



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board

Trikuta

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Governor attends 3rd Anniversary of SMVDN Superspeciality Hospital



Governor Satya Pal Malik felicitating doctors at the 3rd anniversary of SMVDNSH, Kakryal on 19.4.2019.

Governor Satya Pal Malik, Chairman of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, on 19 April 2019 attended the function organised to mark 3rd anniversary of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, (SMVDNSH), Kakryal, which was held at the Matrika Auditorium of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University.

Dr. Devi Prasad Shetty, Chairman and Founder of Narayana Health; Dr. Ashok Bhan and Maj. Gen. (Retd.) S. K. Sharma, Members of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Sh. Simrandeep Singh, CEO Shrine Board; Ms. Indu Kanwal Chib, Deputy Commissioner Reasi; Ms. Nisha Nathyal, SSP Reasi; Dr. (Brig) M. M. Harjai, CAO, SMVDNSH and other officers of the Shrine Board were among dignitaries present on the occasion.

Governor complimented the staff of the hospital for coming up to the expectations of people in providing quality tertiary care to patients at an affordable cost. He observed that the success stories of the hospital are a reflection of the professional capabilities of the doctors and staff and pledged full support on behalf of the Shrine Board to the hospital in providing the best quality healthcare to the patients.

Governor congratulated Dr. Tsering Landol, Dr. G. Q. Allaqaband and Dr. C. D. Gupta, who were felicitated, on the occasion, in recognition of their life time contributions in the medical profession.



Later, Governor took a round of the hospital and inspected facilities there. He interacted with the patients and enquired about their wellbeing.

Governor on this occasion also launched new palanquins and jackets for porters designed by IIT Bombay and National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE) for Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board.

Shrine Board starts Langar for pilgrims on Tarakote Marg



Langar being inaugurated on Tarakote Marg on 9.5.2019.

For facilitation of the pilgrims, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board started a free community kitchen (Langar) from 9 May 2019 at Tarakote on the picturesque Tarakote Marg between Katra and Adhkuwari. The Langar provides traditional food of the region to the pilgrims round the clock at Tarakote Marg, amidst the beautiful ambience of the floating fountains in the water body developed by the Board in the backdrop of the Trikuta Hills. It is pertinent to mention that Tarakote Marg was inaugurated by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 19 May 2018.

The Langar facility was formally inaugurated by a group of pilgrims from Mumbai, in the presence of Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer of the Shrine Board; Sh. Vivek Verma, Additional CEO and other officers and employees of the Board amidst chanting of Vedic mantras and performing of pooja.

The Langar facility has commenced at the already existing spacious Bhojanalaya of the Board at Tarakote, which can cater to around 200 pilgrims at a time. The community kitchen has been equipped with modern kitchenware, utensils and other gadgets to provide hygienic and wholesome food to the pilgrims.

The facility can cater to 8500 pilgrims per day. The Langar also has the unique distinction of being one of the only such facilities in the country run 24 hours a day, throughout the year.

Army Chief visits Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

General Bipin Rawat, Chief of the Army Staff visited the Holy Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji on 4 June 2019 and paid obeisance at the sanctum sanctorum. General Rawat also visited Bhairon Temple through the Passenger Ropeway, before departing for Katra. He also took Prasad at the Langar, being run by the Board on the Tarakote Marg. He was accompanied by senior Army officers. Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and Sh. Jagdish Mehra, Dy. CEO received the Army Chief at Tarakote Marg.



General Bipin Rawat, Chief of the Army Staff at the Shrine Board Langar at Tarakote on 4.6.2019.

New Audio System becomes operational on Tarakote Marg

For facilitating pilgrims who use the scenic Tarakote Marg in their journey to the Holy Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji, a hi-tech Multipurpose Audio System of BOSE, has been made operational from 8 June 2019.

The Audio System was formally inaugurated by a group of pilgrims from Sonapat, Haryana, in the presence of Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer of the Shrine Board; by operationalising its Main Control Room on the Tarakote Marg amidst performing of Havan Yagya and chanting of Vedic mantras.

