



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board

Trikuta

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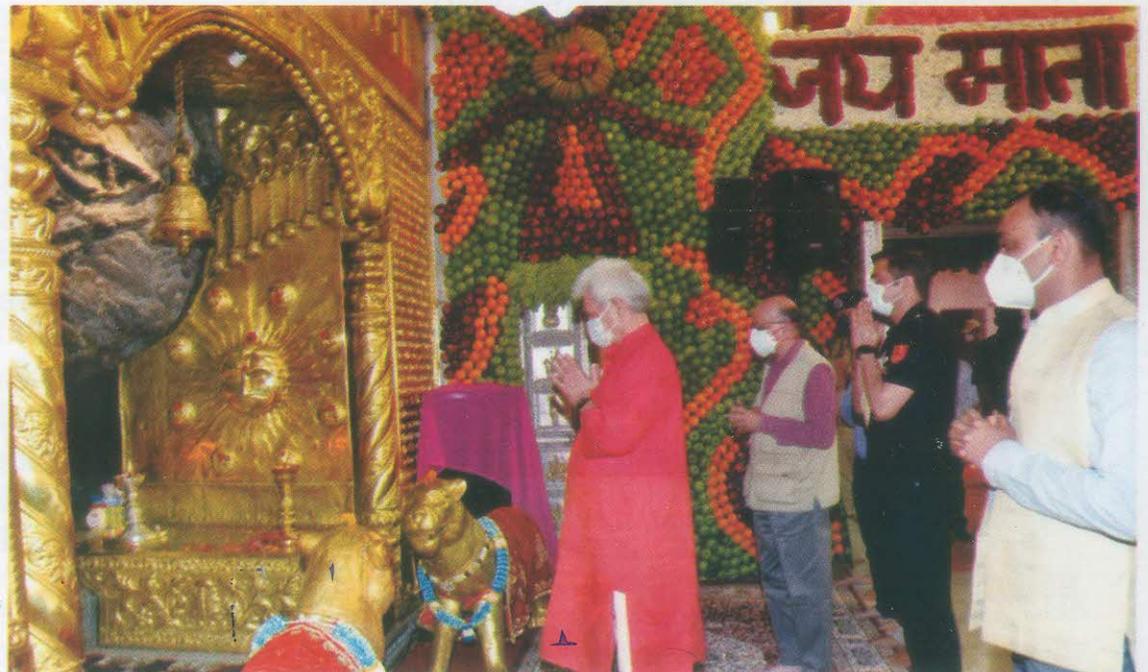
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**Lt Governor pays obeisance at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine
Reviews facilities for pilgrims; directs for speedy completion of
development projects**

The Lieutenant Governor, Sh. Manoj Sinha, who is also the Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, visited the Holy Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji on 13 April on the auspicious occasion of the commencement of Navratras and paid obeisance at the sanctum sanctorum. He prayed for sustained peace, progress and prosperity in Jammu & Kashmir and welfare of its people.



The Lieutenant Governor, Sh. Manoj Sinha at the Holy Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji on the commencement of Navratras.



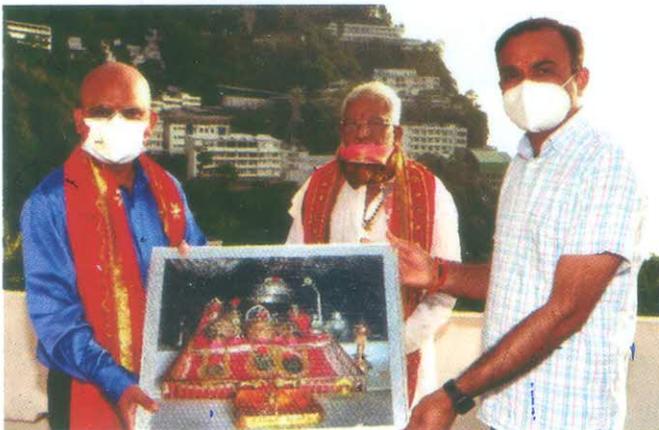
During his visit, the Lieutenant Governor was accompanied by Sh. BVR Subrahmanyam, the then Chief Secretary and Sh. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board.

