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## Dr. Arun Swadi A Writer of Gentle Humour

Some writers carve a permanent niche in our hearts, their words leaving an indelible impression over time. Dr. Arun Swadi was one such luminary—a man of many talents and passions. Fond of cricket and cinema, he was not only a prolific writer but also a gifted singer, a compelling orator, and a dedicated leader in social initiatives. For years together Dr Swadi penned a column 'Round The Wicket' for Deshdoot Times and Deshdoot in English and Marathi respectively. His love for cricket was unparalleled, and he wrote about every match with such passion and precision that his columns painted vivid, ball-by-ball pictures of the game. He infused his commentary with insight, often offering suggestions to players with a rare combination of fervour and understanding. His criticism remained constructive, never crossing the boundaries of respect, while his praise was showered like a cascade of flowers, celebrating the spirit of the players and the sport. Dr. Swadi's writing was lucid and fluid, almost conversational, as though he were personally narrating a story to each reader. Meeting him during the final phase of his life was a privilege, making his passing just two and a half months later all the more poignant.

**Dr Arun Swadi's writings will be deeply missed by the readers of 'Deshdoot Times', where his work resonated so profoundly. Deshdoot Times pays rich tribute to this versatile and extraordinary personality, Dr. Arun Swadi.**



Dr. Swadi was not only a skilled pediatrician but also a cherished figure in Deolali Camp, where his contributions extended far beyond medicine. Together with his wife, he ran a hospital that served the local community with dedication and compassion. A committed Rotarian, Dr. Swadi served as the president of the Rotary Club of Deolali Camp and was instrumental in conceptualizing the now-iconic Puri Bhaji Centre—a reflection of his deep-rooted commitment to community welfare.

An alumnus of B.J. Medical College, Dr. Swadi's college years coincided with a vibrant literary and cultural movement that ignited his lifelong passion for writing. He became a prolific contributor to Nashik's leading newspaper 'Deshdoot', establishing himself as a writer of wit and insight. His sports columns in 'Deshdoot' and articles on cinema in other publications captivated readers, blending erudition with a gentle humour that became his hallmark.

Dr. Swadi's versatility as a writer was extraordinary. Whether penning articles on cinema, sports, nature, or travel, his words flowed with ease and finesse. I was fortunate to meet him three times over a span of two and a half months, each meeting leaving a deep impression. Our first encounter was at the 50th programme of Girana Gaurav Pratishthan, where he attended as a listener alongside his wife. A few days later, he was to speak about his recently published book, 'Sarmisal'.

The second meeting occurred during a session titled 'Pustakvar Bolu Kahi', where Dr. Swadi discussed 'Sarmisal', published by Vaishali Prakashan. His lecture was as vibrant and engaging as the book itself, offering a delightful mix of humour, insight, and charm. A serendipitous moment followed when I won a copy of 'Sarmisal' in a lucky draw—a treasured memory of that day.

'Sarmisal' is a literary mosaic, a treasure trove of articles spanning a stunning range of topics: fine arts, social issues, travelogues, cuisine, medicine, cinema, music, and cricket, among others. The book invites readers to journey from the rains of coastal Karnataka to the flavours of idlis, from America to the misty landscapes of Cherrapunji. Its apt title, meaning "mixed platter," reflects the rich diversity of its contents.

Dr. Swadi's debut book, 'Sixer', celebrated his passion for cricket through a collection of articles on the sport. 'Sarmisal' widened his literary scope, while his third book, 'Ke Dil Abhi Bhara Nah', offered a humorous and reflective exploration of cinema, featuring captivating stories about actors, musicians, and filmmakers. At the time of his passing, he was already working on his fourth book—a testament to his unyielding creative energy.

Our third and final meeting was at the anniversary celebration of 'Daily Deshdoot'. Having admired his writings since my college days, meeting him thrice in such quick succession felt like a gift. His sudden departure is an irreplaceable loss, but his legacy as a writer, doctor, and compassionate human being will live on.

Dr. Arun Swadi's name will forever be synonymous with humorous, insightful reflections on cricket, cinema, and life. His works remain a tribute to a man who could find beauty and humour in every corner of existence.

- Adv. Milind Madhukar Chindhade

## Poor quality of Rest Camp Road work

**NASHIK:** Local residents have raised concerns over the poor-quality concreting work of Rest Camp Road, which connects Devali Camp to Lavhit, Bhagur, Sinnar, and villages in Igatpuri taluka. The road, vital for school children, farmers, workers, and vehicle owners, had been in disrepair for weeks, causing significant inconvenience.

