KUMBH MELA | NTKMA and NMC adopts zero-tolerance approach for infrastructure delays in Nashik

Contractors under scanner over sluggish progress of road works

FPJ News Service
NASHIK

Taking a tough stand on the pace and quality of ongoing road works across Nashik city ahead of Simhastha Kumbh Mela 2027, the Nashik Trimbakeshwar Kumbh Mela Authority (NTKMA) and Nashik Municipal Corporation (NMC) have initiated strict action against contractors failing to meet timelines and prescribed standards.

During a detailed review meeting, NTKMA Commissioner Shekhar Singh and NMC Commissioner Manisha Khatri reviewed the progress of Kumbh Mela-related roads, road restoration works, underground utility works, and monsoon preparedness measures. The authorities expressed strong displeasure over delays and directed officials to issue show-cause notices and impose penalties on contractors responsible for slow progress, poor execution and failure to comply with deadlines.

The commissioners made it clear that the administration has adopted a zero-tolerance approach towards negligence, especially considering the scale of preparations required for the upcoming Simhastha Kumbh Mela. Contractors have been directed to immediately mobilise additional resources, increase manpower and machinery deployment, and complete the works within the stipulated timelines. Officials also warned that penalties will be further increased if visible improvement is not seen on the ground.

The review also focused on issues observed during recent site inspections, including incomplete works, quality-related shortcomings, and gaps in safety measures. All concerned agencies have been instructed to rectify deficiencies immediately and ensure that public inconvenience is minimised during the execution phase.

The commissioners also issued a stern message to NMC engineering officials, directing them to strengthen monitoring and coordination. Engineers have been told that accountability will not be limited to contractors alone, and officials failing to ensure timely execution and effective supervision will also face show-cause notices and administrative action.

Singh said, "Simhastha Kumbh Mela 2027 is a project of exceptional scale, and timely creation of quality infrastructure is non-negotiable. All agencies must work in mission mode with better coordination and faster decision-making. Delays at any level, whether from contractors or supervising agencies, will not be accepted. Our focus is to ensure durable infrastructure that serves devotees during the Kumbh Mela and benefits citizens of Nashik for years to come."

Khatri added, "The civic administration has adopted a zero-tolerance approach towards delays and quality issues in road and monsoon-related works. Contractors who fail to follow timelines and quality parameters will face strict penalties. At the same time, municipal officials responsible for monitoring these works will also be held accountable if there are lapses in supervision. All departments have been directed to complete the work on a war footing."

The administration has directed all departments and executing agencies to accelerate ongoing works and ensure that road infrastructure and related civic projects are completed within the planned schedule.

Weather advisory issued for farmers

FPJ News Service
NASHIK

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast partly cloudy conditions in Nashik district over the next five days, with chances of light rainfall in isolated areas. Maximum temperatures are expected to remain between 35°C and 37°C, while minimum temperatures may range from 23°C to 25°C. Wind speeds are likely to remain between 13.1 and 16.8 km/h.

A yellow alert has been issued for today under the Impact-Based Forecast (IBF) system, warning of gusty winds reaching 30–40 km/h, lightning, and light to moderate rainfall in parts of the district, including the Ghat areas.

In view of these conditions, the Rural Agricultural Meteorological Service, in coordination with the Agricultural Research Centre, has issued an advisory for farmers to safeguard agricultural activities. Farmers have been urged to protect harvested summer crops, livestock, and poultry from gusty winds, lightning, and unseasonal showers. They have also been advised to begin preparatory work for the Kharif season, including field ploughing and application of farmyard manure. Proper planning for crops such as onion, brinjal, tomato, chilli, okra, cluster bean, cauliflower, and cabbage has been recommended, along with preparation of nurseries on raised beds.

Officials have stressed the importance of using treated seeds, ensuring proper irrigation practices in nurseries, and selecting locations with adequate water availability. Farmers have also been advised to complete soil testing, procure certified seeds and fertilisers, and prepare fields for rice and other crops.

In low rainfall areas, the creation of 30 cm furrows using seed drills has been suggested to conserve soil moisture. Farmers have also been cautioned against early sowing of cotton before soil conditions stabilise, due to pest and disease risks.

BJP's Gite refuses to exit Nashik MLC poll contest

FPJ News Service
NASHIK

While the opposition has failed to field a candidate against Mahayuti's official nominee, Narendra Darade, in the Nashik Local Authorities Constituency Legislative Council election, a rebellion from within the BJP itself has created an unexpected challenge.

BJP leader Ganesh Gite has filed his nomination, claiming that the party leadership had assured him of a ticket, leaving many within the BJP surprised.

