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Patron

Sh. Manoj Sinha Chairman, SMVDSB

Editor-in-Chief

Sh. Anshul Garg, IAS CEO, SMVDSB

Executive Editor

Dr. Sunil Sharma, JKAS Jt. CEO, SMVDSB

editor@maavaishnodevi.net

Three union ministers, pay obeisance at the Holy Shrine

Union ministers Nitin Gadkari, Jitendra Singh and V K Singh visited the Holy Cave Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji on 11th April, 2023.



Union Ministers alongwith Chairman, SMVDSB, pay obeisance at the Holy Shrine

The union ministers were received by Lt Governor, JK-UT and Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board at Bhawan. The dignitaries paid their obeisance at the Sanctum Sanctorum.

SMVDSB registers hat-trick by securing 1st position in 'National Water Awards'

In recognition of the significant strides made by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) to promote water conservation and proper management of water in the category of 'Best Institution for Campus Usage', bagged in a row the First Prize for the 3rd time in the 4th 'National Water Awards-2023', thereby securing a hat-trick.



The Vice President of India, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar conferred the 4thNational Water Awards on 17 June at an award distribution ceremony being organized at Plenary Hall, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi by the Department of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR) under the Ministry of Jal Shakti. A total of 41 winners including Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, covering 11 categories from various states across the country selected on the basis of their work.

The Shrine Board besides making concerted efforts to provide the best possible facilities to the pilgrims under chairmanship of Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, JK UT, inter alia, taking continuing initiatives and adopting best water management techniques for practices and water conservation.

Earlier this year, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board was also felicitated at the Jal Prahari Samman Samaroh–2023 held in the month of April at New Delhi.



CEO SMVD Shrine Board, Anshul Garg receiving award from Vice-President of India at New Delhi

The prestigious award was received on behalf of the Shrine Board by Sh. Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB who thanked the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti for recognising the work done by the Shrine Board for water conservation and proper water management successively for the 3rd time, adding that this award will encourage and motivate Shrine Board for continuing in its endeavour to adopt and promote best water usage practices also in future.

Chief Justice of India pays obeisance at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji Shrine

Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dr Justice D Y Chandrachud visited the Holy Cave Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji on June 29 and paid obeisance at the sanctum sanctorum.

On his arrival at Katra, the Chief Justice of India was received by Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board. The Chief Justice of India



was accompanied by the Chief Justice of J&K and Ladakh High Court.



Chief Justice of India paid obeisance at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji Shrine

The CEO briefed the dignitaries about the continuing initiatives being taken by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Lt. Governor, JK-UT for upgrading and expanding the infrastructure for facilitating the progressively increasing number of pilgrims to the Holy Shrine.

The CJI complemented the efforts being initiated by the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board for welfare and providing facilities to the visiting pilgrims to make their pilgrimage hassle-free.

Chairman Inaugurates SMVDSB's Prasad Cum Souvenir Counter in Departure Area of Jammu Airport

Lt Governor, JK UT, who is also the Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board inaugurated Prasad cum Souvenir Counter of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board in the departure area of Jammu Airport, on 6th June 2023.

The facility has fulfilled the long pending demand of the devotees of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi ji from across the country to make packaged Prasad and other Souvenir available at the Jammu Airport.

At the inaugural ceremony, the Lt Governor shared initiatives taken by the Shri

Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board for providing better facilities to the pilgrims.

The Lt Governor also distributed the Prasad packages to the people at the airport. Premium Panchmewa Prasad, Gold Medallions, Silver Coins and other souvenirs shall be available at the Prasad counter.



Prasad cum Souvenir Counter Inaugurated by the Chairman, SMVDSB at Jammu Airport

Five dedicated Prasad Kendras cum Souvenir Shops have been made operational in the last 10 months besides operationalization of 07 counters in existing establishments.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Anshul Garg, CEO Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; members of the Shrine Board and other senior officials were present on the occasion.

