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KYT

Know Your Town

Protecting Future

Swapnil Kalbande
GroRight Wealth Solutions

GroRight has grown by leaps and bounds over the years. It has a whopping sum of 12000 clients, including celebrities and NRIs and is associated with requisite trusted companies in India. Swapnil posits, "We have clients from Iceland, US, Singapore and Qatar, in addition to India. Since medical expenses are cheap in India, the NRIs are attracted here."



Know Your Ingredient

Pumpkin

Bhavya Pande

Pumpkin is packed with vitamins and minerals such as vitamin A, vitamin C, vitamin B2, vitamin E, iron, potassium, copper and manganese. It has a low-calorie count and high antioxidant content.

Here's a recipe for pumpkin soup. Hope you enjoy it!

Preparation time: 20 minutes

Serves: 4 people

Ingredients:

- 250 gms pumpkin
- Sliced onions- 1 cup
- Olive oil- 3 tbsp
- Water- 3 cups
- Bay leaf-2
- Star anise-2
- Cumin/Jeera- ½ tsp
- Turmeric powder- 1 tsp
- Black pepper powder- 1 tsp
- Garam masala- ¼ tsp (optional)
- Nutmeg powder- ¼ tsp
- Salt to taste
- Grated cottage cheese/paneer- ¼ cup
- Fresh parsley- few sprigs
- Pumpkin seeds- 2-3 tbsp
- Roasted walnuts- 6-8 (optional)



Procedure

1. Keep all the ingredients ready.
2. Chop pumpkin into medium sized cubes.
3. Heat oil in a wok. Add bay leaf, star anise, cumin, and sliced onions to it.
4. Sauté onions till they are caramelised or turn golden brown.
5. Add Pumpkin, turmeric powder, garam masala and water. Cook till the pumpkin is tender.
6. Blend everything in a mixer to make a puree.
7. Transfer the puree to the wok and heat it again. Add more water if needed to adjust the consistency. Add pepper powder, nutmeg powder, salt and give it a good stir.
8. Remove from heat, transfer to soup bowls and garnish with grated cottage cheese, parsley, pumpkin seeds and roasted walnuts. Enjoy hot with toasted bread or steamed rice.



Editor's Note



Best Wishes,

Miilind Ballal

Editor, Know Your Town

IT'S NOT HOW, BUT WHOM THAT MATTERS!

The upcoming election of the Thane Municipal Corporation (TMC) scheduled for next year has become the talk of the town, more particularly among politicians over the mode of contest. The civic body has been asked to conduct the election on the basis of multiple candidates per ward, popularly known as panel system. The 133 wards of the TMC shall be divided into 43 wards, each represented by three corporators and the last one will have four candidates to make up the total. Given that the present house of the civic body was elected by the panel system which had four corporators per ward, the hue and cry around it is unfounded.

The debate started after Congress objected to the three member system and harped on two corporators per ward. The Shiv Sena which holds the sway in the TMC and the Nationalist Congress Party which is close on the heels as far as the power distribution is concerned are okay with the state cabinet's decision, however the BJP has cleverly refrained from participating in the controversy. The latter perhaps feels that the bickering in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) will help their bigger design of bringing down the government. However this is far from the wishful thinking of the BJP as the MVA will not stretch the issue beyond reconciliation. The stand taken by the state Congress committee is intriguing as it should have either quashed the proposal in toto or pressed for a one to one contest, as the multi-candidate system will apparently not serve their interests at all. This was the general feeling

of the party corporators who are fast diminishing in numbers and are on the last slot in the party equation chart.

The multi-candidate system has many inherent disadvantages from the voters' point of view but actually suits the plans of the political parties. The system insulates the parties who have a weak organisational set up as the candidates can overcome their limitations and leverage their success by relying on the better counterparts in their panel. However, given to understand that fighting elections is a luxury and those cash strapped do not dare enter the fray despite having the actual elective merit, they have to find crutches to emerge victorious. Similarly the otherwise 'bad' candidates opt for such deserving candidates and make way in the house where they are known for their non-performance. In a one to one contest it is the quality of the candidate and his party who are put to an acid test and make them more accountable to the electorate. The panel system actually dilutes the sanctity of the election process. It must be noted that the system was challenged in the courts too.