The system has been installed through M/s BOSE Corp. India Pvt. Ltd. at a cost of about Rs. 4.55



crore, which includes comprehensive operational and maintenance cost for 5 years. The system is being used to play specially composed devotional and spiritual music “Chants”, “Mantras”, “Stotras”, Bhaints and live Atka Aarti from the Holy Cave. Besides, the important public announcements and yatra related advisories are also broadcasted. It has been synchronised with the similar Multipurpose Audio System which is already operational along the three stretches of pilgrimage tracks i.e. Darshani Deodi to Adhkuwari, Adhkuwari to Bhawan via Sanjichhat & Bhairon and Adhkuwari to Bhawan via Himkoti.



New audio system inaugurated on Tarakote Marg on 8.6.2019.

Programme on 'Ageing with Dignity' organised at Katra

To sensitise the general masses with the theme of 'Ageing with Dignity', an awareness programme was jointly organised by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board with District Legal Services Authority Reasi and Regional Outreach Bureau (ROB), Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, at the Shrine Board's Sports Complex, Katra on 10 June 2019. A Yoga awareness programme was also organised on the occasion.

Sh. Kamlesh Pandita, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Reasi, who is also Chairman, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Reasi, was the Chief Guest. Speaking on the occasion, he said that such programmes help in generating awareness about the rights of senior citizens and various schemes launched for their welfare and dignified life.

The ROB had put up an exhibition on this occasion which was inaugurated by the Chairman, DLSA, Reasi.

Among those present on the occasion were Sh. Romesh Lal, Sub Judge, Katra, Sh. Sunil Kumar, Munsiff, Katra and Ms. Asma Chowdhary, Munsiff/Additional Special Mobile Magistrate, Reasi.



A view of exhibition put up on 'Ageing with Dignity' at Sports Complex, Katra on 10.6.2019.

Dr. Arvind Karwani, Dy. Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB, threw light on the aims and objectives of the programme. Sh. Ashok Kumar, Director Sports, SMVDSB, was among those who also spoke on the occasion. A number of officials of the Shrine Board, prominent citizens of Katra, sportspersons and social activists participated in the programme.

Shrine Board provides 4 load carriers to Municipal Committee Katra

Continuing with its Social Support Policy, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board on 27 June 2019 provided four load carriers to the Municipal Committee, Katra, for collection and transportation of municipal solid waste at a cost of over Rs. 26.78 lakh.

Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, handed over the keys of three Tata Xenon and one Mahindra Loading Optimo vehicle to Sh. Vimal Indu, President, Municipal Committee, Katra, at a brief function held at the Shrine Board's Sports Complex. The President of the Municipal Committee, Katra, lauded the Shrine Board for providing support to the Municipal Committee from time to time and initiating various development works aimed at improving sanitation and other civic amenities in Katra.

Sh. Simrandeep Singh said that the Shrine Board has completed several development works in Katra and its surrounding areas for augmenting and upgrading the civic amenities while a number of more



such works have also been planned for execution in future. He said that the four vehicles provided by the Shrine Board will meet immediate requirement of the Municipal Committee, Katra, as far as management of solid waste is concerned.



CEO, SMVDSB handing over keys of vehicles to President Municipal Committee Katra on 27.6.2019.

Members of the Municipal Committee, Katra, officers of the Shrine Board and Municipal Committee besides a number of prominent citizens were present on the occasion.

GB reviews functioning of SSH Kakryal

The 56th meeting of Governing Body of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Superspeciality Hospital (SMVDNSH), Kakryal, held at Jammu on 20 May 2019 extensively reviewed the functioning of the hospital besides taking several significant decisions to further enhance its operational capabilities vis a vis ensuring the highest standards of patient care in tune with the emerging requirements.

The GB emphasised the need for further strengthening the diagnostic and treatment facilities, wherever required, for the convenience of the patients and also stressed for optimal utilisation of the hi-end equipment besides other infrastructural facilities, including the PET CT Scan, which is available only at the SMVDNSH Kakryal in the entire Jammu region. It was felt that the specialities where the footfall of the patients is very high, keeping patients' requirements in view, these need to be further strengthened on continuing basis.

Dr. Ashok Bhan, Member, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and Chairman of the Governing Body of the SMVDNSH, chaired the meeting, which was attended by Maj. Gen. S. K. Sharma (Retd),

Member Shrine Board; Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB; Sh. Viren Shetty, Group Chief Operating Officer, NH; and Cdr. Navneet Bali, Director, Northern Region, NH; who all are the Members of the Governing Body.

