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## Potholes

# Municipal Commissioner orders action

**NASHIK:** Municipal Commissioner Manisha Khatri has issued strict directives to address the growing concerns of citizens regarding the prevalence of potholes across the city. Taking serious note of frequent complaints, Khatri has mandated immediate and systematic action to ensure safer and smoother roads in all six municipal divisions.

Khatri instructed engineers from the Public Works Department (PWD) to personally inspect potholes in their respective divisions daily. They are required to initiate repairs immediately and submit a report detailing the number of potholes filled each day to the city engineer.

To ensure consistent progress, the Additional Municipal Commissioner (City) has been tasked with conducting biweekly review meetings with the construction department. These meetings will evaluate the status of potholes across all major and minor roads in Nashik city and prepare a comprehensive report for submission to the Municipal Commissioner.

The six municipal divisions—

*There are numerous potholes on roads across the municipal area, I and my office have been receiving complaints in writing about these issues. These potholes have caused accidents and are tarnishing the reputation of the Municipal Corporation. This matter is serious, and immediate action is necessary. The concerned department has been instructed to act swiftly.*

**- Manisha Khatri,  
Municipal Commissioner**

Cidco, Satpur, Nashik Road, Panchavati, Nashik East, and Nashik West—have been plagued with potholes, leading to citizens' frustration and frequent minor accidents. Although the construction department had earlier encouraged citizens to report potholes via WhatsApp and claimed to have resolved those complaints, the persistence of the issue has drawn sharp criticism.

Expressing her displeasure over the ongoing complaints, Khatri emphasized the need for immedi-

ate, concrete measures. She ordered junior engineers, deputy engineers, and divisional officers to inspect their areas daily and promptly address both small and large potholes. Divisional officers have been instructed to monitor the work closely and ensure daily updates are submitted to the respective executive engineers.

The executive engineers are required to personally inspect road conditions and verify pothole repairs in their divisions. A consolidated report must be submitted to the city engineer, who will oversee activities across all divisions and report regularly to the Additional Municipal Commissioner.

To streamline communication, Khatri has directed the creation of a dedicated WhatsApp group involving key stakeholders, including the junior and deputy engineers, city engineer, Additional Municipal Commissioner, Municipal Commissioner, divisional officers, and the public relations officer. This group will facilitate real-time updates on pothole repairs and ensure accountability.



Vineyard-related work has picked up speed in the grape-producing regions of Dindori and Niphad tehsils of the district, renowned for their grape cultivation. Grape farmers in these areas are working diligently to protect their crops from the intense heat and potential diseases caused by unpredictable weather changes. To shield the growing grapes, farmers are covering them with newspapers and sarees, a traditional method to ensure the grapes are not damaged by the scorching sun or affected by changing climatic conditions.

## Health check-up of students



**NASHIK:** The Deolali Rotary Club recently conducted a health check-up of approximately 3,000 students across six schools in Deolali Camp and nearby areas. The health evaluation revealed that nearly 30% of the students were below normal health standards.

The health camp was held on Monday, January 6, at the Cantonment Board's Primary School. Deolali Cantonment Board office superintendent Vivek Band, Rotary Club president Murali Raghavan, vice president Prof. Sunita Adke, secretary Dr. Poornendu Bakshi and others were present. Over the past month, in collaboration with Mumbai's IKS Foundation, the Rotary Club conducted health checks,

including blood tests and hemoglobin assessments, at several schools: Nutan Vidya Mandir in Deolali, ashramshalas in Kavaddhara and Taked (rural areas) and Zilla Parishad schools in Pardeshwadi and Bhandardara.

Medicines were provided to students in need, while iron supplements were distributed to address malnourishment. The initiative was supported by medical professionals Dr. Mitul Thakkar, Dr. Vikrant Dalvi, and Dr. Dheeraj Katare from the Cantonment Board Hospital. School principals Rajshree Khairnar (Nutan Vidya Mandir) and Madhuri Kulkarni (Primary School) also played an active role in the camp.

## Makar Sankranti: Awareness for eco-friendly celebrations

**NASHIK:** A collaborative effort by the Marathi Vidnyan Parishad (Nashik division), New Nashik Journalists Association, and local police stations promoted the use of environmentally friendly kites and manja for Makar Sankranti.

A street play was staged at multiple locations, including Indiranagar, Pandavnagar, Ashoknagar, Ravivar Karanja, Nashik Road, and Mhasrul, high-

lighting the dangers of nylon manja.

The play emphasized how nylon manja harm birds, pose risks to humans, and damage the environment.

The people learned about the legal repercussions of using or selling glass-coated manja, including imprisonment and externment. Inspired by the message, citizens and children took an oath to celebrate with simple

kites and strings.

The street play, written by Manasi and directed by Chetan Sushir, featured actors Sanket, Seema, Vishwas, Pranav Kathavade, Kaivalya Chandratre, and Tejaswini Jadhav. Dr. Dhananjay Ahire, president of the Marathi Vidnyan Parishad, encouraged everyone to embrace the festival's spirit with the message, 'Tilgul Ghya Aani God Bola'.



## Kusumagraj National Awards announced

**NASHIK:** The Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University (YCMOU) has announced the recipients of its prestigious Kusumagraj National Award for 2022 and 2023. This annual award, instituted in 2010, honours notable non-Marathi poets for their significant contributions to Indian poetry. Recipients are presented with a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh, a citation, and a memento.