Elections by any mode must ensure that the elected representatives live up to the expectation of the people. The general public is least bothered about the modalities and hope that their basic amenities are served without hassles. For them, who rules the roost and whose flag unfurls from the corporation building are trivial issues and gutter-meter-water become deciding factors!

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PROTECTING FUTURE

Nikhil Ballal / Juili Kulkarni

In the world of finance and investments, Warren Buffett says, "If you don't find a way to make money while you sleep, you will work until you die." Thankfully, there are people like Swapnil Kalbande, who with their financial acumen and investment prowess, will not compel their clients to work until they die, rather help them in making that extra money while they sleep.

Born and brought up in Nagpur, Swapnil completed his schooling and college education from the city of oranges. He has always been a bright student, which is evident from the fact that he appeared in the merit list of SSC examination. He is an engineer and during his engineering days, there was one thing that happened which he terms it as the turning point of his life. Swapnil says, "When I was in my third year of engineering, I decided to take part in a fashion contest. I was ridiculed by my friends and other students in the college since I did not have that kind of personality to make a cut in a fashion competition. Not getting bogged down by their comments, I took the criticism

in my stride to work hard on developing my personality. It worked wonders as I went on to win coveted titles such as Mr. Vidarbha and Mr. Nagpur in the future."

Gaining confidence from these successes, Swapnil decided to try his luck in Bollywood. He came to Mumbai to fulfil his dreams. Swapnil recalls, "I came to Mumbai with just RS. 2500 in my pocket. With no relatives there, I had to manage my

Over the years, GroRight has won over 200 awards across countries for their stellar work in the field of financial planning and investments. To name a few, they have won prestigious accolades such as Annual Council Awards (most prestigious award in health insurance) in Switzerland (2015-16), Paris (2016-17), Australia (2017-18), Rome (2018-19) and Milaap award in Switzerland (2018-19) and Germany (2019-20).

own accommodation. Since there was a dearth of funds,



I stayed at Kalyan railway station for as many as 45 days. To polish my acting skills, I joined Kishore Namit Kapoor Acting Institute. It was a pleasant surprise for me as in a few days, I got the opportunity to play roles in Hindi daily soaps like Kasautii Zindagi Kay, Kumkum and Kkavyanjali. I also bagged modelling assignments, including one for Bajaj Pulsar and Lakme Fashion Week.

However, to my dismay, I lost all projects overnight."

Lifting himself up from that shock, Swapnil started working as a trainer in Barbarian Gym, where he trained Bollywood stars like Salman Khan, Sonu Sood and Shahid Kapoor. Alongside being a trainer, Swapnil, with his friend Ankur Chawla, an entrepreneur, started delivering motivational talks. "Since 2007, we have trained





more than a lakh people through our motivational speeches," he avers.

Swapnil adds, "Everything was going fine. However one fine day it so happened that I was short on cash and I wanted to withdraw money from an insurance policy which had matured. I went to claim the amount and there I bumped into one of my students, who insisted I start working for an insurance company. It was a lucrative offer and soon I started giving motivational talks in that company."

With cash in hand, Swapnil bought an insurance policy so he was the first client of his business. Later, he convinced his close ones to buy insurance policies. Swapnil states, "When I started working for the insurance company, I only sold the policies that were given to me by my bosses. Gradually, I started studying insurance in general, understood the nitty-gritties of it and started pitching policies as per the needs and requirements of people."

He further adds, "I did not work like typical insurance agents, who are in constant contact with the clients till

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the policy is sold and once that is done, they simply vanish in thin air. I was the exact opposite of this. I was always beside

my clients when they were in crisis and wanted to claim their insurance amount. I wanted to become a real hero and not a reel one."

