



MAHARASHTRA: A WORLD WITHIN

Directorate of Tourism, Tourism Department, GoM

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THOSEGHAR FALLS



SAHASTRAKUND FALLS



LINGMALA FALLS

July 2026 reflected Maharashtra's continued focus on strengthening tourism through strategic partnerships, cultural initiatives, and heritage conservation. The state's participation in the 17th WOW Awards Asia reinforced its position as a leading destination for MICE tourism, destination weddings, and global events, while cultural programmes such as Chala Pandharisi Jau celebrated Maharashtra's rich spiritual and cultural heritage. Key infrastructure and policy initiatives, including new tourism collaborations, water tourism projects, heritage memorials, and destination development under the 'One State, One Destination' initiative, highlighted the government's commitment to sustainable and inclusive tourism. Together, these efforts continue to enhance Maharashtra's appeal as a diverse, year-round destination for domestic and international travellers.

Maharashtra Tourism Department wins an award at the WOW Awards Asia for the MICE sector.



With the support of the Maharashtra Tourism Department, the 17th WOW Awards Asia was successfully held in Mumbai. The Department participated by setting up an interactive exhibition pavilion showcasing Maharashtra's diverse tourism destinations using modern digital technology. The pavilion aimed to promote the state's tourism offerings to a global audience and strengthen Maharashtra's position as a preferred destination for tourism, business conferences, exhibitions, destination weddings, and special events. The

Maharashtra Tourism Department was honored with the special award for "Best State for MICE, Weddings and Live Events" at the event.

The event was held at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai and was inaugurated by Shri Sanjay Khandare (IAS), Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism Department, Government of Maharashtra, along with Shri Mangesh Joshi (IAS), Former Director of the Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra. Also present were Shri Santosh Rokade, Deputy Secretary, Tourism Department, Government of Maharashtra; Shri Vijay Powar, Deputy Secretary, Tourism Department, Government of Maharashtra; Shri Santosh Jadhav, Joint Director, Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra; Dr. Pradnya Manohar, Deputy Director, Directorate of Tourism (Konkan Region), Government of Maharashtra; and other senior officials. Maharashtra Tourism's Youth Ambassador, Naveli Deshmukh, attended the event and felicitated the award winners.

Maharashtra Tourism Department Plays a Key Role in the 'Chala Pandharisi Jau' Cultural Programme

The Maharashtra Tourism Department's participation in the 'Chala Pandharisi Jau' programme, organised with the objective of promoting Maharashtra's Warkari and saint traditions, cultural heritage and religious tourism, was noteworthy. The cultural programme was enthusiastically held at Ravindra Natya Mandir in Prabhadevi, Master Dinanath Mangeshkar Natyagruha in Vile Parle, Dr. Kashinath Ghanekar Natyagruha in Thane, and Bharat Natya Mandir in Pune. The programmes offered audiences a glimpse into the rich Warkari tradition, saint literature and Maharashtra's cultural heritage, and received an overwhelming response from the audience.



The programme at Ravindra Natya Mandir was attended by Shri Sanjay Khandare (IAS), Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism Department, Government of Maharashtra; Dr. Pradnya Manohar, Deputy Director, Directorate of Tourism (Konkan Region), Government of Maharashtra; Maharashtra Tourism's Youth Ambassador Naveli Deshmukh and other officials.

• News in Focus

Grand Memorial of Veer Jivaji Mahale to Be Built at the Foothills of Pratapgad Fort

The Maharashtra Government has decided to construct a grand memorial dedicated to Veer Jivaji Mahale at the foothills of Pratapgad Fort. The decision, taken under the leadership of the Honourable Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis and Deputy Chief Minister Shri Eknath Shinde, includes an initial allocation of ₹1 crore for the first phase of the project.

The Honourable Minister of Tourism, Shri Shambhuraj Desai, while announcing the decision in the State Legislative Assembly, said, "The demand for the memorial was raised by various heritage organisations during Deputy Chief Minister Shri Eknath Shinde's recent visit to Mahabaleshwar. Following discussions with the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister, the Maharashtra Tourism Department approved the project. Once completed, the memorial is expected to strengthen Pratapgad's historical tourism appeal, further enhancing its identity on Maharashtra's tourism map, and attract more visitors from across India and abroad."



Minister of Tourism Directs Timely Completion of Munawale Water Tourism Project



The Honourable Minister of Tourism, Shri Shambhuraj Desai, has directed all concerned departments to work in close coordination to ensure the timely completion of the Munawale Water Tourism Project, one of the state's flagship tourism initiatives and a priority project of the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister, Shri Eknath Shinde.