Among those who also took part in the deliberations included Dr. (Brig) M. M. Harjai, Chief Administrative Officer, SMVDNSH; Sh. A. Nagarajan, Senior Vice President Finance, NH; Sh. K. S. Dattatreya, Facility Director; Dr. Saumya Ahuja, Medical Superintendent; and Sh. Shashi Prakash, Head Finance of the hospital.

Dr. Bhan underscored the need for making the SSH Kakryal an increasingly top class tertiary care health institution to ensure best possible healthcare facilities to the patients and suggested drawing up a future roadmap for the purpose.



Dr. Ashok Bhan, Member SMVDSB chairing 56th GB meeting of SMVDNSH at Jammu on 20.5.2019.

Taking detailed review of the feedback and suggestions of the patients and their attendants, the GB stressed that prompt action should be taken on each and every feedback as this would go a long way in continuously improving the delivery systems in the hospital.

Other matters that came up for review of the GB meeting included empanelment of the SMVDNSH with CGHS and ECHS and to-date status with regard to commencing of Organ Transplant (Renal) Programme at the SSH Kakryal.

33rd meeting of GB of SMVDCoN Sets up Placement Cell, discusses modalities for starting M. Sc. Nursing Programme

The 33rd Governing Body meeting of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi College of Nursing (SMVDCoN), Kakryal, which was held at Jammu on 28 June 2019, discussed the plan of activities and the modalities for



starting M. Sc. Nursing Programme in the college by 2020. The GB opined that to begin with, the M. Sc. Programme should be started in three specialities which have wider scope for employment in health care.

With a view to enhance the prospects of suitable placement of the passing-out students of the college, the GB discussed various preplacement activities to be organised to prepare them for placement events. In this context, the GB constituted a Placement Cell for the college.

The GB also emphasised the need for exploring the possibility of arranging internship for the students in the leading health institutions of the country so that they gain maximum experience and expertise required for securing the best possible placements in the health care sector.



Maj. Gen. S.K. Sharma (Retd), Member SMVDSB chairing 33rd GB meeting of SMVDCoN at Jammu on 28.6.2019.

The Governing Body chaired by Maj. Gen. S. K. Sharma (Retd), Member Shrine Board; and attended by Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Dr. V. Verma, Dean, SMVDU; Dr. (Brig) M. M. Harjai, Administrator, SMVDCoN; Dr. J. P. Singh, Senior Consultant, Neuro Surgery, SMVDNSH; and Dr. Shailla Cannie, Principal of the College, also discussed the Academic Calendar and Calendar of Events of the Nursing College for the Session 2019-20.

Shat Chandi Maha Yagya organized at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

Shat Chandi Maha Yagya was organized by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board at the Holy Cave Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji, during Navratras for peace and prosperity. It commenced on 6 April on the auspicious occasion of beginning of Navratras and

concluded with Purna Ahuti, on the occasion of Ramanavami on 13 April 2019. The Maha Yagya is organised by the Shrine Board at the Holy Cave Shrine during Chaitra and Sharada Navratras.

Sh. K. Skandan, Advisor to Governor; Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Sh. Vivek Verma, Additional Chief Executive Officer; Sh. Naresh Kumar, SDM Bhawan; other officers and staff of the Shrine Board, besides a large number of pilgrims participated in Purna Ahuti and other religious ceremonies performed amidst Vedic Mantras on the occasion.



Sh. K Skandan, Advisor to Governor and CEO SMVDSB participating in Purna Ahuti on auspicious occasion of Ramanavami at Bhawan on 13.4.2019.

As in the past, the Bhawan of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji, Atka and the area surrounding it were specially decorated with flowers brought from various parts of the country and abroad. The Shrine Board had made elaborate arrangements for the pilgrims who visited the Holy Cave Shrine during Navratras.

Shrine Board's Sports Complex to assist outstanding sportspersons under Sports Core Policy

The 6th meeting of the Governing Council of Shrine Board's Sports Complex, Katra, was held at the Spiritual Growth Centre on 25 May 2019, wherein a number of significant decisions, for scouting the sporting talent and arranging mega sports events in the coming months to promote sports and games in the area, were taken.

