



Trikuta

A Quarterly Newsletter

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board

Volume 8 - Issue 4

October- December 2025

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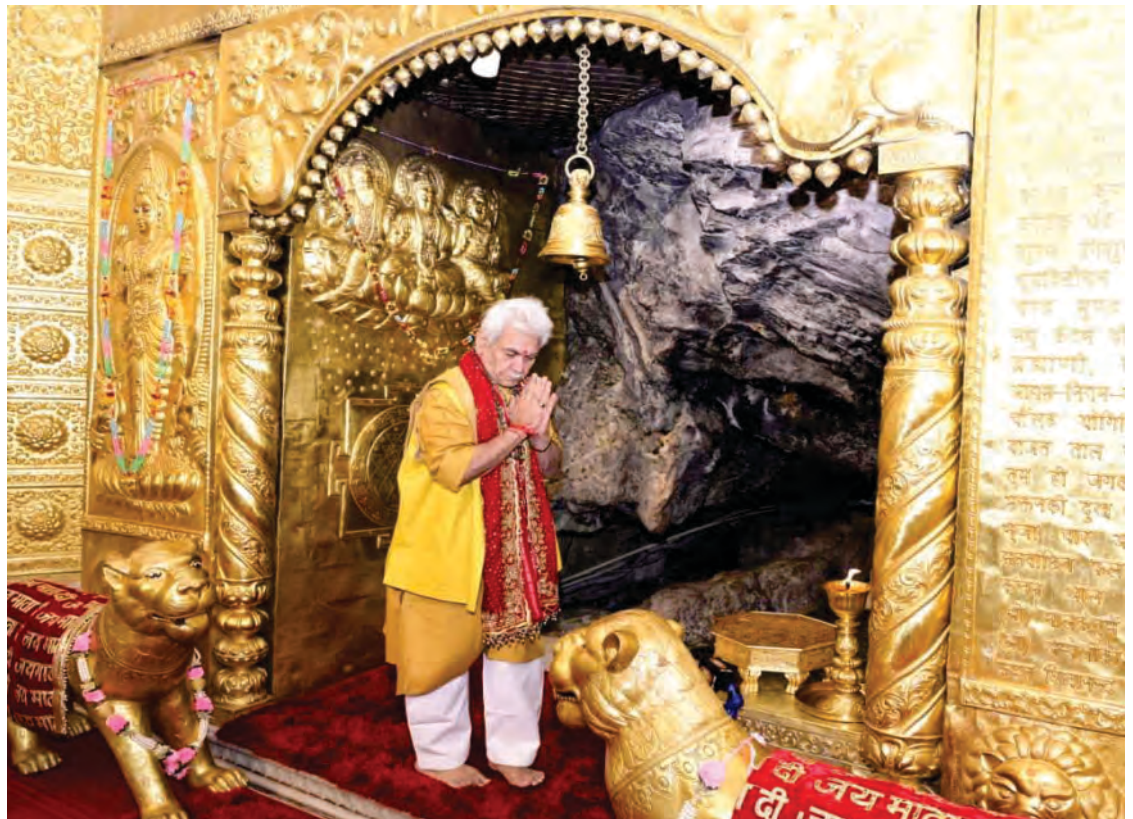
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Lieutenant Governor Pays Obeisance at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

The Lieutenant Governor, Sh. Manoj Sinha also the Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, paid visit to the Holy Shrine on November 6 & December 3 at the sanctum sanctorum. He paid obeisance and prayed for peace, sustained progress and prosperity of Jammu & Kashmir and the welfare of people of the union territory.



LG Manoj Sinha Pays Obeisance at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine



Shrine Board executed Restoration works of the Rain and Landslide-Affected Government Schools in Reasi and Udhampur Districts Under Its Social Support Initiatives

Reaffirming its commitment to education dissipation and community development, the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) undertook a comprehensive restoration and upgradation programme for Government Schools in Reasi and Udhampur districts that had suffered extensive damage due to incessant rains and landslides. The initiative was in the wake of expressed directions of Shri Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Chairman, SMVDSB (Lt. Governor, JK-UT).

Under the initiative, twelve Government Schools in Reasi district and one in Udhampur district were taken up for restoration/renovation. These included Government High School, Sirla Bhaga; Government Middle Schools Chack Bhagtha, Panthal, Parthal, Manoon and Kun Kanyala; and Government Primary Schools at Hansali, Kalara Chanjute, Upper Sirla, Geeta Nagar, Purana Daroor and Chumbra in Reasi district, besides Government Primary School,

Dhanno in Udhampur district.

Acting promptly, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB, Shri Sachin Kumar Vaishya directed the Engineering Wing of Shrine Board to accord highest priority to the restoration works and ensure their timely completion. A dedicated team conducted detailed on-site assessment to resources like mobilized adequate manpower, machinery and materials to expedite execution. Regular progress reporting mechanisms were also instituted to ensure close monitoring and accountability.