Against this backdrop, senior Shiv Sena minister Uday Samant has rushed to Nashik to persuade Gite to withdraw. Political observers are now watching closely to see whether Samant's mediation succeeds or whether state minister Girish Mahajan, who is scheduled to arrive in Nashik on Thursday, will emerge as Mahayuti's "troubleshooter."

Gite has asserted that he was promised the candidature by the BJP's state leadership, which gave him confidence that the Nashik seat would remain with the BJP due to its numerical strength. He went a step further by filing his nomination without consulting local party leaders. His nomination papers were endorsed by nine BJP corporators as proposers and seconders.

The state BJP leadership has taken serious note of the development and has sought explanations from all the corporators who signed Gite's nomination papers.

Despite this, Gite appears unwilling to back down. He claims that no party office-bearer has contacted him and insists that he enjoys support not only from BJP corporators but also from members of other political parties.

Declaring that he will contest the election under any circumstances, Gite has further complicated the situation. With Mahajan set to arrive in Nashik on Thursday afternoon, his intervention is expected to play a crucial role in determining whether Gite eventually withdraws from the race.

Meanwhile, Samant has arrived in Nashik in an attempt to resolve the impasse. Political circles are keenly watching the solution he may propose. However, the very person whose withdrawal Samant is reportedly trying to secure, Gite, is currently in Hyderabad.

Speaking to The Free Press Journal, Gite confirmed that he is in Hyderabad and said he will return to Nashik on Thursday evening. Reiterating his stand, he maintained that he is determined to remain in the contest.

Adding another twist to the political drama, Gite's brother, Gokul Gite, has also announced his intention to contest as an independent candidate. The focus now shifts to the BJP leadership and the course of action it chooses to address the growing challenge.

Samant dismisses rift talk

Maharashtra Minister Uday Samant asserted that the Mahayuti alliance remains united and that any differences among its constituent parties will be resolved through dialogue and coordination.

Addressing a press conference in Nashik, Samant said minor differences may exist within the alliance, but all issues would be settled as per the directions of the leadership. He maintained that no party or leader would be treated unfairly and described Mahayuti as an "unbreakable" alliance.

Referring to the upcoming MLC elections, Samant said discussions among senior leaders are underway. He noted that Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Minister Girish Mahajan and NCP leader Sunetra Pawar are in touch regarding candidate selection and expressed confidence that a consensus would soon emerge.

Samant said Narendra Darade and Kishor Darade are deserving candidates and expressed faith in Mahajan's ability to ensure coordination among alliance partners.

Rejecting speculation about internal discontent, he said the absence of any leader from a press conference should not be viewed as dissatisfaction, adding that all Mahayuti partners remain committed to the alliance.

Reacting to a court petition filed against Ganesh Gite, Samant alleged that it was part of a "fake narrative." He also appealed to those who have filed objections or petitions against Mahayuti candidates across Maharashtra to withdraw them.

Cyber safety meet for seniors

FPJ News Service
JALGAON

Against the backdrop of rising cyber crimes, Jalgaon District Superintendent of Police Shrikant Dhivare held a special meeting with senior citizens to address their concerns regarding safety and welfare. This is the first such initiative by the district police, which was warmly welcomed by the elderly participants. During the interaction, the SP discussed issues such as the safety of seniors living alone, property disputes, health emergencies, fraud cases and difficulties in accessing public services. Detailed guidance was also provided on cyber frauds, including fake calls impersonating bank or government officials, KYC scams, OTP frauds, UPI and QR code frauds, fake investment schemes, digital arrest scams, social media frauds and online shopping scams. Citizens were advised not to share OTPs, passwords or bank details with strangers and to immediately report suspicious activity to police or cyber helplines. Guidance was also given on burglary prevention, caretaker verification and emergency support mechanisms.

Nashik roads resemble ploughed field: Waje

FPJ News Service
NASHIK

Expressing strong displeasure over the deteriorating condition of roads in Nashik, MP Rajabhau Waje has written to the Municipal Commissioner demanding immediate corrective measures.

In his letter, Waje highlighted that unseasonal rains have exposed the poor state of roads across the city, with potholes appearing on major roads as well as internal colony roads. He warned that the situation poses a serious threat to public safety and could lead to a rise in road accidents, particularly during the upcoming monsoon season.

The MP noted that Nashik, one of Maharashtra's fastest-growing industrial, religious and tourism hubs, cannot afford such poor infrastructure. Waterlogged potholes make it difficult for motorists to identify road hazards, increasing the risk of accidents, especially for two-wheeler riders.