The deteriorating condition of the road prompted an all-party meeting, where office bearers of all parties warned of protests against the administration's inaction. Subsequently, current MLA Saroj Ahire inaugurated the roadwork in the presence of local representatives and Public Works Department (PWD) officials. Despite this, when agitators demanded the work order during the meeting,

PWD officials claimed it was unavailable.

As a temporary solution, Saroj Ahire held discussions with the Canton-



ment Board's president and chief executive officer and army then opened a pedestrian road for vehicles from the defense area for a month. The main roadwork was completed

within a month.

However, residents allege that the completed road does not adhere to the specified work order. The seven-and-a-half-metre-wide road has been reduced to six-and-a-half metres. Side strips remain unpaved and lack systematic alignment. Old roads have not been properly connected to the new one. The road surface is uneven, and there are no provisions for rainwater drainage and details about the materials used—cement, iron, and gravel—are missing.

Citizens have demanded an investigation into the roadwork, citing these irregularities. Concerns over transparency and the road's durability continue to mount, with residents calling for accountability from the responsible authorities.

## Rising encroachments in Satpur & Ambad industrial areas

**NASHIK:** Encroachments on both sides of major roads in the Satpur and Ambad industrial areas have increased, creating significant challenges for workers, drivers, and industrialists. These encroachments are particularly problematic for large containers trying to access the industrial zones, causing delays and difficulty in transportation.

Industry associations, including AIMA, and local industrialists have called for action to remove the encroachments. However, despite repeated follow-ups, the NMC anti-encroachment department has been slow to take concrete action, leading to ongoing concerns.

While the anti-encroachment department carried out a drive to remove a shed and some concrete constructions built along the roads, these measures have proven temporary. Once action stops, the encroachments quickly resurface, leading to frustration among local entrepreneurs. The encroachments are hindering the movement of vehicles transporting raw materials and finished goods, resulting in frequent disputes between local residents and vehicle drivers.

Following complaints from industrialists during a District Industries Centre meeting chaired by the District Collector, the District Collector ordered the anti-encroachment department to take action. This led to the removal of a shed, which was found to be a spot for alcoholics and other illegal constructions. However, the issue persists as the shed is being rebuilt soon after the department's action. Entrepreneurs have requested the anti-encroachment department to resume action, especially after the lifting of the Model Code of Conduct.

In addition to this, a new issue has arisen due to the presence of vegetable markets along the roads in the industrial areas. Vendors on both sides of the road, from XLO Point to Power House, have created regular traffic jams.

Similar congestion is reported near the ESI ground and Carbon Naka area, where vegetable markets have also set up. Industrialists are blaming the anti-encroachment department for not addressing the expanding vegetable markets, which are exacerbating the traffic issues.

## HC admits farmers 'PIL against loan recovery

**NASHIK:** The Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by farmers challenging the forced loan recovery practices of the Nashik District Central Cooperative (NDCC) Bank has been admitted by the High Court. The first hearing was held yesterday, and the court has scheduled the next hearing for December 18. At that time, officials from the State Cooperative Bank, NABARD, and the cooperative department will be required to attend and respond to the PIL.

The petition, filed by Prakash Shinde and Arjun Borade, represents thousands of farmers protesting the unreasonable loan recovery methods employed by the NDCC Bank. The farmers, supported by organizations such as Shetkari Sangharsh Sanghatana and Shetkari Sanghatana Sanmay Samiti, have long been vocal against the aggressive loan collection tactics of the bank.

## Three-tier security around strong rooms

**NASHIK:** As the vote counting for the State Assembly elections takes place today (Nov. 23), police administration have implemented three-tier security around the strong rooms in the city and across all constituencies in the district. The increased security comes after disputes during voting, prompting special precautions in every constituency, including Nandgaon.

Under the instructions of Police Commissioner Sandeep Karnik, Deputy Commissioners of Police Kiran Kumar Chavan, Monika Raut, Prashant Bachhav, and Chandrakant Khandvi have overseen the deployment of security around the strong rooms. Additionally, Assistant Commissioners of Police Shekhar Deshmukh, Sachin Bari, Nitin Jadhav, and Padmaja Badhe have enforced Section 144 near the vote counting centres. Security of the secret teams led by Assistant Commissioner Sandeep Mitke has also been arranged. Armed police have been deployed at the strong rooms since

Wednesday (Nov. 20) night, and the security will remain in place until Sunday (Nov. 24) midnight. To maintain order, candidate representatives will not be allowed to carry mobile phones or electronic devices inside



A tight police security at Dadasaheb Gaikwad hall. The counting areas. Once they enter, their passes will be collected if they leave the premises. Access beyond barricades will also be strictly prohibited.