For 2022, the award has been conferred upon renowned Bengali poet Amitabh Gupta. A celebrated figure in Bengali literature, Gupta began his poetic journey in 1965 through the Bengali short-periodical movement. Over the decades, he has published more than 20 collections of poetry, establishing himself as a prominent voice in contemporary Bengali poetry.

The 2023 award recognizes leading Assamese poet Neelam Kumar. Kumar has an extensive body of work, comprising 24 poetry collections and translations of his works in English, Hindi, Punjabi, and several Indian languages, including Marathi. His poems have also been translated into international languages like French and Spanish, underscoring his wide-ranging influence.

The selection of the awardees was made by a committee chaired by YCMOU Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Sonawane. The panel included distinguished poets and translators Prof. Chandrakant Patil, Dr. Gorakh Thorat, and Dr. Asaram Lomte. Dr. Dilip Dhondge, head of YCMOU's Kusumagraj Dais, coordinated the process.



### BCCI U-23 Women's T20 Tourney

## Ishwari stars in Maharashtra's victory over Bengal

**NASHIK:** Nashik's Ishwari Savkar played a key role in Maharashtra's thrilling four-wicket win against Bengal in the BCCI Under-23 Women's T20 tournament in Raipur. Savkar contributed 37 runs to the chase, supported by Rasika Shinde and Aishwarya Wagh, who took one wicket each.

Bengal, batting first, posted 138 for 9 in their 20 overs. Medium-pacer Rasika Shinde and left-arm spinner Aishwarya Wagh from Nashik made crucial breakthroughs, each claiming a wicket.

Maharashtra chased the target on the final ball, scoring 139 for 6. K N Mulla top-scored with a vital 60 runs, while Rasika Shinde added 10 runs.

Maharashtra's upcoming matches in the tournament include games against Haryana on January 8, Goa on January 10, and Arunachal Pradesh on January 12.

### State T20 Tournery

## Harshal shines for North Zone

**NASHIK:** Harshal Senbhakt of Nashik delivered a commendable performance in the Maharashtra Cricket Association's Senior State-level Invitation T20 Cricket Tournament held in Pune. Representing North Zone as captain, Senbhakt impressed with his off-spin bowling, though his team fell short in a close contest against Ambitious, Pune.



Batting first, Ambitious, Pune, put up a competitive score of 130 for 5 in their 20 overs. Harshal Hadke led their batting effort with a stellar unbeaten 64 runs, holding the innings together. North Zone's captain, Harshal Senbhakt, bowled economically, picking up 2 wickets for 24 runs, effectively restricting the opposition during crucial moments.

Chasing 131, North Zone struggled to build momentum in their innings. Krishi Nathani provided resistance with a well-made 28 runs, while Senbhakt contributed 11 runs.

## Scout Guide uniform cloth distributed

**NASHIK:** Uniform cloth for Scout Guide students in Zilla Parishad-run schools across Nashik district has been distributed at the taluka level.

A total of 5,09,815.72 metres of cloth has been provided to the school management committees, benefiting 2,67,999 students. The education department announced that students will wear their new uniforms for the upcoming Republic Day celebrations.

Taluka-wise distribution of uniform cloth: Baglan: 31,551.98 metres for 19,531 students; Chandwad: 27,536.05 metres for 14,891 students; Deola: 15,593.14 metres for 8,458 students; Dindori: 49,898.68 metres for 25,011 students; Igatpuri: 43,991.95 metres for 21,273 students;

Kalwan: 24,207.14 metres for 13,342 students; Malegaon: 52,859.92 metres for 28,246 students; Nandgaon: 35,543.07 metres for 18,647 students; Nashik: 27,953.6 metres for 13,491 students; Niphad: 43,319.75 metres for 23,617 students; Peth: 27,309.26 metres for 13,250 students; Sinhar: 33,814.66 metres for 18,691 students; Surgana: 32,644.87 metres for 16,322 students; Trim-bak: 32,973.88 metres for 15,989 students and Yeola: 32,865.77 metres for 17,000 students.

The effort ensures that students from all talukas in the district receive their uniforms on time, enabling them to participate in school activities with a unified appearance during the Republic Day celebrations.

## Jungle carnival at The Nalanda Academy



**NASHIK:** The New Year brings joy, fun, good wishes, hope, and aspirations. To mark this special occasion, The Nalanda Academy welcomed the New Year with an exciting carnival themed 'Cartoon & Jungle'. A vibrant jungle scene, featuring various animals, was creatively set up to engage students while educating them about the importance of caring for these creatures and preserving their role in our ecosystem.

The event was further enlivened by

an artificial stream, walking on a bridge, crawling through a tunnel den, and experiencing a waterfall, thrilled the students and left them with cherished memories.

Dressed in green to embrace the theme, the students danced to lively tunes, exchanged heartfelt New Year wishes, and fully immersed themselves in the festive spirit. It was a day filled with learning, laughter, and celebration, making it a truly memorable start to the year.

beloved cartoon mascots like Chhota Bheem, Doraemon, Mickey Mouse, and Donald Duck, who entertained the children with their playful antics. The Jungle Safari Adventures, including activities like stepping stones across