SMVDSB successfully conducts mock drill exercises to take stock of Disaster Preparedness

Disaster Management has been one of the priority areas of the Board in view of difficult terrain and topography of the Shrine area. In a bid to enhance preparedness for disaster management, SMVDSB conducts trainings and joint mock drill exercises from time to time with stakeholders to check the alertness and response mechanism in the event of any disaster like eventuality to ensure quick and most effective response from all concerned.



Accordingly. under the overall guidance of Hon'ble Chairman, SMVDSB (Hon'ble Lt. Governor, JK-UT), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board has conducted five-day mock drill exercises in priority sectors of Shrine Board including Bhawan, Bhairon, Sanjichhat, Adhkuwari and Banganga which started from April 24 and concluded successfully on April 28 with debriefing session with the stakeholders to plug any gaps and enhance preparedness for disaster management. These included security agencies like CRPF, Jammu & Kashmir Police, Department of Fire & Emergency Services, State Disaster Response Force, Reasi and a team from NDRF who joined the mock exercises to assess the overall level of preparedness for effectively and promptly responding to any emergency situation.



SMVDSB successfully conducts mock drill exercises to take stock of Disaster Preparedness

About 295 participants attended these mock drill exercises during a five days programme.

SMVD College of Nursing holds 43rd Governing Body Meeting

The 43rd Meeting of Governing Body (GB) of SMVDCoN was held on 3rd May, 2023 at Kalika Dham Jammu under the Chairmanship of Suresh Kumar Sharma, Judge (Retd.), Member SMVDSB. The Meeting was attended by Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB; Dr. Shakti Gupta, Director, AIIMS, Jammu; Dr. Sunil Sharma, Joint CEO; Dr. Gopal Sharma, Asstt. CEO, SMVDSB; Sharda M. Potukuchi,

Associate Prof. Dean, Faculty of Biotechnology, SMVDU; Dr. J.P Singh, Neuro Surgeon & Clinical Director, SMVDNSH and Dr. Shailla Cannie, Principal, SMVDCoN.



SMVD College of Nursing holds 43rd GB meeting.

Besides reviewing the progress of its earlier decisions. the **GB** had exhaustive deliberations on various forward looking proposals for excellence of the Nursing College which included finalization on the contours of admission to 1st Batch of "Postgraduate Program in Healthcare Quality and Patient Safety Management" being shortly rolled out by the College besides, issues connected with admission of students to the Academic Session 2022-23 of B.Sc Nursing Course.

The GB appreciated the steps taken by SMVDCoN towards acquiring NAAC Accreditation and emphasised expediting the process to achieve Autonomous Status at an early date. In the same context, the impediments towards early execution of infrastructure additions / upgradation were deliberated by the GB and appropriate decisions were taken. The GB also approved a budget of the College for FY 2023-24.

The GB desired hosting a National Level Conference on "Recent Advances and Future Trends in Nursing and Healthcare Sciences", towards the end of the year.

The Governing Body also desired a broader association with reputed institutions such as SMVDU / AIIMS, Jammu etc. for mutual benefit of institutions and offering viza-viz better learning platform to students of the College.



SMVDNSH performs 03 more Cochlear Implant Surgeries sponsored by SMVDSB

As yet another clinical feat, the ENT Department of SMVDNSH performed 3 more successful Cochlear Implant Surgeries, sponsored by the Board. The beneficiaries were young children aged 4-6 years who could not able to hear as well as speak either.



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Superspeciality Hospital performs three cochlear Implant Surgeries

The surgeries in reference were performed by the ENT team led by Dr. Rohan Gupta (Consultant ENT) with the support of anaesthesia team led by Dr. Pankaj Gupta (HOD Anaesthesia) and overall guidance rendered by Dr. Sunil Kotwal (Consultant ENT). The post-operative management till discharge of children was taken care of by the Pediatric team led by Dr. Anand Yelne (Consultant).

Dr. Gopal Sharma, Chief administrative Officer, SMVDNSH revealed on the occasion that management of the Board led by a very dynamic and proactive CEO has always done exceedingly well when it comes to reaching out to the poor and needy patients in need of financial support. He added that the instant surgeries are merely one illustration of the numerous philanthropic steps taken from time to time by the Board, for the well being of society. Sh. M M Mathavan, Facility Director of SMVDNSH also applauded the Board's always approach of supporting substantiating the actions of the Hospital to

render useful services to the society, with a humanitarian dimension.

