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Grand finale of National School Band Competition

Bhonsala girls from Nashik selected

NASHIK: The grand finale of the National School Band Competition 2024-25, held as part of the Republic Day celebrations, is scheduled for January 24 and 25, 2025, at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi.

Two schools from Maharashtra have made it to the grand finals, including Bhonsala Military School Girls, Nashik, representing the Western Zone. The other school from the region is Rajarambapu Patil Military School and Sports Academy, Islampur, Sangli.

This competition aims to foster patriotism and unity among students, with 16 school band teams qualifying for the finals. These include Boys Brass Band, Girls Brass Band, Boys Pipe Band, and Girls Pipe Band, with a total of 466 participants.

Senior armed forces officers will serve as judges, evaluating the performances of the bands. The winners will be honored by the Minister of State for Defence, Sanjay Seth, on January 25. The competition promises to be a celebration of talent and patriotism

as the selected schools compete for top honors.

Prizes

- ❑ **First prize:** Rs. 21,000, trophy, and certificate
- ❑ **Second prize:** Rs. 16,000, trophy, and certificate
- ❑ **Third prize:** Rs. 11,000, trophy, and certificate
- ❑ **Remaining teams:** Rs. 3,000 each

Performances will be evaluated by the Jury appointed by the Ministry of Defence including members from each wing of the Armed Forces.

From RDC 2023 onwards, the National School Band Competition is being jointly conducted by the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Education. A School Band evokes a feeling of oneness, belonging and pride in school children towards their school and country. The rhythm of a band rouses passion, courage and action in children and adults alike.

The Competition consists of three levels [State Level, Zonal Level, & National Level (final)] in four categories (Boys Brass Band, Girls Brass Band, Boys Pipe Band and Girls Pipe Band). Building on the success of last year's competition, the Competition garnered significant enthusiasm this year. Over 700 school band teams from 34 States/Union Territories (UTs) registered for the competition at the State Level, in which 568 teams comprising around 14,000 children participated.



Police Commissioner Sandeep Karnik engages with residents in the Ramkund area, Panchavati, as part of the "Police Commissioner at Your Doorstep" initiative, following CM Devendra Fadnavis' 100-day action plan directive.

Pic: Satish Devgire

Cleanliness campaign in Devlali



NASHIK: In a joint effort with Darshan Academy School and Janakalyan Foundation, children participated in a cleanliness drive to collect garbage from the streets and properly dispose of it, spreading an important message of cleanliness.

The Janakalyan Foundation, which has been running a cleanliness campaign since September 2024, aims to raise awareness about keeping Devlali clean and beautiful. As part of the campaign, the foundation's members, including

Nazneen Tarwala, Hovi Punawala, Pallavi Kulkarni, Bhagyashree Pawar, Usha Kiran, and Sonali Gaikwad, along with 8th and 9th-grade students from Darshan Academy School, focused on cleaning areas like the old bus stand, Vadner Road, and Anand Road.

Students actively participated by collecting plastic waste and engaging with the public to emphasize the importance of cleanliness, leaving behind a positive and impactful message for the community.

Kabaddi glory for Maratha high school teams



NASHIK: Maratha High School's boys and girls teams delivered an impressive performance in the Kabaddi tournament held to mark the birth anniversary of Olympian Late Khashaba Jadhav.

Organized by the Maratha Vidya Prasarak Samaj, the tournament saw the school teams excel in their categories.

The girls' team clinched first place in the

under-17 category, while the boys' team secured second place.

The event, hosted at Rangubai Junnare Vidyalaya, Nashik, was conducted under the aegis of the Directorate of Sports and Youth Services, Maharashtra State, Pune, and the District Sports Office, Nashik.

A felicitation ceremony was held at Maratha High School, where Prin-

cipal Purushottam Thorat, Deputy Principal Rangnath Ugle, Supervisor Rajendra Shelke, and others honored the students. The school's sports teachers were commended for guiding the players.

MVP General Secretary Adv. Nitin Thakare, President Dr. Sunil Dhikle, and other dignitaries congratulated the players on their success.

DPS competition

New Era achieves stellar success

NASHIK: New Era English School is thrilled to announce its remarkable achievements in the prestigious DPS (Delhi Public School) competition. The school's talented students have brought home an impressive array of prizes, showcasing their exceptional skills and creativity.

The school's winning entries include: 3rd Prize in Documentary Making: "Small Steps, Big Measures" - a thought-provoking documentary that highlights the importance of

taking small steps towards creating a better world. 2nd Prize in E-Waste Art Challenge: "Trash to Treasure" - an innovative art piece created from electronic waste, demonstrating the students' creativity and commitment to sustainability. 3rd Prize in PowerPoint Presentation: "Effects of Microplastic on Water Contamination and Food Chain" - a well-researched and engaging presentation that sheds light on the pressing issue of microplastic pollution.

1st Prize in Puppetry: "Storytelling for a Better World" - a captivating puppet show that conveys a powerful message about the importance of creating a better world for future generations.

1st Prize in Science Extravaganza Working Model: A remarkable working model created by students of Std 3rd to 5th, showcasing their scientific skills and creativity.

The teachers' efforts in guiding the students have brought this excellent result.



Ranji Trophy season kicks off today



❑ Maharashtra and Baroda teams set for action

NASHIK: Nashik is all set to witness four days of thrilling cricket action. The Ranji Trophy match between Maharashtra and Baroda begins today, running from January 23



to 26, 2025, at the newly renovated Hutatma Anant Kanhere Ground, Golf Club Nashik. Organized by the BCCI, the four-day encounter promises to be a treat for cricket enthusiasts.

Both teams dedicated yesterday to rigorous practice sessions. Maharashtra, led by captain Ruturaj Gaikwad,

began their session at 9 a.m., starting with football warm-ups before diving into batting and bowling drills under head coach Harshad Khadiwale and assistant coach Amit Patil.

The Baroda team, led by captain Krunal Pandya, began their practice at 10 a.m., with head coach Mukund Parmar, bowling coach Arvind

Srinath, and fielding coach Himanshu Jadhav fine-tuning the players' skills.

The match inauguration at 8:30 a.m. will see prominent figures such as Maharashtra Cricket Association President Rohit Pawar, Divisional Commissioner Praveen Gedam, District Collector Jalaj Sharma, and other dignitaries in

referee V Narayankutty (Andhra), umpires Krishnendu Pal (Bengal) and Nikhil Patwardhan (Indore), and BCCI scorers Ketki Jamgaonkar and Kishore Lawane. Sagar Deshmukh from Nashik will serve as the video analyst, supported by Sadanand Pradhan, while Suyog Chaudhary is the BCCI ACO.

Lawn seating facility

Spectators can enjoy free entry to the match, with access provided via the Civil Hospital main gate on Trimbak Road and another gate near the guest house. Parking is arranged at the Eidgah ground. A unique feature is the lawn seating, allowing fans to experience a stadium-style setup reminiscent of international grounds.

* **NASHIK:** The state government has appointed Eknath Dawle, Principal Secretary of the Rural Development Department, as the new Guardian Secretary of Nashik. Radhika Rastogi has been assigned to Nanded.

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