A detailed review meeting was held at Vidhan Bhavan under the chairmanship of the Minister of Tourism, in the presence of the Honourable Minister of Public Works in Maharashtra, Shri Shivendrasinhraje Bhosale. The project is expected

to create substantial employment opportunities for local communities and give a major boost to tourism in the Satara district.

The project aims to develop world-class water tourism facilities around the Koyna reservoir, including boating, water sports, tourist facilitation centres, and other visitor amenities, positioning Satara as one of Maharashtra's leading water tourism destinations.

MTDC and TAFI Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Strengthen Tourism Development



Recognising Maharashtra's vast tourism potential, from well-known destinations and heritage sites to eco-tourism locations and niche tourism experiences, the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) and the Travel Agents Federation of India (TAFI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to jointly promote the state's tourism products.

The partnership aims to improve the visibility, accessibility, and commercial reach of Maharashtra's tourism offerings by leveraging TAFI's nationwide network. The MoU was signed by Shri Neelesh R. Gatne, (IAS), Managing Director, MTDC, and Shri Abbas Moiz, President of TAFI. Shri Chandrashekhar Jaiswal, General Manager, MTDC, Government of Maharashtra, were also present.

Maharashtra; Shri Arun Iyer, Secretary (Western India), President of TAFI; and Shri Jitul Mehta, National Joint Secretary of TAFI, were also present.

'One State, One Destination' Initiative to Unlock Sindhudurg's Tourism Potential

As part of the Maharashtra Government's ambitious 'One State, One Destination' initiative, a preliminary planning meeting was held at the Sindhudurg Collector's Office, chaired by District Collector Trupti Dhodmise (IAS).

The meeting focused on developing Sindhudurg's tourism potential through better destination planning, improved infrastructure, enhanced visitor amenities, cleanliness, transport connectivity, tourism information centres, digital promotion, local art and cuisine, tourism circuits, destination branding, and greater community participation.



Among those present were Shri Mangesh Joshi (IAS), Former Director of the Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra; Resident Deputy Collector Shri Machhindra Sukate; Deputy Collectors Pratibha Varale and Aarti Desai; Dr. Pradnya Manohar, Deputy Director, Directorate of Tourism (Konkan Region), Government of Maharashtra; Shri Aakash Chakor, Executive Engineer, Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra; District Planning Officer Shri Yashwant Budhawale; and officials from various government departments.

Promote and Popularise Tourist Destinations at a Global Level – Minister of Tourism Shri Shambhuraj Desai

The Honourable Minister of Tourism, Shri Shambhuraj Desai, has directed officials to focus on modern marketing, digital branding, and effective promotional strategies to ensure that Maharashtra's tourist destinations gain recognition not just within the state and the country, but also on the international stage. The directive was issued during a review meeting held at Sahyadri Guest House, where the marketing and branding initiatives undertaken in the 2025-26 financial year were examined in detail.



The meeting was attended by Shri Sanjay Khandare (IAS), Additional Chief Secretary (Tourism), Government of Maharashtra; Shri Neelesh R. Gatne (IAS), Managing Director, Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation, Government of Maharashtra; Shri Mangesh Joshi (IAS), Former Director of the Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra; Shri Santosh Rokade, Deputy Secretary, Department of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra; Shri Vijay Powar, Deputy Secretary, Department of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra; Shri Chandrashekhar Jaiswal, General Manager, Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation, Government of Maharashtra; Shri Santosh Jadhav, Joint Director, Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra; Shri Ravindra Pawar, Assistant Director, Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra; Shri Sushil Pawar, Assistant Director, Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra; and Shri Aakash Chakor, Executive Engineer, Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra, along with other concerned officials.

