



# Trikuta

A Quarterly Newsletter

## Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board

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### Lt Governor pays obeisance at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

The Lieutenant Governor, Sh. Manoj Sinha the Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, visited the Holy Shrine on March 12 and paid obeisance at the sanctum sanctorum. He prayed for sustained peace, progress and prosperity in Jammu & Kashmir and welfare of its people.



The CEO briefed the Lieutenant Governor about the arrangements which are being made by the Shrine Board for the pilgrims visiting the holy Shrine during the forthcoming Chaitra Navratras.



## Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji Shrine lit up ahead of Ram Temple consecration ceremony

As the nation geared up for the Ram Mandir consecration, the establishments of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board were lit up on 20 January 2024, symbolizing a poignant reminder of the unifying power of faith. The spiritual fervor transcended geographical boundaries and religious denominations, weaving a tapestry of shared devotion that resonated across India.



Adhkuwari Complex lit up ahead of Ram Mandir consecration.



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji Bhawan lit up ahead of Ram Mandir consecration.

In a beautiful display of spiritual unity, Mata's Bhawan had been decked in vibrant lights, adding to the already palpable excitement surrounding the Pran Pratishtha ceremony. In this luminous spectacle, devotees found not just aesthetic beauty, but a sense of peace and joy as they prepared to celebrate a historic moment for their nation. The Shrine Board viewed it as a tribute to Lord

Rama and a way to celebrate the triumph of faith and perseverance.

### Shrine Board conferred with 'Sport for Social Good' Award at Sportstar Aces Awards

In a major achievement, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) on 9<sup>th</sup> February was conferred with Chairperson's Choice - Sport for Social Good Award at Sportstar Aces Awards-



2024 held in Mumbai hosted by the Sportstar in recognition of the significant strides made by the Board for extending its support beyond religious realms.

Anshul Garg, CEO, who received the Award on behalf of the Board, thanked the Hindu Group and dwelt on the aims and objectives of setting up of the Sports Complex, while adding that Shrine Board with a deep-seated commitment to societal betterment established a comprehensive sports facility in the Katra town in the year 2016. Equipped with state-of-the-art sports infrastructure alongwith excellent coaching and training facilities, the initiative is aimed at identifying the best local talent so that the budding sportspersons can be trained and groomed in the identified key sports to bring laurels in sports events held at various levels.

providing them a platform to showcase their talents which reflects the Board's commitment for fostering sportsmanship through competitive physical activities and has played a significant role in developing champions of tomorrow for the country.

The sportspersons trained in the sports complex have been showing promising results in varied competitions winning a rich haul of 80 medals at the National and 12 at the International level in a short span. Three Para-archers namely Rakesh Kumar, Sheetal Devi and Sarita have secured quota for representing India at the upcoming Paris Paralympics.

Arjuna Awardee Paraarcher Sheetal Devi of SMVD Sports Complex won the Sportstar Aces Award in the categories for the 'Sportstar of the Year (female)' and Popular Choice Award for 'Moment of the



Shrine Board conferred with 'Sport for Social Good' Award at Sportstar Aces Awards

He further added that this continuous initiative under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, JK-UT Shri Manoj Sinha has been encouraging the youth and

Year' in the Award Ceremony in recognition of medals won by her at the Asian Games and World Championships while shooting using her feet.



## SMVD Gurukul holds 32<sup>nd</sup> Governing Council Meeting

The 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Governing Council of SMVD Gurukul, was held on March 22 at Charan Paduka, Katra. The meeting presided by Mahamandleshwar Shri Swami Vishveshvaranand Giriji Maharaj, Member of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and Chairman of the Governing Council for the Gurukul,