While reviewing the ongoing infrastructural development projects in the Shrine area, the Lieutenant Governor directed the CEO Shrine Board for ensuring expeditious completion of all the development works for further augmentation of the facilities for the visiting pilgrims.

The CEO briefed the Lieutenant Governor in regard to the special arrangements which were made by the Shrine Board for the pilgrims visiting the holy Shrine during the Navratras.

TTD Chariman pays obeisance at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

Sh. Y. V. Subba Reddy, Chairman of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Trust Board visited the Holy Cave Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji on 12 June and paid obeisance at the sanctum sanctorum.



Sh. Ramesh Kumar, CEO, SMVDSB presenting a memento to Sh. Y. V. Subba Reddy, Chairman, TTD.

The Chairman TTD was accompanied by Sh. Jawahar Reddy, Executive Officer, TTD.

During their interaction, Sh. Reddy and Sh. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board shared the best management practices being followed at the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, respectively, for facilitation of the pilgrims.

Sh. Ramesh Kumar also mentioned about various infrastructure development initiatives taken and further arrangements being put in place by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board for continuously improving and expanding the facilities for the visiting pilgrims.

CEO Shrine Board hands over Oxygen Concentrators to DC Reasi Covid Care Centre for Shrine Board employees established at Trikuta Bhawan

Continuing with its support towards the efforts being made to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board on 10 June provided 18 Oxygen Concentrators, one each for the 18 Panchayat Level COVID Care Centres established by the District Administration in Katra and Panthal Blocks of Reasi District. Of these, 10 Oxygen Concentrators were provided by the Shrine Board for 10 Gram Panchayats of Katra Block and 8 Oxygen Concentrators were given to 8 Gram Panchayats of Panthal Block for utilisation by the needy persons in these COVID Care Centres.

Sh. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi



Shrine Board handed over these Oxygen Concentrators to Sh. Charandeep Singh, Deputy Commissioner, Reasi at Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra.



Sh. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, Shrine Board handing over Oxygen Concentrators to Sh. Charandeep Singh, Deputy Commissioner, Reasi at Katra.

Speaking on the occasion, Sh. Ramesh Kumar said that as part of social support initiative and for contributing to the society for containment of the second wave of COVID-19, the Shrine Board earlier also on 24 May had provided protective gears like face masks, surgical masks, hand sanitizers and re-fills of hand sanitizers for utilization in the Panchayat Level Covid Care Centres of these Blocks.

The Deputy Commissioner, Reasi lauded the Shrine Board for providing Oxygen Concentrators, other equipments and protective gears to COVID Care Centres established in the Gram Panchayats of Katra and Panthal Blocks.

The CEO Shrine Board further said that an exclusive Covid Care Centre for the Shrine Board employees has also been established at Trikuta Bhawan, Katra. The logistic support including the consumables and 10 Oxygen Concentrators have also been provided for this Centre. He added that this Covid Care Centre will be of immense help for

Covid affected employees of the Shrine Board.

It is pertinent to mention that earlier SMVD Shrine Board has supported Municipal Committee Katra in its fight against COVID-19. The Shrine Board has provided dedicated vehicles for disinfection of Katra town, besides providing protective gears for employees of Municipal Committee Katra.

During the lockdown period in 2020 due to COVID-19, the Shrine Board had also extended support to the various organisations like Municipal Committee Katra, CHC Katra, District Administration, Reasi and Udhampur besides other voluntary and social organisations by way of providing various protective gears and other items for distribution among the needy persons.

Among those present on the occasion were officers of the Shrine Board and District Administration, Reasi.

