highlight a significant gap—many children still remain in orphanages, waiting for families. In some cases, these children are not even registered, making it harder for potential adopters to find them. The benefits of adoption are reciprocal: orphans find a home and a family, and adoptive parents experience the fulfillment and joy of raising a child. Families that have adopted children attest to the profound love, sense of purpose, and unity that adoption brings. For many, the preference is to adopt children from infancy up to six years old, as younger children tend to adjust to their new families more readily. Raising a child from an early age allows adoptive parents to bond closely and instill family values naturally over time. Unfortunately, if children are not adopted, they often remain in social institutions until they reach adulthood. At eighteen, they are required by law to leave these institutions, which can be difficult and disorienting. Without family support, many face challenges such as finding housing, education, and employment. Adopting these children before they reach adulthood provides them with a stable foundation and loving guidance that will continue throughout their lives. The adoption process in India is overseen by CARA (Central Adoption Resource Authority), which operates under the Ministry of Women and Child Development. CARA establishes and monitors the legal procedures and eligibility criteria for adoption, ensuring that every orphaned child finds a safe and suitable family. However, the adoption process is often seen as slow and complex, involving extensive paperwork and compliance with numerous legal requirements. For many prospective parents, these hurdles can be daunting, yet their determination and love drive them to endure the process for the chance to bring a child into their lives. Efforts to streamline and simplify the adoption process would be widely beneficial. Social workers, activists, and adoptive parents alike urge that the system should be made more accessible and efficient. Many children wait years in institutions, and with a faster process, more of these children could find loving homes sooner. A collaborative approach between government agencies, social organizations, and the community is essential for creating a smoother adoption process that benefits both children and parents. As National Adoption Awareness Month is celebrated, it serves as a powerful call to action to expedite the adoption process, encourage legal adoptions, and support adoptive families. By joining forces to simplify the adoption process, we can ensure that more children have the opportunity to experience the warmth, love, and security of a family.

Temperature dips

NASHIK: Winter has arrived early in Nashik, with the city experiencing some of Maharashtra's lowest temperatures. On Thursday, the minimum temperature dipped to 13.2°C, down from Wednesday's 13.4°C, marking Nashik as the coldest spot in the state. The city's temperatures have been steadily dropping, with Tuesday at 13.7°C, Monday at 14.1°C, and slightly warmer readings earlier in the week.

Adding to the wintry feel, a light fog blankets the outskirts, intensifying the morning chill, while daytime temperatures remain around 30.4°C, providing warmer afternoons. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)

has forecasted continued dry weather for Madhya Maharashtra over the next four days, with only scattered rain possible in some areas over the next two days. Despite mild afternoons, mornings and evenings have become significantly cooler, and chilly nights have led residents to bundle up in warm clothes. In some areas, people have even gathered around bonfires to ward off the cold.

The shift in temperatures is attributed to the arrival of northerly winds, which have dropped Nashik's temperatures by 1 to 1.5°C over the past few days, signaling an early start to winter in the region.

| Temp | (Min °C) |
|-------------|----------|
| ❖ Yesterday | 13.2 |
| ❖ Wednesday | 13.4 |
| ❖ Tuesday | 13.7 |
| ❖ Monday | 14.1 |
| ❖ Sunday | 14.2 |
| ❖ Saturday | 14.7 |
| ❖ Friday | 14.6 |
| ❖ Thursday | 14.4 |

Deshdoot Panchavati Property Expo kicks off today

NASHIK : The much-awaited Panchavati Property Expo 2024, organized by daily Deshdoot and presented by Harshal Hanmante Builders & Developers Pvt. Ltd., begins today (November 15), offering a golden opportunity for aspiring home buyers.

The three-day event will be inaugurated at 5 p.m. today at SLK Properties, located opposite Raj Sweets, RTO Corner, Dindori Road, Panchavati. The expo will run until Sunday, November 17, 2024.

Dignitaries such as NAREDCO Nashik founder member Jayesh Thakkar, Namco Hospital Board of Trustees secretary Shashikant Parakh, HDFC Bank Business Development Officer Parag Rokde, and Harshal Hanmante, Director of Harshal Hanmante Builders & Developers, will be present as chief guests.

As Nashik progresses toward becoming a 'smart city,' the Panchavati region—rich in religious and historical significance—has established its own identity. The area has seen rapid urban expansion due to its proximity to key government institutions, schools, national and state highways, agricultural markets, and vibrant local economies. This growth is driving the momentum of the region's economic cycle.