As a part of this project of crucial importance, The Board undertook a range of sub-activities including repair of damaged roofs, waterproofing, plastering and painting of classrooms, strengthening of structures, repair of doors and windows, improvement of sanitation units, electrification and flooring works as necessitated. Special emphasis was laid on safety, hygiene and the creation of child-friendly



Renovation of School building under Social Support Initiatives



learning spaces.

On December 4, 2025, six renovated schools were formally handed over to the concerned authorities, in line with directions of the Chief Executive Officer, enabling students to immediately benefit from the upgraded infrastructure. By the end of December 2026, renovation of ten Government schools, out of the fifteen taken up under the Shrine Board's flagship Social Support Initiative, had been successfully completed. The remaining five schools are expected to be handed over before the commencement of next academic session; thus, strengthening the educational infrastructure of the region.

Over the years, the Shrine Board has consistently supported community-centric initiatives including grant of scholarships to meritorious students of Baridar families, upgradation of health facilities, Works of civic importance, installation of LED street lighting, renovation of educational institutions and development of community infrastructure in Katra and surrounding areas.

Shrine Board dedicates 'Sadhana Kaksh' at Bhawan to devotees visiting Vaishno Devi

With the aim of enriching the spiritual experience of the devotees and improving the



spiritual quotient of employees posted at Bhawan, the Shrine Board established and dedicated a Sadhana Kaksh (Meditation Hall) at Bhawan on December 13, 2025. The facility, created as per the directions of Hon'ble Chairman Shri Manoj Sinha, was expediently created and dedicated under the supervision of Shri Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Chief Executive Officer.

Situated in Ram Mandir on the exit cave route, the Sadhana Kaksh spreads over 1,500 sqft. and can accommodate around 160-170 devotees. The Hall has been developed with emphasis on noiseless devotional sanctity.

The CEO stated that the Sadhana Kaksh formed part of the Board's broader efforts to strengthen spiritual infrastructure at Bhawan, offering pilgrims a serene space for meditation during their Yatra.

All basic materials aiding meditation centric activities such as prayer beads (malas), cloth pouches (guthis) etc. have been provided in the Sadhana Kaksh while restricting mobile phones and electronic devices. The facility remains open from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM every day.

The creation of Sadhana Kaksh was a sequel to several pilgrim-centric initiatives undertaken by the Board recently such as new Yagyashala, expansion of the Atka area and



Inauguration of 'Sadhana Kaksh' for devotees at Bhawan



beautification of the exit cave area, further enhancing the overall pilgrimage experience.

Shrine Board Reviews Disaster Preparedness, Security Measures

The Shrine Board reviewed its disaster preparedness and security measures for the Yatra during a meeting chaired by CEO Shri Sachin Kumar Vaishya at the Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra on November 17, 2025. Senior officers from District Administration Reasi, SMVDSB, CRPF, NDRF, Fire and Emergency Services and other agencies attended the review.

The CEO emphasized the need for regular mock drills to ensure coordinated and effective emergency response. NDRF was asked to conduct drills frequently, while Fire and

Emergency Services were directed to carry out a comprehensive fire safety audit of the entire track and Shrine areas. He also stressed strict adherence to SOPs.

A detailed audit of Disaster Management Stores along the track and at Bhawan was ordered, with instructions to replenish and upgrade equipment wherever required. Agencies were also asked to expedite verification of individuals working in shops along the track and in Katra town.

The CEO highlighted the central role of the Integrated Command and Control Centre for real-time monitoring and coordination. Security agencies were directed to review the functionality of all security equipment and procure critical items immediately, along with deploying additional personnel to strengthen security across the Shrine area.



CEO SMVDSB chair review meeting on disaster preparedness and security measures for the Yatra



Indian Oil Extends CSR Support to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Healthcare Initiatives

Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) extended vital support to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Super speciality Hospital (SMVDNSH) and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence (SMVDIME), Kakryal, under its CSR programme implemented through the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Charitable Society (SMVDCS). As part of this initiative, IOCL donated a state-of-the-art Critical Care Ambulance, a Blood Donation Van and advanced diagnostic equipment significantly strengthening the medical infrastructure and emergency preparedness of these institutions. Additionally, under CSR initiative 11 congenitally deaf & dumb children benefited from Cochlear Implant surgeries, gaining the ability to hear and speak.

The Blood Donation Van and Critical

Care Ambulance were formally flagged off by Shri Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB on December 1, 2025, in the presence of senior officers from IOCL, SMVDSB, SMVDIME and SMVDNSH.