Swapnil burnt the midnight oil as he worked relentlessly to become a successful insurance agent. He visited 4500 houses in just two years. Though he achieved success with 1500 families converting into clients, it came with a pinch of salt, as there were many, who either did not entertain him or insulted him."

After gaining wealth of experience, Swapnil, a first generation entrepreneur, with his wife Yashshri Kalbande, started their own financial planning and investment company by the name of GroRight Wealth Solutions LLP. Yashshri has been the backbone of GroRight and with her rich experience of 16 years in the insurance sector, she is the one who helped Swapnil to start the company.

At GroRight, Swapnil and Yashshri, alongwith their team of qualified and experienced financial professionals offer an avalanche of investment avenues to their clients

“

We, as a team, have served over 500 clients in the last two years.



MS. KAJOL SHETE
ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER

“

In the last 1.5 years, our department has settled more than 1000 claims. I am happy to be a part of this fast growing company.



MS. ANITA PAGARE
MANAGER
ACCOUNTS & CLAIM SUPPORT



from insurance to mutual funds. Swapnil explains, "We are a team of 35 people and in addition we have a dedicated team of 10 for claim settlement. We offer different types of insurance, namely, life, health, travel, motor, property/fire safety, general and personal insurance. Additionally, we help our clients in selecting the best mutual funds and bonds, after taking into consideration their needs and requirements. Through our widespread investment options, we help clients in retirement planning as well."

He elucidates, "Health insurance is different from life insurance. It is a service industry which operates 24*7. Over the years, we have scaled new heights and have become the numero uno in the health insurance industry in India. We are known for our after sales service. In the



Swapnil Kalbande along with his wife Yashshri

last one and a half years, we have catered to 650+ claims, out of which none was rejected. After the advent of COVID-19, the importance of health insurance and life insurance have increased. Given that the medical costs are skyrocketing, health insurance is a must in everyone's portfolio. It is true that nobody can predict the future, but atleast we, at GroRight endeavour to protect the future by educating and helping our clients in investing in right insurance and other asset classes."

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“

I have been working with GroRight since day one. I am happy to be a part of the company that has over 12000 satisfied clients across the globe.

MR. RAHIL BETWALA
SENIOR SALES MANAGER



“

We, as a team, have catered more than 2000 clients in the last two years. In this lockdown, we have settled claims of more than 300 clients.

MR. VINOD KEDARE
SENIOR SALES MANAGER





Over the years, GroRight has won over 200 awards across countries for their stellar work in the field of financial planning and investments

Since medical expenses are cheap in India, the NRIs are attracted here."

Apart from running GroRight, Swapnil has started giving product ideas on the basis of needs of customers to insurance companies which are also getting accepted. He mentions, "Documentation is of essence. There is a method for it. Many times the documentation goes wrong due to which people fail to get full claims in time. We know the exact documentation."

GroRight's future plans include becoming a web aggregator. Swapnil describes, "Our dream is to become a web aggregator, which means that we want to have our own portal, where customers can buy their insurance policies online. This will help us to cater to customers across India." Riding in the values of integrity, discipline, consistency, teamwork and growth, GroRight's mission is, "To increase retirement readiness for its clients and subsequent generations as they embrace the responsibilities of success by creating, implementing, and

After gaining wealth of experience, Swapnil, a first generation entrepreneur, with his wife Yashashree Talvekar, started their own financial planning and investment company by the name of GroRight Wealth Solutions LLP. Yashashree has been the backbone of GroRight and with her rich experience of 16 years in the insurance sector, she is the one who helped Swapnil to start the company.

monitoring financial strategies consistent with their core values and to be a trusted partner for its clients and a respected leader in global asset management." GroRight is not just a wealth management company, it is an investment adviser dedicated to empower people to gain from the market opportunities by understanding their needs and providing them with suitable investment options to meet their needs.