SMVDSB organises interaction cum mega feast function at Banganga

As a part of recognition to the Best Performing Unit during 2022-23 and as a continuous endeavour towards employee welfare, SMVDSB on May 9 organized an interaction cum mega feast (Bada Khana) function at Banganga.

Anshul Garg, CEO, SMVDSB accompanied by a team of officers, had an interaction session followed by a mega feast with the employees at Banganga.

On the occasion, the Chief Executive Officer extended his gratitude to the Chairman, SMVDSB (Hon'ble LG, JK UT) for his continuous support and guidance under which a plethora of initiatives for facilitation of pilgrims and welfare of staff are being undertaken by the Board.



SMVDSB organises interaction cum mega feast function at Banganga

The CEO also gave awards to some of the employees as a token of appreciation for their outstanding performance and devotion towards duty and also disbursed scholarships to the wards of Swachhta Sahayaks.

SMVDSB partners with DTDC for a robust Prasad delivery mechanism

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board on June 14 had entered into an agreement with the M/s DTDC Express Limited, New Delhi an Indian courier service firm having stout network nationally as well as internationally, for providing logistics, packing



and door to door speedy delivery of Prasad Boxes to the devotees of Mata Vaishno Devi Ji across the country.

This initiative of the Board undertaken as per the directions of Sh. Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Lt. Governor, JK-UT shall facilitate and will greatly help devotees in speedy receipt of Prasad, said the Chief Executive Officer.



SMVDSB partners with DTDC for a robust Prasad delivery mechanism

Anshul Garg, CEO, SMVDSB flagged off the vehicle of Prasad through this courier service to various destinations at Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra.

In this regard, five categories Prasad of denominations of Rs.100/-, Rs.300/-, Rs.500/, Rs.1100/and Rs.2100/have been incorporated for the delivery through M/s DTDC by the Board which can be booked either through the official website of the Shrine Board i.e. www.maavaishnodevi.org or through mobile app of SMVDSB. The firm shall also provide insurance of each and every consignment and facilitate devotees with the digital tracking. Besides, the firm shall ensure that Prasad reaches the doorstep of the devotees in North India within 48 hrs, once the booking is being confirmed.

SMVDSB reviews security and operational preparedness before peak summer rush

To had a comprehensive review of security and operational preparedness of the Shrine area with the onset of the summer holidays in many states across the country and anticipation of the burgeoning of

devotees at the Holy Shrine over the next couple of months. Anshul Garg, CEO, presided over a meeting with security agencies on May 20 at Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra.

The meeting was attended by the representatives from JKP, CRPF, Fire & Emergency Services and other officers from IB, CID, Army, SMVDSB and intelligence agencies.

The Chief Executive Officer stressed for action on diverse fronts for hassle free pilgrimage during coming days. He further exhorted that all agencies deployed at all entry points should remain more vigilant so that no yatri without frisking and registration enters the track for their pilgrimage.



SMVDSB reviews security and operational preparedness to cope with peak summer rush

9th International Yoga Day; Shrine Board organises Yog Divas at Sports Complex

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Sports Complex, Katra on June 21 joined the practitioners nation-wide and across the world to mark the celebrations of the 9th International Yoga Day. The celebrations began with the lighting of a ceremonial lamp.

The CEO, SMVDSB, Anshul Garg in his message stressed upon all the participants to include Yoga in their daily life to remain physically and mentally fit, besides relieving themselves from stressful life.

Starting from 6:30 AM, the event concluded at 8:00 AM. The participants performed a series of Yogasanas in unison



towards better health and wellness for all under the supervision of yoga experts following Common Yoga Protocol (CYP).



Shrine Board organises Yog Divas at Sports Complex

SMVD Sports Complex organises one day JK-UT Open Chess Championship

SMVD Sports Complex, Katra on April 17 organised a one day UT Level Chess Championship which culminated with a participation of around 45 players across the UT from all the categories. The championship was organised by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sports Complex in collaboration with All J&K Chess Association.

