Chronicle An online quarterly Newsletter

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University

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Editorial

Welcome to the second issue of University online newsletter "Chronicle"

Emerson said: "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." Enthusiasm has real magic which can spell the difference between mediocrity and accomplishment. The New Year 2009 which started amidst buzzing academic activity in SMVDU gained tremendous momentum in the first quarter of the year- a review of university functioning by the Chancellor followed by memoranda of understanding and National Seminars besides various students' activities. The second issue of "Chronicle" encapsulates all these events for you.

Let us hope that the air of enthusiasm continues to blow in SMVDU through progressive thinking.

My sincere acknowledgements to the staff of Publications & Media cell in putting together this issue.

Kind regards

≥ Vandhana Sharma

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Functioning of SMVDU reviewed



Governor, Sh. N N Vohra, exhorted Universities to be the catalysts of social change by enhancing research and development in different fields sectors which relate to the existing or emerging problems of the people at large.

Reviewing the functioning of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University at the Raj Bhavan, the Governor observed that varsities could play pro-active role in serving the common good by addressing various important socio-economic issues like energy management, water conservation, ecological protection etc and suggest pragmatic preventive and remedial measures.

Mr Vohra urged the SMVDU to take a pioneering lead by designing and organizing short-term training-cum-orientation programmes for the middle and senior rung engineers of the Jammu and Kashmir Government to enable them to enhance the existing level of energy management. "Since one of the specialization areas of the University relates to energy management, the benefits should accrue to the society as well", he hoped.

The Governor, who has been keeping a keen watch on the development of infrastructure and academic programmes in this University, called on the Vice Chancellor and the Deans of the University to carefully identify social sciences areas which would result in providing more efficient and profitable approaches to enhancing the lot of the people at large.

Stressing the need for creating a strong and a vibrant foundation, the Governor focused on the important role of the Deans and the Faculty in achieving the academic agenda. "It is necessary to preserve and build upon the high academic standards which have been established in the University", he maintained

The Governor, who is also the Chancellor of the University, gave instructions for promoting sports and extra-curricular activities in the Campus to enable the students to face this fast competitive world with greater grit and confidence.



Prof N K Bansal, Vice Chancellor of the University, apprised the Governor about the programmes and courses started during the past few years and said that two new courses, Masters in Bio-technology and B. Tech in Electronic Communication, are being introduced in July this year.

Prof Bansal gave an overview of the Colleges and Schools being run in the Campus, which include the College of Management, College of Engineering comprising Computer Science & Engineering, Electronic & Communication, Industrial Bio technology, Mechanical Engineering, Infrastructe & Resource Management and Architecture & Landscaping Schools, College of Sciences and College of Philosophy, Culture and Languages. In addition, the University has started Ph D programme and various other PG courses, on regular and part time basis.

The Vice Chancellor also dwelt on the infrastructure development of the University and said that the various segments of the Campus have been raised over a million square feet. While most of the blocks have been completed, a few are presently in different stages of completion.

Among others the meeting was attended by Principal Secretary to Governor and Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, B B Vyas, Registrar and Dean College of Philosphy & Culture, Prof R S Misra, Dean Colleges of Engineering, Prof M L Garg, Dean Colleges & Sciences, Dr V Verma and senior officers of the University.

Tricolor unfurled at SMVDU



In connection with the 60th Republic day of India, an impressive and colorful function was held at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. The Vice Chancellor Prof. N.K Bansal unfurled the tricolor.

In his address, Prof. Bansal congratulated the faculty, staff and students at the Republic day and highlighted the duties which are expected from every teacher and student, who is aware of his rights. He advised teachers to think beyond teaching as their duty and not to restrict their selves to teaching but to the building of the institution, research and society at large. Prof

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Bansal urged everyone to have a thought and work tirelessly to convert that thought into action.

He appreciated the effort made by some of the faculty members and students to open up a school for the children of laborers in the university. On this occasion, a scintillating and a sparkling cultural programme was alsopresented by the students which included kathak performance, musical extravaganza, patriotic songs and group/ folk dances

Ladakh – an eternal splendour' screened in SMVDU



'Ladakh- an eternal splendour', a photo documentary film conceived by V K Soi was screened today at Matrika Auditorium of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Kakrayal, Katra.

The photo documentary dedicated to the people of Ladakh in the memory of Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah was witnessed by students, faculty, University Governance and other distinguished guests.

Dr. N.K. Bansal, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU was the chief guest on the occasion.

Dr. Bansal while speaking on the occasion, appreciated the way photo documentary was conceived and said, "It's a blend of unique, marvelous photographs portraying the splendid beauty of Ladakh".

He further said, "Efforts of Mr Soi depict his love and devotion towards the unknown beauty of this moon land, as he has put all his efforts to bring out nature's carved beauty of this unexplored area of the world".

"Such a beautiful work will definitely help in increasing the tourist influx in the state especially in Ladakh, if portrayed in right earnest", was the unanimous view of the viewers.