### STRONG ROOM LOCATIONS

- ▶ Nashik East: Divisional Sports Complex, Panchavati
- ▶ Nashik Central: Dadasaheb Gaikwad Hall, Bhabhanagar
- ▶ Nashik West: Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj Stadium, Ambad
- ▶ Igatpuri: Government Girls' School, CBS

## 158 voters cast tender votes

**NASHIK:** In Nashik district, a total of 158 voters were allowed to cast tender votes following complaints that some else had already voted in their names. This occurred after voters from across 15 state assembly constituencies in the district raised concerns that someone had voted on their behalf.

Among the 158 voters, 57 were from the Nashik West constituency. These individuals reported that their names had been marked as having voted, even though they had not cast their ballots. As a result, they filed complaints with election authorities, requesting that they be allowed to vote through the tender voting process.

**What is tender voting?** Tender voting is a special provision that allows a voter to cast their vote if it has been determined that someone else has already voted in their name. When a voter complains that their identity has been misused, and they provide the necessary identifica-

tion to prove their identity, election officials permit them to vote using a ballot paper, known as a tender vote.

However, tender votes are not counted in the regular vote tally during the initial counting process. These votes only come into play in certain circumstances, such as when two candidates receive an equal number of votes. In such a case, the tender votes are counted to break the tie. The decision to count tender votes is made after comparing the number of tender votes cast and the margin of difference between the two candidates. This decision is made in coordination with the state election officer and, if necessary, the court.

As of now, no tie has occurred in the ongoing election, meaning the tender votes cast by the 158 voters will not be counted in the final tally. However, the system ensures that voters' complaints are addressed, allowing them to exercise their right to vote despite the misuse of their identities.

## Madhura shines despite Maharashtra's loss

**NASHIK:** Madhura Dayama from the Nashik District Cricket Association showcased impressive bowling performance for the Maharashtra team in the BCCI Under-15 Girls ODI Tournament. Playing against Andhra Pradesh in Bhubaneswar, she claimed three wickets for just two runs in seven overs.

Despite her performance, Andhra secured a win by 82 runs. Batting first, Andhra scored 193/7, while Maharashtra managed only 111 runs in reply.

Maharashtra's upcoming matches in Odisha are: Nov23: Uttarakhand (Cuttack), No 25: Himachal Pradesh (Cuttack), Nov 27: Puducherry (Bhubaneswar) and Nov 29: Meghalaya (Cuttack).



## Badminton State C'ship Vishwajeet wins gold

**NASHIK:** Vishwajeet Thavil, a student of Delhi Public School (DPS), Nashik, secured the gold medal in the under-14 category at the DSO Interscholar Badminton State Championship, organized by Maharashtra's Ministry of Sports and Youth Welfare.

This victory earned Vishwajeet the captaincy of the Maharashtra team, which he will lead in the upcoming national championship in Delhi.

The state-level competition, held in Baramati, saw Vishwajeet defeating Nagpur 30-21 in the quarterfinals, Pune 30-23 in the semifinals, and Mumbai 30-23 in the final match to claim the gold.

Vishwajeet is the first player from DPS to achieve this feat in the DSO championship. School director Siddharth Rajgharia, principal Shilpa Ahire, and teachers congratulated him on this milestone and wished him success in the nationals.



## Training session for teachers at The Nalanda Academy

**NASHIK:** Recognizing the need to address the unique challenges of the Alpha Generation, The Nalanda Academy organized an insightful training session for kindergarten teachers on the topic 'Identifying Developmental Disorders in Children.' The workshop, led by the school's experienced counsellors, aimed to empower educators with knowledge and tools to identify and support children with developmental disorders effectively.

The session began with an overview of developmental disorders, which are conditions affecting a child's physical, cognitive, communication, social, or emotional development. These include autism spectrum disorders (ASD), attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), learning disabilities, and speech or motor delays.

Counsellors emphasized the importance of



early detection and explained the signs to watch for in young children, such as: Difficulty in communication or social interaction; Delays in achieving developmental milestones like walking or talking; Challenges in concentration and impulsive behaviour often mistaken as hyperactivity or naughtiness and Sensory issues, such as being overly sensitive to noise or textures.

The session addressed common misconceptions, such as labelling children as "naughty," "hyperactive," or attributing their

behaviour to excessive screen time. Instead, edu-

cators were urged to view such behaviours through the lens of developmental needs and adopt a compassionate approach. Practical strategies were shared to handle children with special needs.

The workshop underscored that addressing developmental disorders is crucial in shaping the Alpha Generation, characterized by their tech-savviness and exposure to diverse stimuli. Ensuring early intervention can help children overcome challenges and thrive academically and socially.