Winners who were announced in the main section were given cash reward of 10K, 5K and 3K respectively. However, in the Sub-Junior category, the winners were given cash reward of 5K, 3K and 2K respectively. Ms. Alankrita Sharma was declared as best woman of the championship who was awarded with a cash award of 5K.



SMVD Sports Complex organises one day JK-UT Open Chess Championship

Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board congratulated all the winners for their excellent performance.

CEO SMVDSB honours medalists of Para- Archery World Ranking Tournament

Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) on May 27 felicitated Rakesh Kumar, Sheetal Devi and Jyoti Baliyan, the three archers groomed at SMVDSB Sports Complex, Katra who participated and won five medals in the recently concluded Para Archery World Ranking Tournament held at Czech Republic. Besides, Kuldeep Vedwan and Abhilasha Chaudhary, Archery Coach of the Shrine Board who accompanied the Indian Para Archery contingent to Czech Republic were also honoured on the occasion.



CEO SMVDSB honours medalists of Para- Archery World Ranking Tournament

It is pertinent to mention here that Rakesh & Sheetal Devi won gold in Compound open mixed team and Compound men open doubles, besides, Sheetal and Jyoti clinched silver in compound women open and bronze in compound women doubles. The Shrine archers contributed five medals for India in the total tally by which the country secured 2nd position in the event.

CEO underscored on the occasion about upgradation in Khelo India Talent Development in the Archery (Boys & Girls) Discipline at the Sports Complex from the Non-Residential Category to the Residential category in the coming days with an aim to create an ecosystem and promotion of excellence in SMVDSB Sports Complex.



Para-archers, SMVD Sports Complex bag five medals at Czech Republic Para Archery World Ranking Tournament

Rakesh Kumar and Sheetal Devi trained and groomed at SMVD Sports Complex have brought laurels to the country by winning five medals at Para Archery World Ranking Tournament held at Czech Republic.



Para-archers from SMVD Sports Complex ensure three gold, one silver and bronze at Czech Republic Para

Rakesh & Sheetal Devi won gold in Compound open mixed team, besides, Rakesh won gold against France in Compound men open doubles. Sheetal also clinched silver in compound women open and bronze in compound women doubles. The Indian team secured nine medals out of which five medals were contributed by the Shrine archers.

Lt. Governor who is also the Chairman of SMVDSB congratulated both the sports persons for their performance tweeted that 'the entire nation is proud of their achievement and their feat will inspire millions of our youth'.

Dr. Ashok Bhan, Member, Shrine Board and Chairman of Governing Council of SMVD Sports Complex also extended his congratulations to both the participants for representing the country in the Czech Republic and their excellent performance in the event.

Anshul Garg, CEO, SMVDSB congratulated both the sports persons while adding that the Shrine Board's support extended towards sports is being appreciated and it is a matter of pride that players nurtured at SMVD Sports Complex are putting Jammu & Kashmir UT on the world map.

Shrine Board Archers excel at Khelo India University Games

Three Archers namely Hrithik Sharma, Amit and Shavej from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board's Sports Complex, Katra who excelled in the archery events of Khelo India University Games recently held in Lucknow returned with a haul of three medals in compound event met Anshul Garg, CEO, SMVDSB on 3rd of June, 2023.



Shrine Board Archers excel at Khelo India University Games

The CEO applauded these archers and also congratulated the coach Kuldeep Vedwan for his expert coaching, hard work and dedication due to which the archers and para-archers from SMVD Sports Complex were able to secure medals at National and International Levels. Among those present on the occasion were Vipan Bhagat, Asstt. CEO, SMVDSB, Coach and Archers from SMVD Sports Complex.

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, Katra-182301 Chief Executive Officer: 01991-232124,232075, Fax-232120 Addl. Chief Executive Officer: 01991-232818 Jt. Chief Executive Officer (S): 01991-232769

Email: feedback@maavaishnodevi.net Website: www.maavaishnodevi.org