Mr Soi, presently working as Comptroller in SKUAST-Jammu, in his words, said that he created this documentary after being baffled by the beauty and culture of Ladakh, where he served during 1990s.



SMVDU develops Industrial Cooperation



In its march towards excellence, SMVD University has developed industry-institute partnership in the field of Biotechnology. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in Hyderabad between the University and Prathista Industries Ltd.

Prathista has ensured to provide training & placement to the students of SMVDU, develop joint research projects and to develop prototype systems.

The MOU was signed by the Vice Chancellor Prof. N.K.Bansal and the CEO of Prathista, Mr. KVSS Sai Ram. Prof. V.Verma, Director School of Biotechnology was also present on the occasion.

Speaking on this occasion Prof. Bansal said that SMVDU will widen its industry interface by way of public-private partnership, where industry experts can act as faculty, while the SMVDU faculty will have a chance to work in the industry. The MOU also facilitates joint projects nationally and internationally, besides development of prototype systems on the campus of SMVDU.

SMVDU inks another MOU for international exposure to Students & Faculty



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In its unflinching march towards excellence, Prof. N. K.Bansal, Vice Chancellor Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University has signed a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Laval University, Quebec Canada and Prathista Industries Secunderabad India. The MOU between Laval University – SMVDU – Prathista Industries aims at developing teaching and research resources as well as the promotion of International collaboration on the basis of equality and mutual assistance. Amongst its mode of cooperation the agreement includes the exchange of Professors, students, joint research activities, pedagogical and scientific documents and joint programmes and publication.

After signing the MOU, Prof. Bansal, a renowned Energy Scientist himself commented that the motto of collaboration is to use research for marketable technology for clean environment. He emphasized that since the University has already signed many MOU's with National and International Institutions / Industries but this MOU will provide another significant leap to the research activities of SMVD University. Mr. Sai Ram, CEO and MD Prathista Industries Ltd. shared his plan of setting up a manufacturing unit of Prathista Industries in J&K. Moreover, he said that MOU will benefit the students immensely by their training and recruitment at Prathista Idustries.

On this occasion Prof. V. Verma, Dean College of Sciences said that this MOU will give act as a bridge between the academia and Industry as it is imperative for the students of Industrial Bio Technology to get a first hand industrial exposure.

SMVDU gets a Vehicle for research Project



Under Private Public Partnership Project / Business plan, Dr. Sunil Patnaik, DGM(Mktg.) Prathista Industries, Secunderabad handed over keys of a brand new Car to the Vice Chancellor Prof. N.K.Bansal to felicitate the project works of Biotechnology Department of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University on 28th January 2009.

Prof. Bansal handed over keys to Director, School of Biotechnology to utilize the vehicle for the research activities

under the project.

The University is forging ahead in research and Technology by securing cooperation under Private Public Partnership.

This facility has been provided to benefit research activities in field of Biotechnology as incorporated in the MOU signed recently. The project will benefit the students, industry and the society in Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. V. Verma, Dean College of Sciences and Director, Biotechnology, who was also present on the occasion, stated that this will be useful for the researchers and students engaged in the project.

At a brief solemn function, the vice chancellor cut the ribbon of the vehicle and took a trip of the campus along with Dr. Patnaik and Dr. Verma.

Dr. Verma expressed a word of thanks to the Prathista Industry for the goodwill gesture and hope that the cooperation will continue in future as well so that the people of Jammu and Kashmir State would be benefited.

If the wide application and economic importance of Bamboo. He also spoke about the aims and objectives of the National Bamboo mission.

The Workshop was attended by experts of Agriculture, Forest department & Faculty Members SMVD university.

The workshop was organized by Dean, College of Sciences, prof. V.Verma & was sponsored by State Forest research Institute

During the technical sessions, detailed discussions were held with special presentations of various technical, economic and other aspects of Bamboo cultivation.

Prof. V.Verma,, Dean School of Biotechnology presented vote of thanks.

Subika Jamwal, a student of Biotechnology conducted the proceeding of the workshop.

National Seminar on "Growth of Indian Industrial Sector: A Roadmap for Success"



National Seminar on "Growth of Indian Industrial Sector: A Roadmap for Success" was organized on 27-28 February, 2009 by the College of Management, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. The seminar, sponsored by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), witnessed the presence of eminent academicians and corporate professional from



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prestigious universities/ institutions like IIT Roorkee, ISID, New Delhi, NIT Jallandhar, Chowdhary Devi Lal University, Panjab University, University of Rajasthan, Institute for Human Development, Tirupati University, Jammu University, BGSB University, SGIT, New Delhi, Cadila, Aircel, Coke India ltd., Reliance Communication, LIC Mutual Fund, TV Super Filter and others.