Over the years, GroRight has won

over 200 awards across countries for their stellar work in the field of financial planning and investments. To name a few, they have won prestigious accolades such as Annual Council Awards (most prestigious award in health insurance) in Switzerland (2015-16), Paris (2016-17), Australia (2017-18), Rome (2018-19) and Milaap award in Switzerland (2018-19) and Germany (2019-20). Swapnil signs off by giving financial planning and investment advice. He concludes, "If a person has Rs. 100 with him/her, then he/she should save atleast Rs. 20, out of which Rs. 5 should be invested in SIPs, Rs. 5 in liquid funds, Rs. 5 in health insurance and Rs. 5 in gold or other asset classes. With respect to insurance, buy from a person, who has the knowledge and ability to settle your claim, rather than from a company, which has just a name in the market. You are not buying a product, you are buying a 24*7 service. Hence, more than the company, the person who is delivering the service to you is more important."



GroRight Wealth Solutions
 Address: 122/131, Boulevard Mall, Lodha Paradise, Majiwada, Thane (West) - 400 601
 Phone: +91 9223 365324, +91 96532 46799, +91 91526 58170, 022-35976080
 E-mail: swapnil@groright.co.in, grorightwealthsolutions@gmail.com



Mumbai's Award-winning resto-bar Butterfly High is the new kid on the block in Thane!

Following the continued success of the award-winning resto-bar Butterfly High in Mumbai, 2018, this popular social networking restaurant is set to open its second outlet in the heart of Thane. This 3500 sq. ft. all-day restaurant is the brainchild of Nikita Poojari & Mr. Narayan Poojari, the owner of Shiv Sagar food and resort Pvt. Ltd., and managing partners: Dhaval Udeshi, Pawan Shahri, and Nikhil Rochlani. This cosmopolitan hangout spot is all set to bring its intriguing blend of Modern Indian cuisine, inexhaustible portfolio of cocktails, and eccentric interiors of its BKC outlet, with

filled cornucopia. For those Instagram-worthy photos, there's plenty of natural and ambient lighting to capture your happy moments. Four sections make up the entire space; The Lounge Seating, The Main Dining Area, The High Dining Tables & Private

Commenting on the launch, the owner Nikita Poojari says, "We are excited to announce the opening of Butterfly High in Thane. We believe that Thane needed a space where people could dine, work, and party all in one place. We wanted to create a space that had a little something for everyone in Thane."



also includes high dining table seating that is comfortable and perfect for a date night with your special someone. Commenting on the

Thane."

Along with their most popular dishes from BKC, they have added an exquisite portfolio of delicacies that include the flavorful and succulent Kolhapuri Tamda Rassa Chicken, an intriguing cultural fusion of Soft Dosa Tacos, Kolhapuri Fried Crumb Bao, and the all-time favorite Kotambhir Vadi.

For drinks we suggest, their satiable Muay 'The Boxing' for rum cocktail lovers, 'Hawaiian Pineapple' if your tropical holiday spirit is running high, 'Old Fashion Roast' which is a delightful twist to an otherwise regular whiskey sour, and the 'Gin on a cycle' that brings a fun element to the classic gin and tonic. Butterfly High, Thane, also serves your favorite java with beans selectively procured from the infamous Chik-magalur province in Karnataka and exclusively brewed at the coffee station.

If you're looking to work at a place away from home or simply seeking a way to end your day on a high note, this is the perfect place for you. Mumbai's award-winning Butterfly High in BKC is mesmerizing, but its newest outlet in Thane will steal your heart.



an exclusive menu just for Thane.

The interiors of this millennial manor are a living embodiment of funky and contemporary vibes with cozy and comfortable seating. Stepping foot into this resto-bar feels like entering a colorful, nature-

Dining. The private dining rooms are perfect for hosting one-to-one meetings and corporate lunches. You can get comfortable with your favorite book or chitchat with your tribe in the lounge area and devour multiple courses of your favorite dishes in the main dining area. The space

launch, the owner Nikita Poojari says, "We are excited to announce the opening of Butterfly High in Thane. We believe that Thane needed a space where people could dine, work, and party all in one place. We wanted to create a space that had a little something for everyone in