Top Monsoon Destinations of Maharashtra

Thoseghar Falls, Satara



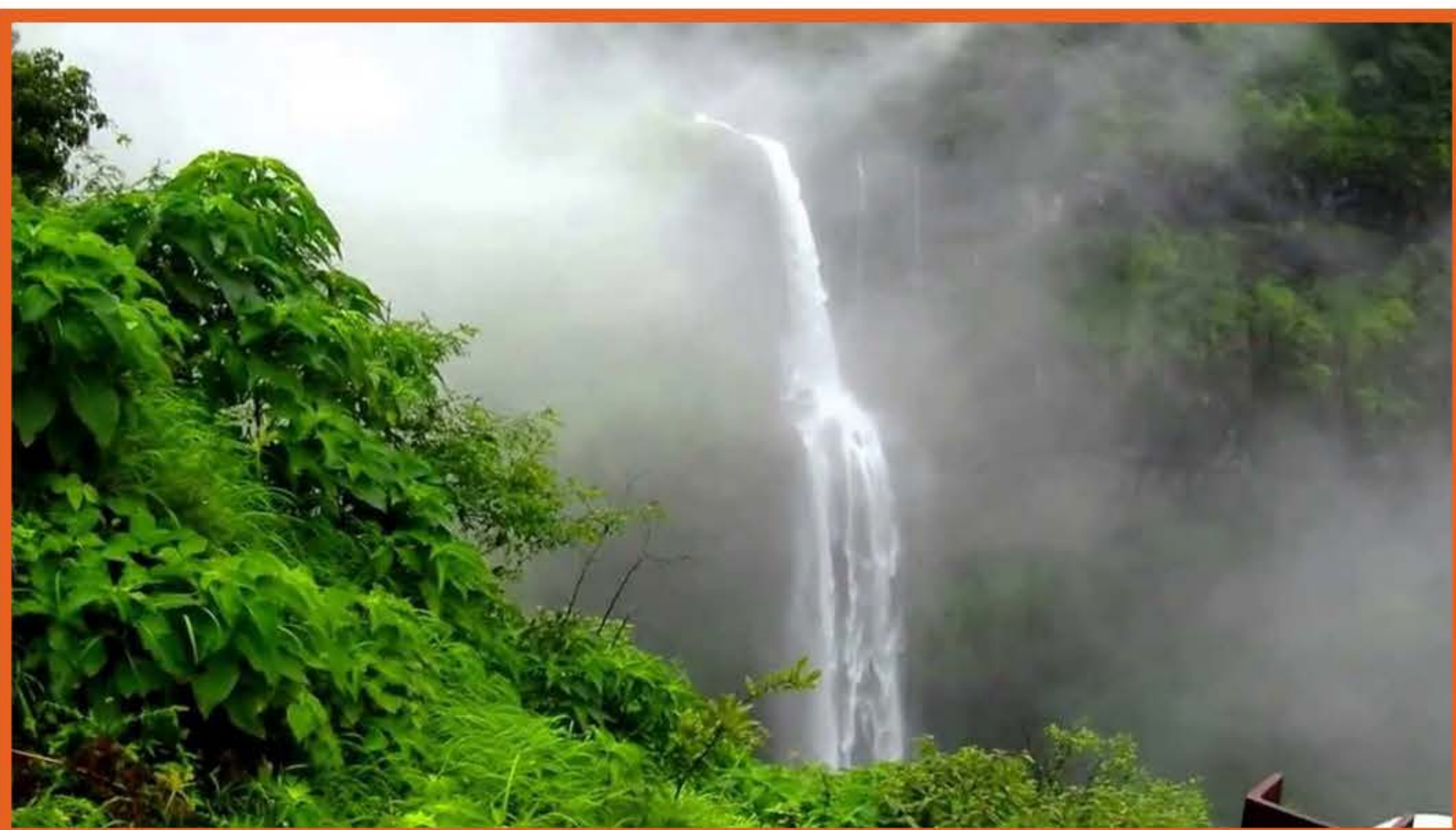
Thoseghar isn't one waterfall. It's an entire chain of them, spilling off the Konkan escarpment at intervals just 20 kilometres from Satara city. The tallest drops close to 200 metres into a forested gorge below. Even in peak monsoon, there's a stillness here that most popular falls have long surrendered. A viewing platform frames it all, the dense surrounding forest does the rest. Unhurried, under-the-radar, and quietly breathtaking.

Sahastrakund Falls, Nanded-Yavatmal

The one most travel guides miss entirely. Sahastrakund sits on the Painganga River at the exact boundary of Marathwada and Vidarbha. It spills over ancient black basalt into dozens of natural pools (with sahasra meaning "thousand" and kund meaning "pool"), with butterflies everywhere and almost no other tourists. Pack your own food, as the surrounding infrastructure is minimal. The falls, however, are another world entirely.



Lingmala Falls, Mahabaleshwar



No Maharashtra waterfall list is complete without Mahabaleshwar, and Lingmala is the hill station's most arresting cascade. Split into two, a main fall and a smaller companion, the falls gush through a wooded gorge in the heart of the plateau. July and August are the best months to visit Lingmala Waterfall, when the monsoon brings the falls to their fullest glory and the surrounding hills come alive with lush greenery.



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