GB of SMVD Narayana Superspeciality Hospital discusses preparedness for future healthcare requirements of Covid and non-Covid patients

The 65th meeting of Governing Body of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Superspeciality Hospital Kakryal, was held at Jammu on 12 June wherein the GB interalia, felt the need for working out the strategies for further strengthening the wherewithal in the identified specialities, more so where the footfall of the patients is likely to be very high, as well as to meet any future challenges.

The number of ICU beds is also being further enhanced thereby



considerably strengthening critical care in this tertiary care hospital.

Besides, the number of ventilators is being also increased to further strengthen healthcare facilities. Likewise, another Oxygen Generation Plant of 750 LPM capacity is being installed at SMVDNSH which will become operational very soon.



Dr. Ashok Bhan, Member SMVD Shrine Board chairing Governing Body meeting of SMVD Narayana Superspeciality Hospital.

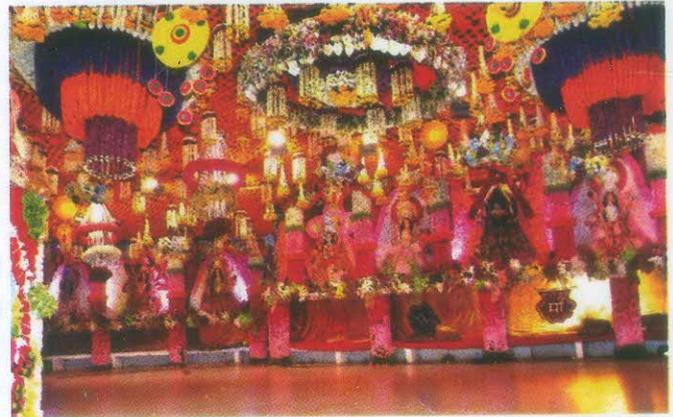
The GB was apprised that SMVDNSH is starting 6 satellite clinics during the current financial year for the benefit of the people of remote areas. Out of these, 3 clinics have already been made operational at Udampur, Rajouri and R. S. Pura, while the process for establishing remaining 3 such clinics at Kathua, Doda and Sunderbani is going on.

Dr. Ashok Bhan, Member Shrine Board and Chairman of the Governing Body of the SMVDNSH, chaired the meeting and Maj. Gen. S. K. Sharma (Retd), Member Shrine Board; Sh. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Sh. Viren Shetty, Group Chief Operating Officer, NH; and Cdr. Navneet Bali, Director, Northern Region, NH; who all are Members of the Governing Body, participated in the deliberations. Sh.

Shetty participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

Shrine Board decked up profusely with exquisite flowers during Navratras

Adorned with thousands of multi-hued flowers, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board was all set to welcome the pilgrims who paid obeisance at the Holy Cave Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji during Navratras which commenced on 13 April and concluded on 21 April.



A view of the Holy Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji on the commencement of Navratras.

Like in the past, the Bhawan, Atka and the area surrounding had been beautifully decorated with chromatic flowers and decked up with attractive and colourful lights.

The tracks leading to the Shrine and the buildings nearby were also tastefully and artistically decorated with exquisite fresh flowers of varied varieties brought from various parts of the country and abroad. As one started the trek towards the Shrine, flowers of all hues adorned the way giving it a colourful and festive look. The illumination of Bhawan area with attractive and colourful lights further added to the ambience of the surroundings. These decorations were just breathtaking and festive, making it a



special visual delight for the pilgrims after trekking about 12 km track from Katra to Bhawan.



A view of the Holy Cave of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji during Navratras.

Shrine Board made collaborative arrangements for pilgrims during Navratras

The Shrine Board made elaborative arrangements for facilitating pilgrims paid their obeisance at the Sanctum Sanctorum during Navratras. Arrangements, inter alia, included round the clock water and power supply all along the tracks leading to the Shrine, sanitisation, medicare and availability of special "fast related" food at the catering outlets of the Shrine Board.

As the pandemic casted a shadow on visit of pilgrims, the Shrine Board took yet another initiative to telecast floral arrangements and colourful illumination of Bhawan area, especially for the devotees who were not in a position to make it to the Shrine.