Time: 12 Noon - 10 pm

Address: 1st Floor, The Unique, Hiranandani Estate Road, Opp TMC Commissioner Bunga-low, Patlipada, Thane (W), Mumbai - 400607 | Reservation: Call 79000 32674

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/atbutterflyhigh/>

Zomato: <https://www.zomato.com/mumbai/butterfly-high-manpada-thane-west-thane>



Fifth and sixth railway line of Diva-Thane will be completed by February 2022: Dr. Shrikant Shinde

Last month, Dr. Shrikant Shinde, Lok Sabha MP of Kalyan constituency, inspected the on-going work with officials from Central Railway and Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation (MRVC). The fifth and the sixth line which is pending between Thane and Diva will segregate express trains and local services on the Central railway between CST and Kalyan. The work was started in 2008. After 13 years, the work remains incomplete. Dr. Shinde held a meeting with MRVC and Central railway officials and travelled between Mumbra to Kopar railway station to inspect the work of the fifth and sixth lane. Additionally, he took a stock of the work being carried out at Kopar, Vithalwadi and Ambarnath railway stations.

Dr. Shinde has assured that despite the work going on for 13 years, it is in the final stages. He also gave a tentative deadline for the completion of the work



which stands at February 2022. With the completion of the fifth and sixth railway lanes, 25-30 additional local trains will run between Kalyan and CST. Earlier, trains used to be stranded behind an express train due to dearth of separate railway tracks. The new lanes will offer two lanes for fast trains, two for slow trains and two for express trains due to which trains will not be delayed.

Earlier, there were railway crossings at Thakurli, Ambivali, Diva and Kalwa Kharegaon on the railway line. Railway crossing at Thakurli and Ambivali has been closed and bridges are built there.

The Kharegaon railway crossing will also be closed in the next two months after the completion of the railway flyover at Kharegaon. It is also known that the home platform work on Kopar railway station will be completed by the end of this month after which it will be opened for passengers.

10 unexplored destinations to visit in Maharashtra right now

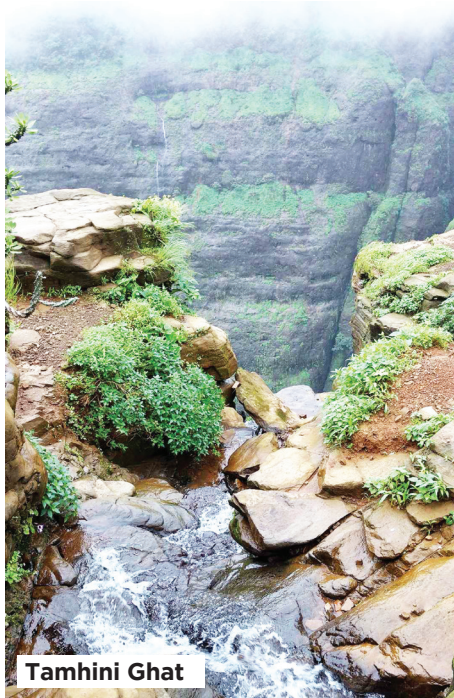
With the pandemic not yet over (though slowly receding) and the travel bug biting some of us, safety is our first priority while chalking out a getaway. Popular destinations are often milling with crowds, and hence seem relatively less safe. However, there are a host of options that you can explore without worrying (too much) about safety and sanitization. Below are 10 handpicked and unexplored destinations in Maharashtra that you can check out:



Lonar



Panhala



Tamhini Ghat



Vikramgad



Chikhaldara

1. Lonar

Tucked away in a remote part of Aurangabad, Lonar gets its name from the eponymous lake which was created when a meteorite hit earth. The lake is 6,000 sqft and surrounded by ancient temples.

2. Vikramgad

A small village near Palghar, Vikramgad is best known as the place of origin of Warli paintings. There are multiple nature trails and eco-friendly stays in the area. One can hike to the PiluchaDhabdhaba Waterfalls or have a private picnic in the forest.

3. Chikhaldara

Located in Amravati, Chikhaldara is known for the Melghat Tiger Reserve, multiple forts which one can trek to, waterfalls and coffee cultivation. There are also lakes and temples that one can visit.