Dr. Ashok Bhan, Member Shrine Board and Chairman of the Governing Council of the Sports Complex, chaired the meeting. Dr. Narinder Dhruv Batra, President, Indian Olympic Association; Ms.



Ashwani Nachappa, former International Athlete (Arjuna Awardee); Sh. Sanjeeva Singh, former International Archer (Arjuna/ Dronacharya Awardee); Sh. Kuldeep Handoo, eminent Wushu player and National Coach, all of whom are members of the Governing Council, participated in the deliberations.

The officers of the Board who attended the meeting included Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB; Sh. Vivek Verma, Additional CEO; Sh. Hem Kant Prasher, Chief Accounts Officer; Dr. Arvind Karwani, Dy. CEO and Sh. Ashok Kumar, Director Sports, SMVDSB. Sh. Ranjit Kalra and Sh. Shiv Kumar Sharma also attended the meeting as special invitees.



Dr. Ashok Bhan, Member SMVDSB with members of GC of Shrine Board's Sports Complex at Katra on 25.5.2019.

The GC approved the Calendar of Activities of the Sports Complex for 2019-20. The meeting while discussing the modalities for holding Katra Hill Marathon later this year decided to hold, as a prelude to the mega event, road races/ country races at Katra for generating interest and greater participation.

The GC approved the inclusion of Sh. Rakesh Kumar, an ace para archer of the Sports Complex and resident of Katra, in the Shrine Board's Sports Core for providing financial support. It is pertinent to mention that Sh. Rakesh Kumar has performed commendably in the Para Asian Games and World Ranking Para Archery Championship.

CEO Shrine Board interacts with Gurukul students

Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer of the Shrine Board on 16 May 2019 visited Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Gurukul, Charan Paduka, Katra and interacted with the faculty, staff and the students.

The CEO also had a special interaction session with the students of 6th class who have recently been admitted in this institution for the session 2019-20. He also inspected the classrooms, hostel and other facilities during the visit and issued on spot instructions for bringing further improvements in the facilities, wherever required.



CEO SMVDSB interacting with students of Gurukul on 16.5.2019.

Dr. Arvind Karwani, Dy. CEO, SMVDSB and Administrator of the Gurukul; Dr. Dhananjay Mishra, Principal; besides other concerned officers of the Board and engineers were present during the inspection visit of the CEO.

International Day of Yoga Mega Yoga event held at Sports Complex

As part of celebration of the 5th International Day of Yoga, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, in collaboration with Regional Outreach Bureau (ROB) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, GOI organised a Yoga event at the Shrine Board's Sports Complex at Katra on 21 June 2019.

A large number of children, prominent citizens, people of the area, pilgrims, officers and staff of the Shrine Board and ROB besides officers and jawans of Police and CRPF, sports persons and members of Sports Complex participated in the mass Yoga demonstration event in which a series of asanas and pranayam were performed under the supervision of Sh. Dayal Ram Sharma, Yog Guru and other experts.

Dr. Arvind Karwani, Dy. CEO; Sh. Ashok Kumar, Director Sports, SMVDSB; Dr. K. C. Dubey, President Naturopathy and Yoga Practitioners Association Jammu; Sh. Vijay Mattoo and Sh. Vikram Uppal from ROB spoke about the benefits of Yoga. Dr. Jagdish Mehra, Deputy CEO SMVDSB; and Sh.



Sandeep Singh 2IC, CRPF, 6th Battalion, besides students of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi College of Nursing, Kakryal, participated in the programme.



Yoga Day at Shrine Board's Sports Complex at Katra on 21.6.2019.

CEO Shrine Board conducts staff grievance redressal camps

As a continuous endeavour to hold interaction with the staff at various locations of Shrine Board to address their grievances on spot, Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer of the Shrine Board, held a series of interaction sessions with the staff of the Shrine Board at Sanjichhat, Adhkuwari and Banganga on 30 April, 7 May and 18 June 2019.

At Sanjichhat, the staff presented to him their demands which, interalia, pertained to pay fixation, release of grades, promotions and regularisation etc.

While enumerating the various measures which have already been taken for the general welfare and career progression of the employees of the Board, he issued on the spot directions to the concerned to ensure time bound disposal of personnel matters of the employees.