SMVD Gurukul holds 32<sup>nd</sup> Governing Council Meeting

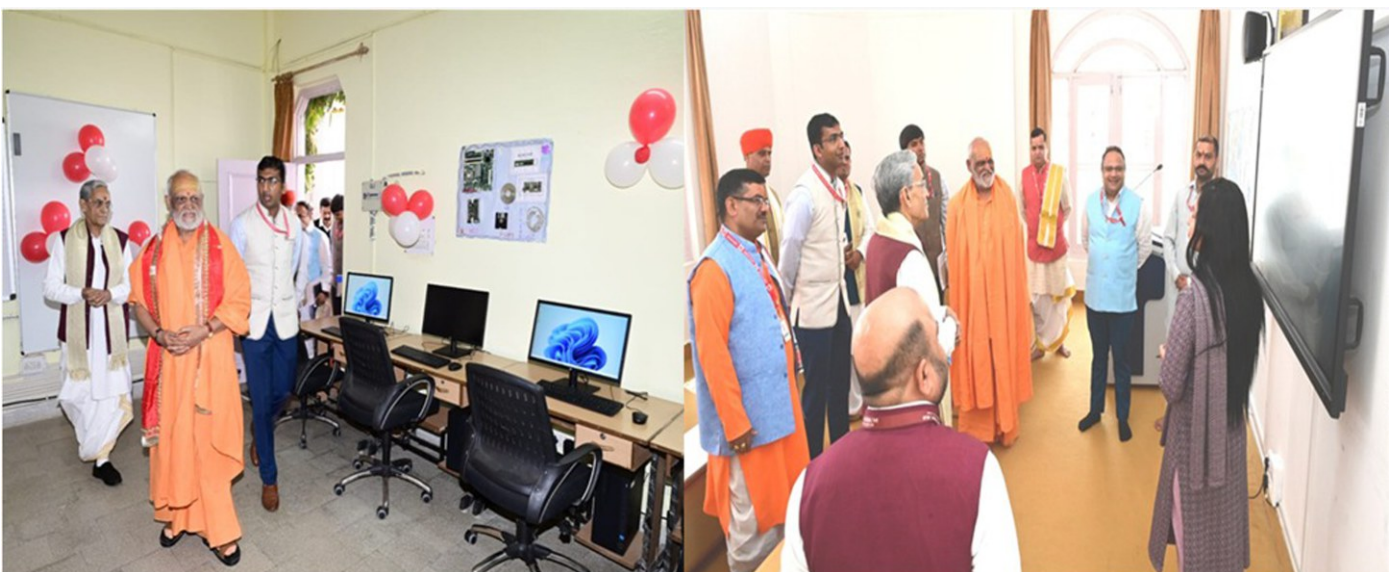
The Chairman desired that a 15 years roadmap be devised for future growth of Gurukul both physically and academically for comprehensive learning experiences and academic excellence. He further stressed that up-gradation of Gurukul to post graduation level be also explored.

The Chairman while reviewing outstanding achievements of the students of SMVD Gurukul in academics and co-curricular activities underscored that the students must prepare for annual activities diligently in advance, aligning with the curriculum not only to attain optimal outcomes but also for their holistic development.

The meeting also noted participation of faculty and students at different Platforms, including in-house events & those at State, Zonal as well as at National Level.

The Governing Council, while approving the annual budget of Gurukul for financial year 2024-25 also concurred with the projected need for expansion of residential and academic blocks of SMVD Gurukul. After extensive deliberations the Governing Council also resolved to take further strides of expansion in alignment with NAAC accreditations.

On the occasion, the Chairman, SMVD Gurukul also inaugurated 08 Smart Classrooms and a Computer Lab, developed in collaboration with the J&K Bank under its Corporate Social



Mahamandleshwar Shri Swami Vishveshvaranand Giriji Maharaj Inaugurated Smart Classrooms and a Computer Lab



## Responsibility (CSR).

Earlier, Mahamandleshwar expressed gratitude towards the Hon'ble Lt. Governor, JK-UT for his patronage towards such institutions which has kept alive the Vedic and Sanatan traditions in the modern era.

## **Governing Body of SMVDNSH holds 68<sup>th</sup> Meeting - reviews functioning of Hospital and plan for Medical College**

The 68<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Governing Body of SMVD Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Kakryal (Katra) was held on January 15 under the Chairmanship of Dr Ashok Bhan, Member, SMVDSB.

treatment to almost 50,000 patients across different specialties, besides OPD consultations to almost 60,000 patients out of which 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of treated patients are provided free treatment under the UT sponsored Ayushman Scheme. The Governing Body was also apprised that since the inception of Hospital in the year 2016, free treatments worth more than Rs.40 crore have been provided to more than 80,000 beneficiaries under the Medical Support Policy of Board.

It was also informed in the meeting that the Board has sponsored as many as 23 Cochlear Implant Surgeries as part of its local outreach initiative.



SMVDNSH team after performing Cochlear Implant Surgeries

After reviewing progress of its earlier decisions, the Members expressed general satisfaction regarding over-the-years gradual healthy growth of the Hospital. This was manifested in all major performance benchmarks such as patient footfall, bed occupancy, revenue, clinical augmentation of operational base / capabilities etc. The Governing Body was informed that on a yearly basis, the Hospital provided IP-

Several important decisions were taken in the Meeting. This included operational issues, critical review of progress of early expected Organ Transplant Programme of Hospital, finalizing plans for incurring capital expenditure for growth of Hospital upto 500 beds, extensive review of feedback / suggestions received from patients / attendants and firming-up of a road map for



expanding services-framework of Hospital's Jammu clinic.

The Governing Body also critically reviewed the progress of early setting up of fully funded Medical College of the Board for general development of the region. Towards the end of the Meeting, Dr. Bhan emphasized expediency of execution as the essence of future plans relating to the Hospital / upcoming Medical College of the Shrine Board.