4. Tamhini Ghat

Located in Pune, this ghat is surrounded by dense woods and deep valleys which make it a favourite with trekkers, campers and

hikers. One can also plan a day-long road-trip, as Tamhini is nestled in the Western Ghats between Mulshi and Kolad.

5. Amboli

Amboli is at an altitude of 690m. The hill station is relatively remote - and unexplored. It boasts of picturesque streams, waterfalls, and forts.

6. Dapoli

For those who love sun-soaked beaches, Dapoli, located in Ratnagiri, is a must-visit. There are a whole bunch of water sports you can try at the numerous beaches in this coastal town. There are also historic forts, caves, and temples to explore.

7. Guhagar

The eponymous beach in Guhagar happens to be one of the cleanest and least polluted beaches in Maharashtra. You can enjoy some really wonderful non-vegetarian food, read a book, enjoy the solitude and quiet and stroll by the beach, if that's your cup of tea.

8. Sandhan Valley

While there aren't any conventional stay options around there, if you are up for a camping trip, Sandhan Valley is just the perfect spot. Surrounded by the Konkankada, there are a number of adventure activities such as rappelling and trekking to do.

9. Pali

Known for the Ganesh temple in the area, Pali is otherwise a quiet destination for those seeking solitude. There are plenty of homestays, villas and farmhouses that one can book to explore the surrounding hills, waterfalls and nature trails in the town.

10. Panhala

Another little-known hill station in Maharashtra, Panhala, in Kolhapur, is best known for its historical fort from the Shivaji era. It is the smallest city in Maharashtra and has a cool climate throughout the year, making a trek to the fort extremely pleasant and worthwhile.

Source: Money Control

Thane girls Mahek Pokar and Pradnya Bhagat selected in Mumbai U-19 cricket team



Mahek Pokar and Pradnya Bhagat from Thane have been selected in Mumbai U-19

women's cricket team. The selection committee officially announced the list of players selected to play for

Mumbai U-19 women's cricket team on September 13. The Women's Under-19 Selection Committee of Mumbai Cricket Association consists of Ms. Sangita Katware (Chairwoman), Ms. Aparna Chavan, Ms. Sushma Madhvi, Ms. Sheetal Sakru and Ms. Shraddha Chavan. The U-19 Women's One Day League matches are to be played from September 28 at Rajkot.

Mahek and Pradnya are the students of Sri Ma Bal Niketan High School. While Mahek has been selected for the second time in the Mumbai U-19 team, Pradnya will make her debut. Mahek is a wicket-keeper bat and Pradnya is a left arm seamer. Cricket coaches Darshan Bhoir, Pratih Bhoir and Jayesh Kulkarni have coached Mahek and Pradnya. Ajit Kulkarni has been responsible for the girls' fitness training.

Thane will get an internal metro to connect to Metro Line 4

During a general body meeting that was held in the Thane Municipal Corporation (TMC) in the first week of September, it was unanimously decided to scrap the proposed Light Rail Transit system and instead build a conventional metro line as an internal transportation system for the city.

At present, metro line 4 from Wadala to Kasarvadavli-Gaimukh, is under construction. The civic body, however, felt that it also needed an internal metro to connect various parts of the



city to this metro line.

Subsequently, a DPR (detailed project report) of the entire project was prepared by Maha Metro. However, the

central government instructed TMC to implement a Light Rail Transit (LRT) project as it would be more cost efficient. Having a different opinion,

the Maharashtra government stalled the LRT proposal and stated that in view of Thane's growing population, the metro would be better than the LRT, since the former can carry more passengers.

The cost of the internal metro project is expected to be Rs 10,000 crore. The central and state governments will each provide 16.65 per cent of the funds for the internal metro project, and the remaining funds will have to be made available by TMC with low-interest loans.