Waje said citizens are facing severe inconvenience due to traffic congestion caused by damaged roads. Areas such as Ambad, Satpur, Indiranagar, CIDCO, Panchavati, Makhmalabad, Gangapur Road, Nashik Road and newly developed suburbs have witnessed growing complaints regarding road conditions. He also raised concerns about stagnant rainwater leading to mosquito breeding and public health issues.

Questioning the quality of road works, Waje pointed out that several recently constructed roads have developed potholes after the first spell of rain. He demanded accountability from contractors and civic officials responsible for substandard work.

The MP urged the municipal administration to undertake immediate repairs of pothole-ridden roads, take strict action against contractors responsible for poor-quality work, prepare and implement a special road repair action plan and develop a long-term strategy for durable road infrastructure in the city's expanding areas.

Adgaon SPS project cancelled

FPJ News Service
NASHIK

The proposed Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) project at Adgaon has been permanently cancelled following strong opposition from local farmers and residents. The decision, taken by the Nashik Municipal Corporation (NMC), comes after sustained efforts and follow-up by MLA Adv Rahul Dhikale, bringing significant relief to the local community.

The NMC had planned to establish a sewage pumping station in the Adgaon area. However, residents and farmers raised concerns from the outset, fearing that the project could adversely affect nearby residential settlements, agricultural land and public health. As a result, the proposal faced strong resistance from the local community.

In response to these concerns, a delegation of local residents met Dhikale and presented their grievances.

DC inspects water supply scheme

FPJ News Service
CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR

The administration has planned to provide an additional water supply to the city by June 12. Divisional Commissioner G Sreekanth reviewed the progress of the new water supply scheme on Tuesday. He visited and inspected the 392 MLD water purification centre at Nakshatrawadi and issued necessary instructions. He directed the concerned authorities to accelerate the pace of work so that the additional water supply can be made available to the city within the stipulated timeline.

Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran (MJP) Chief Engineer Manisha Palande, Additional Municipal Commissioner Kalpita Pimple, ZP Additional CEO Vasudev Solanke, Additional Commissioner (Development and Planning) Sushma Desai, Joint Commissioner Devidas Tekale, and officials from concerned departments, along with contractor representatives, were present.

The High Court has directed the MJP and the concerned company to ensure additional water supply to the city by June 12. Accordingly, Sreekanth personally visited the site and issued directions to complete pre-monsoon-related works on priority.

At the Nakshatrawadi water purification centre, he inspected the purification process, including aeration, chlorination and filtration systems. He instructed MJP officials, company representatives and municipal officers to complete the pending works in coordination.

He also directed MJP to maintain daily monitoring of the progress and submit regular status reports.

Pre-monsoon rain disrupts Nashik

FPJ News Service
NASHIK

After a prolonged spell of scorching heat, Nashik received much-needed relief on Tuesday afternoon in the form of heavy rainfall. However, the first pre-monsoon showers triggered widespread disruption across the city, exposing gaps in preparedness amid ongoing infrastructure works for the upcoming Simhastha Kumbh Mela.

Road excavation work across several parts of the city turned stretches into muddy patches, leading to severe traffic congestion. Strong winds accompanying the rain uprooted trees and broke branches at multiple locations. Near Kapaleshwar Temple, a devotee sustained a head injury after a wall and shed of an old structure collapsed. In Old Nashik, another dilapidated building wall also gave way.

The rain also caused major disruption to the electricity supply. Several areas remained without power from the afternoon, with localities along the Mumbai-Agra Highway, including Amrutdham, Laxminagar, Bali Mandir and Dhatrak

Phata, facing outages till late at night. Mahavitaran officials said a technical fault at the substation and issues, including a snapped wire on the Mahindra feeder and a tree falling on the Satpur feeder line, led to the disruption.

The power failure also affected the water supply in the city. Pumping operations at the Gangapur jackwell station came to a halt, stopping supply to six water treatment plants. Municipal officials said restoration of the water supply would depend on the phased restoration of electricity by Mahavitaran.

Citizens faced significant hardship as muddy roads, waterlogging at excavation sites and traffic congestion added to the chaos. The incident has raised concerns over coordination between civic agencies and preparedness ahead of the monsoon and the Kumbh Mela works.

Bank of India
Relationship beyond banking

RECOVERY DEPARTMENT, KOLHAPUR
KOLHAPUR ZONE: 1519,C, JAYDHAVAL BUILDING, 3RD FLOOR, LAXMIPURI, KOLHAPUR - 416002.