### **CEO reviews security arrangements in the Shrine area**

To assess security and operational preparedness of Shrine area for hassle-free pilgrimage, CEO, Anshul Garg on January 18 presided over a meeting with security agencies and other stakeholders at Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra.

robust security framework in sync with requirements. It is pertinent to mention that security review of the Shrine area with all agencies is a regular feature so as to ensure foolproof arrangements in view of rising yatra numbers.

Chief Executive Officer stressed for action on diverse fronts for hassle free pilgrimage which included issuance and verification of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) cards, effective crowd management, augmentation of holding areas on the track and in Katra town, working out plans for decongestion of the entire track, particularly the Bhawan area and all time surveillance through dedicated CCTV network of over 700 cameras. He further exhorted all security agencies to remain more vigilant so that no pilgrim without frisking and valid registration enters the track for their pilgrimage.



CEO Shrine Board holds security review meeting

The focus was laid on the smooth regulation of Yatra in line with the directions of Hon'ble Chairman, SMVDSB (Lt. Governor, JK-UT), besides, collaborative efforts among the stakeholders to forge a

CEO also reviewed various components of the disaster management measures and directed to make regular announcements and implementation of joint patrolling by the stakeholders.



Superintendent of Police Katra and Commandant, CRPF informed the Chair about the foolproof security arrangements and presented a detailed security grid to be put in place besides, deployment of QRTs (quick response teams) and a multi-tier security grid comprising Police, CRPF and other paramilitary forces.

### **75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day celebrations at Katra; CEO SMVDSB unfurls tricolor**

75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm, fervor and national spirit at Shrine Board's Sports Complex Katra wherein Anshul Garg, CEO, SMVDSB unfurled the tricolour and took salute of the impressive march past of contingents from J&K Police, CRPF, NCC, Shrine Enforcement & Security besides, the students of various educational institutions.

democratic principles and fostering the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'.

While greeting the people on this joyous occasion on behalf of Shri Manoj Sinha Hon'ble Chairman, SMVDSB (Lt. Governor, JK-UT), he underscored that Shrine Board in its endeavor has been developing and continually upgrading the pilgrim-centric facilities and with the determined efforts of the Shrine Board and blessings of Mata Vaishno Devi Ji, the pilgrimage to the holy cave shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi Ji had set a remarkable record in the year-2023 by witnessing the arrival of 95.22 lakh pilgrims, the highest number in a decade.

CEO added that emphasis has been laid on yatra management, with projects like Skywalk at Bhawan and the remodeled Parvati Bhavan which have proven to be



CEO, SMVDSB taking salute at Republic Day function.

Speaking on the occasion, the CEO paid rich tributes to the freedom fighters saying that the nation owes gratitude to these great leaders who sacrificed their lives to secure freedom from foreign rules and protect the sovereignty of the country. He said that Republic Day is a testimony to India's rich history, commitment to

instrumental in managing the surge in pilgrims. Besides, the enlargement of the Atka area has led to an enhanced seating with 20 - 25 thousand pilgrims attending morning and evening prayers every month and about 2500-3000 are availing this facility on a complimentary basis. With commencement of a third



Langar facility at Bhairon Ji after Tarakote Marg and Sanjichhat over 10 thousand pilgrims are availing free meals per day on the track.

the illumination of façade by digitally-controlled, multi-coloured LED lights will be a permanent feature from the coming Chaitra navratra at Darshni Deodi,



75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day celebrations at Katra

He further added that sooner the RFID registration will be started at Katra Railway Station to curtail long queues and chaotic conditions during peak rush.

He underscored that the Shrine Board is also planning a Laser show at Banganga based on Mata Ki Kahani for the pilgrims adopting conventional route for the pilgrimage.

In addition, holding areas are being developed at Adhkuwari to ensure effective crowd management. He also asserted that the construction of a new Vaishnavi Bhawan at Bhawan, which shall accommodate additional 300 pilgrims on a daily basis and thus add a new dimensions to the comforts and convenience of the pilgrims.

CEO also added that based on Ayodhya Ram Mandir, Ujjain Mahakaleshwar Dham and Golden Temple,

Adhkuwari and main Bhawan. These lights will reflect the grandeur of the Shrine, besides, enhancing pilgrimage experience.

On the occasion he also quoted Para archer Sheetal Devi of Shrine Board's Sports Complex being bestowed with the Arjuna Award for her extraordinary accomplishments in Para-Archery despite unique physical challenges.

Earlier, the students of various educational institutions presented a colorful and scintillating cultural programme on this occasion featuring theme based presentations.

CEO gave away cash prizes and appreciation certificates to the outstanding staff of Shrine Board in Ministerial, Catering, Accounts and general categories, besides, felicitating students who were adjudged best in the march-past and presentation of cultural programme.

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