Thane district's Bhatsa dam has 99.5% useful water content

Water shortage is unlikely to be an issue going forward atleast for a few months. The seven lakes, namely, Tulsi, Vihar, Bhatsa, Tansa, Middle Vaitarna, Upper Vaitarna and Modak Sagar, that provide water to Mumbai city are now 99.2% full. In 2020, these lakes were 98.2% full and in 2019, they were 97.8% full. This indicates that the lakes have seen a 1% and 1.4% points increase in water levels from their 2020 and 2019 levels respectively. Water reserves near-full capacity means there will be sufficient quantities to meet the city's water requirements throughout the year and residents are unlikely to face any water crisis.

Mumbai city that receives its drinking water supply from the aforementioned seven lakes have a total water capacity of 1,447,363 Million Litres (M Litres). They are



located in Mumbai, and the neighbouring Thane and Palghar districts. Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) supplies 3,850 M Litres of water to Mumbai per day. The seven lakes are bifurcated into

two systems- the Vaitarna system supplies water to the western suburbs and the Island city, and the Bhatsa system that provides water to the eastern suburbs.

Four out of the seven lakes, namely, Tulsi, Vihar, Tansa, and Modak Sagar have already overflowed once this monsoon, in July. On September 13, BMC began to release water from Upper Vaitarna also, which currently has 99.3% water, as per BMC data. Water-level in Tulsi and Vihar lakes is full at 100%, while it is almost full at 99.14% for Tansa and 99.9% for Modak Sagar.

Bhatsa dam in Thane district has 99.5% useful water content. Of its total capacity of 717,037 M Litre, 575,700 M Litre are allotted to Mumbai for use, and comprise over 40% of the annual water requirement of the city. Middle Vaitarna has 97.44% useful water content.

Thane's Civil Hospital gets super-specialty status

Thane's Civil Hospital has been granted a super-specialty status, which indicates that a massive upgrade in the hospital infrastructure and facilities is inevitable in the near future.

Additionally, the state government has also given approval for a 200-bed special hospital for women and children, and another 200-bed super specialty hospital.

The Public Health Department has granted Thane civil hospital the status of a superspecialty hospital. The department has issued a Government Resolution (GR) and allowed an increase of 326 beds in the civil hospital, taking the total strength to 500. Presently, the hospital has around 174 beds.

The Thane civil hospital receives a



huge foot fall of patients from Thane and Palghar districts; several accident victims are also brought here. The revamp of the hospital was necessitated after complaints by locals that medical facilities in Thane were not at par with

that of Mumbai, which compelled many residents to travel all the way to Mumbai for quality medical treatment. With the upgradation, the residents can avail quality treatment in their nearest hospital.

The upgradation proposal had got a major push when Thane district guardian minister Eknath Shinde was the health minister in the previous BJP-SS government. As per reports, Thane district collector Rajesh Narvekar said, "Part of a few structures will be removed and reconstructed. The existing civil hospital was built prior to independence, we needed a super-specialty hospital. The new project will cost us over Rs 500 crore."

Thane gets a Special Task Force to improve its pothole riddled roads

Potholes and dilapidated roads have led to many accidents over the years. Thane is not an anomaly as there have been several records of road accidents due to the menace of the potholes.

Cognizant of this, the residents of Thane took to social media to express their anger. They carried out several campaigns on social media so that the concerned authorities would pay heed to their demands. Taking note of the increasing anger among the residents of Thane, Thane district Guardian Minister Eknath Shinde conducted a meeting with Thane Collector, CP and other senior officials.

During the meeting between Shinde and bureaucrats, it was decided that a Special Task Force will be formed for coordinating among various agencies and resolving all road-related issues. The team will coordinate with five government agencies responsible for roads to ensure prompt redressal.

Amidst of this, it is also known that four engineers from the Thane Municipal



Corporation (TMC) have been suspended for failing to ensure quality of road works in the city. Minister Eknath Shinde warned that officials from other agencies including MMRDA, MSRDC and PWD

will also not be spared. Three contractors responsible for executing poor-quality road works in Thane are likely to be blacklisted, as per reports.

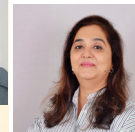


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