E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002 CUM NOTICE TO BORROWER / GUARANTOR

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the following Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to Bank of India (Secured Creditor), the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officers of **Bank of India**, will be held on **"as is Where is" "as is what is"** and **"what ever there is"**, for recovery of respective dues as detailed here under against the secured assets mortgaged / charged to **Bank of India** from respective borrowers and guarantors. The reserve price and earnest money deposit is shown there against each secured asset. The sale will be done by the undersigned through E-Auction platform provided hereunder. *(Rs. In Lakh)*

Sr. No.	Names of the Branch / Borrower / Guarantor	Description of the properties	Reserve Price / EMD Amount / Bid Increment Amount	Last Date (for sub of EMD)	O/s Dues (Excluding Int., Penal interest & Expenses)	E Auction Date & Time
1.	Branch : **ARB Kolhapur** Name of Account : **Sayali Santosh Shinde**	Flat No. 07, Municipal House No. Z2W1005809, Old Milkat No. 757F/A/07, First Floor, 'Sea View Residency', at S. No. 188, H. No. 4/1A/14/1, City Survey No. 85/1A/14/1, Vishwanagar, Thiba Palace Area, At. Nachane, within Ratnagiri Municipal Limits, Tal. & Dist. Ratnagiri. **(Type of Possession: Symbolic)**	**Rs. 26.60 / Rs. 2.66 / Rs. 0.10**	**25th June, 2026**	**Rs. 42.97 plus** Uncharged interest and other charges Costs from **17.03.20225**	**25.06.2026 11.00 AM** to **5.00 PM** with unlimited Extension of 5 minutes.
2.	Branch : **ARB Kolhapur** Name of Account: **Manohar Pandurang Khade**	Residential House loacated at Grampanchayat House No. 160A, Gat No. 54/A, Varache Tembhye Area, Grampanchayat Tembhye, Tal. & Dist. Ratnagiri. **(Type of Possession: Symbolic)**	**Rs. 23.50 / Rs. 2.35 / Rs. 0.10**	**25th June, 2026**	**Rs. 95.82 plus** Uncharged interest and other charges Costs from **31.12.2018**	**25.06.2026 11.00 AM** to **5.00 PM** with unlimited Extension of 5 minutes.

Terms & Conditions of the E-auction are as under:

(1) E-Auction is being held on **"AS IS WHERE IS"** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** and **"WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS"** and will be conducted **"On Line"**. **(2)** The Auction will be conducted though Government of India approved service provider BAANKNET integrated portal (**https://BAANKNET.com**). E-auction bid form Declaration, General Terms & Conditions of online auction sale are available in our bank website - **https://www.bankofindia.co.in (3)** The auction sale will be online e-auction / bidding through website - **https://BAANKNET.com** on **25/06/2026** from **11:00 AM** to **05.00 PM IST** with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration. **(4)** Intending bidders shall hold a valid e-mail address for further details and query please contact BAANKNET Helpline No. **+91 8291220220**, Helpline e-mail ID **support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com (5)** Earnest money deposit (EMD) shall be deposited through RTGS / NEFT / Fund transfer to the bank account as guided and mentioned in BAANKNET portal before participating in the bid online. **(6)** Prospective bidders may avail online training on e-auction from BAANKNET portal. **(7) Bank of India reserves the right for rejecting any or all applications of sale received without assigning any reason whatsoever.**

SALE NOTICE TO BORROWERS / GUARANTORS

The undersigned being the Authorised Officers of **Bank of India** are having full powers to issue this notice of sale and exercise all powers of sale under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the Rules framed there under. You have committed default in payment of the dues with interest, costs and charges etc. in respect of the advances granted by the bank mentioned above. Hence the bank has issued a Demand Notices to all of you under section 13(2) to pay the amount mentioned thereon within 60 days. You have failed to pay the amount even after the expiry of 60 days. Therefore the Authorised Officers in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(4) took possession of the secured asset, more particularly described in the schedule mentioned above. Notice is hereby given to you to pay the sum as mentioned above before the date fixed for sale, failing which the property will be sold and balance due, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost from you. Please note that all expenses pertaining to demand notice, taking possession, valuation and sale of assets etc. shall be first deducted from the sale proceeds, which may be realized by the undersigned and the balance of the sale proceeds will be appropriated towards your liability as aforesaid. You are at liberty to participate in the auction to be held on the terms and conditions thereof including deposit of earnest money.

Place: KOLHAPUR.
Date: 03-06-2026

Sd/-,
AUTHORISED OFFICER, BANK OF INDIA

JPPL-2026