This telecast was available on MH ONE PRIME and SHRADDHA MH ONE Channels for three days from 17 April to 19 April 2021 during Navratras. With this facility, the devotees worldwide were able to witness the colourful decorations through the Live Telecast.



Night view of the Holy Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji during Navratras.

As was done in the last year's Shardiya Navratras, other special features were bhajan and bhaint performances by the renowned artistes during morning and evening Atka Aarti during these Navratras also by the renowned artistes, including Sh. Anup Jalota, Ms. Anuradha Paudwal, Sh. Gurdas Maan, Sh. Daler Mehandi, Sh. Lakhbir Singh Lakha, Sh. Lakhwinder Wadali, Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, Ms. Uma Lahari, Sh. Vikrant Marwa, Ms. Tulsi Kumar, Ms. Bela Sulekha, Sh. Amit Katyani, Sh. Sandeep Sood, Sh. Hemant Brijwasi, Sh. Amarjeet Singh and Sh. Swami Budhiraja.



A view of the decorations done at Bhawan during Navratras.

Before commencement of the Navratras, Sh. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer of the Shrine Board reviewed all the arrangements for the



Navratras, first at a meeting of officers of the Shrine Board and thereafter he visited Bhawan and various other locations on the track and on spot took stock of the arrangements.



A view of Adhkuwari Temple during Navratras.

These locations included Yatra Registration Counters at Katra and, besides, at Darshani Deodi, Banganga, Adhkuwari, Tarakote Marg, Sanjichhat, Himkoti Marg, Bhawan, Bhairon Complex and at other locations enroute Katra to Bhawan with Dy. CEOs, other officers, concerned engineers as well as Area and Unit Heads of the Shrine Board.



Darshani Deodi decorated with flowers during Navratras.

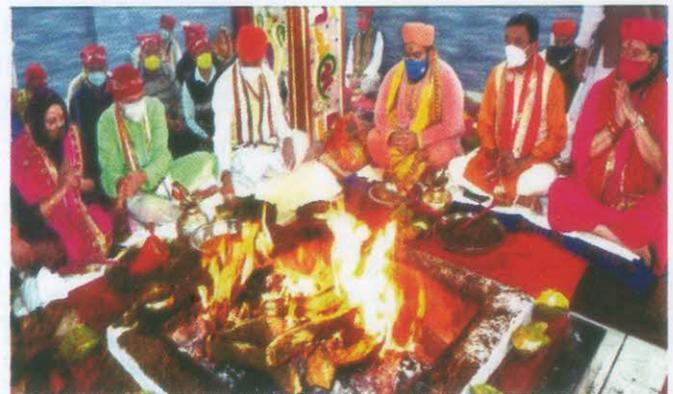
A team of senior officers of the Shrine Board constantly monitored the arrangements on the track and in the Bhawan area for larger facilitation of the visiting pilgrims.

Adequate arrangements were also been put in place for ensuring regulation of yatra under strict COVID-19 protocol and guidelines.

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 13 April on the auspicious occasion of beginning of Navratras and concluded with *Purna Ahuti*, on the occasion of Ramanavami on 21 April. The Maha Yagya is organised by the Shrine Board at the Holy Cave Shrine during Chaitra and Sharada Navratras.

Sh. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; besides other officers, staff and pilgrims were present at the commencement of Shat Chandi Maha Yagya while they also participated in *Purna Ahuti* and other religious ceremonies performed amidst Vedic Mantras on the conclusion of Maha Yagya. The Shat Chandi Maha Yagya was telecast live from 11.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. daily during the Navratras.



Sh. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB participating in *Purna Ahuti*.



Besides live telecast of the morning and evening Atka Aarti, there were also live darshans of Maa Vaishno Devi's Pindi Roop every day during morning and evening Aarti which was introduced during the last year's Navratras.

Shrine Board staff pays homage to Shri Jagmohan

The officers and staff of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board condoled the demise of Shri Jagmohan, who was the founder Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board.