The CEO expressed gratitude to IOCL for its generous CSR contribution, noting that the new ambulance and blood donation van had strengthened emergency response and blood collection services. He stated that the addition of Dialysis Unit and Hospital Beds had enhanced patient care and treatment capacity of SMVDNSH, while support for the Cochlear Implant Programme had proved life-changing for hearing-impaired beneficiaries. He further highlighted that specialized equipment including a Polygraph Machine, Ergograph Machine and advanced Physiology Laboratory systems had strengthened teaching and research facilities at SMVDIME, enriching medical education and clinical practices.



CEO SMVDSB flagged off Blood Donation Van and Critical Care Ambulance



SMVDSB Organizes Fire Safety Awareness Drive and Mock Drills at all Sectors of Shrine Board

The Shrine Board organized fire safety awareness drives and mock drills at all major sectors of Shrine Board including Tarakote, Banganga, Adhkuwari, Sanjichhat and Bhawan, as part of its ongoing focus on safety preparedness along the Yatra track. The exercises were conducted under the directions of Shri Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Chief Executive Officer to strengthen inter-agency coordination and improve on-ground response during fire emergencies.

Participants were provided hands-on training in the use of fire extinguishers, containment methods, evacuation procedures, and hazard identification. Officials from

Enforcement, Security, Sanitation and Electrical Wings, along with personnel from JKP, CRPF, APS Security and sanitation units, took part in the drills. The local shopkeepers of the areas also participated, reflecting strong community involvement.

The activities of critical importance were supervised by the respective Area Heads to ensure seamless coordination. The Shrine Board continues to conduct such exercises at regular intervals as part of its comprehensive safety management framework, aimed at ensuring that all personnel remain duly trained, alert, and prepared at all points in time to respond effectively during emergencies. These initiatives reinforced the Board's commitment to providing a safe and seamless pilgrimage experience for devotees and help in capacity building.



SMVDSB Organizes Fire Safety Awareness Drive and Mock Drills at all Sectors of Shrine Board



Yatra Preparedness reviewed Ahead of New Year

In view of expected heavy influx of pilgrims on December 23, 2025 to New year 2026 the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) reviewed arrangements to ensure a safe and hassle-free pilgrimage on the turn of year.

The meeting, convened under the directions of the Hon'ble Chairman, SMVDSB (Lt. Governor, JK-UT), was presided over by Shri Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB, and attended by senior officers of the District Administration Reasi, Shrine Board, Security Agencies and other stakeholders.

The CEO directed authorities to strengthen Yatra management and security, particularly along the track and at the Bhawan. RFID-based access control was emphasized, with instructions for additional handheld scanners and manpower at checkpoints. He noted that training programmes had been conducted at the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC), enabling round-the-clock

joint monitoring of high-footfall areas for real-time surveillance and response.

Fire and Emergency Services were tasked to deploy vehicles at strategic points and to conduct a fire safety audit. The CEO stressed strict adherence to SOPs and disaster preparedness measures. He also instructed conversion of the Bose sound system into a functional Public Address System and directed verification of personnel employed in private establishments along the track.

Traffic regulation, especially for Banganga and Tarakote Marg, were critically reviewed to prevent any bottlenecks. Security agencies briefed on the multi-tier grid comprising Police, CRPF, Shrine Board security, and Quick Response Teams, supported by advanced surveillance tools for threat assessment.

The meeting concluded with consensus on seamless coordination, heightened vigilance and ensuring a safe and spiritually enriching pilgrimage experience for devotees during the New Year period.



CEO, Shrine Board reviewed Yatra preparedness Ahead of New Year

SMVDSB Honored Participants of Para Archery World Championship

The Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) honoured para archers for their remarkable achievements at international

events on October 9 & December 17, 2025.

These included Arjuna Awardee Rakesh Kumar who was felicitated for winning the Silver Medal in the Men's Compound Open category at the 2025 Para Archery World Championship



held in Gwangju, South Korea. Besides, Pawan Kumar, the first differently abled archer from Jammu & Kashmir to participate in the championship, was also recognized for his commendable representation. Notably, the Shrine Board had extended financial assistance of ₹7 lakh to support his participation at the event.

Para Archer Payal Nag, trained at the SMVD Sports Complex for the past three years, was felicitated for her spirited performance at the Asian Youth Para Games 2025 in Dubai, where she represented India in the Compound U-21 Women Open category. Though she narrowly missed a podium finish, her determined display was highly appreciated.

The Chief Executive Officer, Shri Sachin Kumar Vaishya, presented mementos, Mata Ka Prasad, and Chunri of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji to the athletes, commending their indomitable spirit and wishing them success in future competitions.

He reiterated that under the guidance of Hon'ble Chairman Shri Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor of J&K UT, the Shrine Board remains committed to empowering youth and developing the Sports Complex as a Centre of Excellence. Senior officers of the Shrine Board, including Additional CEO Shri Alok Kumar Maurya, Jt. CEO Shri Satish Kumar Sharma, and Assistant CEO Shri Dhruv Gupta were present on the occasion.



SMVDSB Honors Participants of Para Archery World Championship

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