The expo will feature stalls from some of the city's leading builders, including Harshal Hanmante Builders & Developers Pvt. Ltd., Keystone Construction, Sheth Realty, Dhatrik Group, Ichamani Buildcon, Param Developers, Real Buildcon, Somvijay Constructions, Omkar Builders & Developers, Hari Om Group, and many more. Visitors will have the chance to explore a variety of attractive property plans.

The key sponsor of the event is Harshal Hanmante Builders & Developers Pvt. Ltd., a trusted family business with 37 years of experience, while the Financial Partner is Bank of Maharashtra. The expo is open to the public from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. daily until November 17. Organizers encourage citizens to take advantage of this unique opportunity to fulfill their dream of owning a home at the Panchavati Property Expo.

Response to Citiline

NASHIK: During the Diwali holidays, the NMC-run Citiline bus service emerged as the top choice for commuters, generating impressive revenue of Rs 62.80 lakh over the festive period.

Known for its comfort, modernity, and affordability, Citiline has quickly gained popularity among Nashikites. The city's eco-friendly CNG buses, which contribute to reducing pollution, have further boosted the service's appeal. On November 11, the service recorded a one-day revenue of Rs 33.27 lakh, with 81,000 passengers using the buses. The following day, November 12, saw a revenue of Rs 29.53 lakh, with around 78,000 passengers availing themselves of the service. Nashikites enjoyed the benefits of this efficient transport service, which proved to be a significant "Diwali gift," with higher passenger turnout and increased revenue during the second week of November.

Viral fever cases on the rise

NASHIK: Nashik is currently experiencing a sudden surge in fever cases, resulting in overcrowding at both government and private hospitals. Experts attribute the rising number of cases to changing weather conditions, which are linked to climate change.

Dr. Tanaji Chavan, Health Officer, stated, "With the end of the Diwali holidays and the reopening of schools, we expect a further rise in cold and cough infections. This season has seen an increase in fever cases, and the changing climate is likely playing a role in this surge."

As of now, more than 450 pa-

tients have been registered in municipal hospitals, with a significant number also seeking treatment at private healthcare facilities. The outbreak began after the rains subsided last month, and in October alone, municipal hospitals saw over a thousand fever cases.

From November 1 to 12,

415 new cases were reported. With a cold weather system settling in, residents are facing increased instances of fever, as well as a rise in cold and cough cases. Health experts warn that the ongoing climate change is contributing to these health issues.



Assembly polls

Vigilance for fair elections

NASHIK: Ahead of the assembly elections on November 20, B R Balakrishnan, the Special Expenditure Observer appointed by the Election Commission of India for Maharashtra, has directed strict monitoring across Nashik Division to prevent any electoral malpractices. Balakrishnan emphasized the need for thorough surveillance in all assembly constituencies and urged the use of drones where necessary, alongside flying squads and static surveillance teams.

During a review meeting at the Nashik collector's office on Thursday, attended via video conferencing by expenditure observers and district election officers from Ahilyanagar, Dhule, and Jalgaon, Balakrishnan highlighted the importance of closely tracking election expenses and campaign activities of candidates and political parties.

He directed survey teams

to intensify inspections on main and rural roads within the constituencies to deter illegal practices such as the distribution of liquor or cash as the election date nears. Additionally, he urged authorities, including the Income Tax department, police, GST officials, state excise, banks, and forest departments, to promptly address any suspected malpractice within their jurisdictions.



Balakrishnan also advised careful monitoring of unusual bank transactions, specifically rapid spikes in business turnovers. Special attention is to be given to activities in sensitive areas, including the movement of alcohol within and across district and state borders. Monitoring of goods in warehouses, their sale, and transportation was also advised. Finally, he called on the police to monitor social media closely to counter any false propaganda.

Dr Arun Swadi passes away

NASHIK : Dr. Arun Swadi, a paediatrician, deputy governor of Rotary Club, former president of Indian Medical Association Nashik Road and Devlali Rotary Club and columnist for the daily Deshdoot and Deshdoot Times, passed away in Sangamner yesterday. While he was at the home of his daughter, Dr. Akanksha Sonambekar, he experienced severe chest pains and was admitted to her hospital. However, while undergoing the treatment Dr. Swadi passed away. Dr. Swadi had established his own children's hospital after retiring as assistant medical officer at the Cantonment Board Hospital in Devlali in 1988. Active in community service, he founded the Shram Parihar Puri Bhaji Kendra in 1997 as president of the Rotary Club. Beginning his commentary career during the 1987 Cricket World Cup, Dr. Swadi became a cricket analyst. Through his passion for the game, over the years, he wrote for daily Deshdoot and Deshdoot Times and other major dailies in Nashik.



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