CEO Shrine Board paying homage to Shri Jagmohan, founder Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board at a condolence meeting held at SGC Katra.

In this connection, a condolence meeting was held at the Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra on 4 May, in which Sh. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; other officers and staff of the Shrine Board participated.

CEO SMVD Shrine Board takes stock of COVID preparedness and other aspects of pilgrimage

Reviews yatra arrangements in view of ensuing monsoon season

Mr. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, on 29 June undertook a holistic review of the various arrangements for the visiting pilgrims in view of the ensuing monsoon season at a meeting of the officers and engineers of

the Shrine Board. These arrangements included water and power supply, catering, healthcare facilities, sanitisation and cleanliness and the expeditious clearance of track in case of any debris or landslides falling on the track due to heavy rains to ensure smooth movement of the pilgrims. Other pilgrim-centric arrangements which came up for review included pre-paid system for hiring of ponies, pithoos and palkis besides facilities of Battery Operated Vehicles between Adhkuwari and Bhawan as well as Bhawan-Bhairon Ghati Passenger Ropeway and the security and other aspects of the pilgrimage.

The CEO Shrine Board while extensively reviewing the arrangements, impressed upon all the concerned officers and engineers to ensure further streamlining and augmenting of pilgrim facilities right from Katra to Bhawan in view of the approaching monsoon season.

He asked all the officers, engineers and Area/Unit Heads of the Board to take stock of the arrangements in their respective areas of responsibility on daily basis and ensure utmost sanitation and cleanliness besides other requisite arrangements for the pilgrim so that the yatris do not face any inconvenience, whatsoever, particularly in view of the rainy season and they are provided the best possible facilities. He said that we have to further intensify our efforts to improve the yatra facilities on continuing basis to meet the rising expectations of the pilgrims so that they go back with pleasant experience and happy memories of their visit to the Holy Shrine.

Mr. Ramesh Kumar while reviewing the arrangements made and the necessary precautionary measures taken



by the Board in view of the COVID pandemic for ensuring safety of the visiting pilgrims, staff and the public at large, stressed on maintaining adequate social distancing and strictly following COVID-appropriate behaviour and taking all other precautionary measures in sync with the protocols. In this context, it is pertinent to mention that 100% staff of the Shrine Board has been vaccinated and either they have received both the doses or the first dose of the vaccine.

Among those who participated in the meeting included Mr. Vivek Verma, Additional CEO; Mr. Hem Kant Prasher, Chief Accounts Officer; Dr. Sunil Sharma, Dr. Jagdish Mehra, Mr. Deepak Dubey and Mr. Vishavjeet Singh, Dy. CEOs; besides other concerned officers and engineers of the Board.

**World Immunization Week
SMVD College of Nursing organizes
inter-house competition through online
mode**

In connection with the observance of World Immunization Week, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi College of Nursing (SMVDCoN), Kakryal, on 29 April organised an inter-house competition in which students of all the four houses of the college participated via online mode.

As part of the competition, the students of SMVDCoN gave a live health talk on immunization through online mode at Google Meet. Out of the four houses of

the college, Trikuta House secured 1st position while Pirpanjal House and Dhauladhar House got 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively. The event was conducted by Mrs. Supriya and Mrs. Pooja Rani, Nursing Tutors of the SMVDCoN.

**7th International Day of Yoga
Shrine Board organizes Yoga
programme at Sports Complex**

As part of celebration of the 7th International Day of Yoga, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board on 21 June organised a programme on yoga *asanas* and *pranayam* at its Sports Complex, Katra while maintaining adequate social distancing and strictly following COVID-appropriate behaviour.



Participants performing Yoga on 7th International Yoga Day at Shrine Board's Sports Complex, Katra.

Employees of the Board and sportspersons of the Sports Complex performed a series of asanas and pranayama under the supervision of yoga experts.

The yoga sessions were also organised at Bhawan, Adhkuwari, Sanjichhat and Bhairon as part of the celebration of International Yoga Day.

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