The CEO lauded the efforts made by the officers and staff of the Board in ensuring facilitation of pilgrims visiting the Holy Cave Shrine, which have been widely acclaimed, adding that no stone should be left unturned to provide best possible quality services to the pilgrims to make the pilgrimage a memorable experience for them.

At Adhkuwari, the staff briefed the CEO about the various personnel issues and presented to him memoranda of their demands. These, interalia, pertained to setting up of a primary school at Adhkuwari for facilitating the education of children of

the sanitation staff serving in the area, provision of technical grades and issuance of privilege cards to the superannuating employees of the Board for facilitation of darshan at the Holy Cave Shrine and availing other facilities etc.



CEO SMVDSB interacting with staff of Shrine Board.

During grievance redressal camp at Banganga, a medical camp was also organised by the Board for the employees. The CEO called upon the staff to avail optimum benefit from these facilities. He distributed awards and commendation certificates to outstanding performers. Dr. Arvind Karwani, Dy. CEO, SMVDSB, spoke about the aims and objectives of organising grievance redressal camps. A number of concerned officers and Area and Unit Heads were present during these interactions.

Shrine Board organises capacity building programme for service providers

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board organized a capacity building programme for Ponywallas, Palkiwallas and Pithoos at the SGC, Katra on 30 May 2019 in which about 200 service providers who are operating on the track between Katra and Bhawan participated. They were imparted training in varied aspects like equine transport code to ensure safety of the mounted pilgrims; equine health code which comprised specifications related to ideal equine shelters, feeding and watering in stables, health standards of equines plying on the track and vaccination schedule for better upkeep of the equines etc. The training was imparted by the resource persons from Sahyog India and Brooke's India.

Sh. Vivek Verma, Additional CEO exhorted the service providers to work in tandem with the Shrine



Board officials and help in providing professional and selfless service to the pilgrims on track. Dr. Arvind Karwani, Dy. CEO informed the participants about medical and veterinary services available in the Shrine Area. Florescent safety vests were also provided by the Shrine Board to the service providers on this occasion.



Florescent safety vests being distributed to service providers on 30.05.2019.

In a major step towards ensuring safety of the pilgrims, who use ponies during pilgrimage, Shrine Board is providing helmet, knee and elbow guards to the yatris, free of cost, through pre-paid pony registration counters.

Bhawan Medical team felicitated for proactive responsiveness

Sh. Simrandeep Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, on 14 June awarded certificates of commendation to three medical officials posted at Bhawan Medical Unit of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine for their outstanding handling of a rare medical condition in a young pilgrim who visited the Shrine for pilgrimage on 9 June, 2019.



CEO SMVDSB felicitating Bhawan medical team on 14.6.2019.

The medical team comprising of Dr. Rohit Bakshi, Medical Officer, Sh. Manish Padha, Medical Assistant and Sh. Rajinder Singh, Nursing Orderly, handled a rare condition called Takayasu arteritis, which requires very definite criteria for diagnosis.

On 9 June 2019, a young male pilgrim in his early twenties presented himself in the Bhawan Medical Unit with symptoms of severe chest pain, abdominal discomfort, back and joints pain and vomiting. From initial symptoms, the medical team followed the line of cardiac anomaly which was ruled out after noticing absolutely normal blood pressure and saturation in the patient. Since patient suffered from acute discomfort which could have turned fatal, the medical team proceeded with the treatment on the lines of auto immune disease. The patient responded to the line of treatment followed by the medical team and he was stabilised in 30-45 minutes. The medical team got in touch with the Shrine authorities and ensured safe return of the pilgrim to his home under active medical supervision.

The CEO visited the Bhawan Medical Unit and appreciated the responsiveness of the entire team led by Dr. Bakshi.

Shrine Board trained Archer qualifies for Tokyo Olympics

Para Archer Sh. Rakesh Kumar of Katra has qualified for the Tokyo Olympics 2020 on basis of his performance in the World Para Archery Championship held at Netherlands recently. He is undergoing training at Shrine Board's Sports Complex Coaching Centre at Katra.



Sh. Rakesh Kumar with Shrine Board's Archery Coach.

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