In the keynote address titled *India: Growing Fast, but also needs to industrialize!* Prof. T.S.Papola, Honorary Professor, ISID, New Delhi highlighted that the industrial sector which has undergone a relative slack in growth for over a decade is brought back on policy agenda for growth. He laid greater emphasis on domestic demand for industrial products to ensure higher growth rate. In different

technical sessions and panel discussion issues related to industrial growth like corporate restructuring, focus on SME's, manufacturing techniques, human resources management and information technology were discussed. During the valedictory session Mrs. Sarita Chauhan,IAS, Director of Industries, J&K emphasized on the adoption of insurance practices for the industrial sector of the state while Prof. N.K.Bansal, Vice Chancellor of the University emphasized entrepreneurial activities to be promoted at the grassroots level for the local youth to ensure inclusive industrial growth.

National Science Day Celebrated



To mark the discovery of Raman Effect by Sir C. V. Raman on 28th February 1928, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University staged a series of events to celebrate National Science Day here in Katra. A number of impressive and interesting competitions were held to increase the appeal and understanding of science within the University and in the community as well. NSD celebrations aim at spreading and celebrating science and its importance in our lives by giving local and other school children an opportunity to participate in science oriented activities.

The event was inaugurated by Prof. N. K. Bansal, Vice Chancellor, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, who in his

inaugural address laid stress on the importance of understanding of science for its application to solve day to day problems. In this speech he spoke on vivid areas of science including energy, building science and material science. He encouraged and motivated the students to learn to apply the classroom concepts in real life.

Highlight of the day was the Sir C. V. Raman Memorial Public Lecture titled "Nanotechnology and new carbon based nanomaterials" which was delivered by Prof. V. K. Jindal from Panjab University. His lecture was organized under a collaborative effort between Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University and United States India Educational Foundation (USIEF), New Delhi. During his lecture he laid emphasis on including nanotechnology in school curriculum considering its potential for the future in almost all the spheres of science.

District Development Commissioner Reasi, Mr. Sanjeev Verma was also present as Guest of Honor on this occasion. He appreciated the role of University in reaching out to the vast student community of Jammu, Udhampur and Reasi districts particularly the children form the nearby villages of the University.

The day witnessed a number of competitions which included Sir C V Raman Memorial Debate competition, Quiz competition, Poster Competition, Science Based Working Model Competition, Physics is Fun; a stage show on physics, Orientation Programme and Science Talent search programme. The stage show was conducted by Mr. Munish Gulati.

The theme of the programme is and has been Children in the Neighborhood. Under this programme over 250 children from various schools in the vicinity of the University took part under the talent search programme. Mohd Asif (6th class) was adjudged as the best boy and Ms. Anisha Bajaj (5th class) was adjuged as the best girl student.

Various institutions that participated in the events included Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, MBS College of Engineering, Model Institute of Engineering & Technology, Government College for Women, Parade and Gandhi Nagar, Govt. Medical College, and various schools from all the three districts.

Two-Day National Seminar &Inauguration of Language Lab

Two-day National seminar on Language & Literature in Global Context: Perspectives & Challenges organized by School of Languages in collaboration with English Language Teachers' Association of India (ELTAI) J&K Chapter was held here at University campus. The proceedings commenced with the inauguration of Soft ware Based Language Laboratory set up in the School and was inaugurated by Prof. N.K Bansal, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU.

Seminar Co-ordinator, Dr. Vandhana Sharma welcoming the guests and the participants gave an over view of the theme and

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said that English Language and Literature has been in a state of constant flux and the seminar proposes to deliberate on various perspectives and challenges faced by English teachers in the present global scenario.



The Keynote Speaker Prof. G.K Das, Former Vice Chancellor, Utkal University talked about the importance of English which originally emerged as a 'help language'and is more widely learnt today by choice rather than under compulsion. He stressed on the point that Indians should use English for the enrichment of Native languages as we are facing the challenge of Cultural & Linguistic Darwinism.

In his inaugural address, the Chief Guest, Prof. N.K Bansal traced the history of English Language. Prof. Bansal who is a renowned energy scientist himself, emphasized on the point that to acquire knowledge one needs to know Language properly and the changes in the English language over the years have led to the societal, economic and industrial development.

The Guest of Honour, Dr. Vijay Sharma from University of Delhi appreciated the theme of seminar which focuses on the integration of Language and Literature and stressed on the point that we should always have integrated approach towards language and literature.

The seminar is being attended by number of scholars from across the country. Prof. Sudhir Singh, Secretary ELTAI J&K Chapter delivered the vote of thanks. Ms. Subika Jamwal conducted the proceedings.

An enthralling evening of dance and music representing the rich cultural heritage of J&K was presented by the M.A English students of the school of Languages in Maatrika Auditorium. The Archeological Survey of India made a presentation on the monumental heritage of J&K. The audience was spell bound with a kathak dance by the guest performer Mukulini Sethi. The programme was widely appreciated by audience.

Inauguration of Nilgiri Boys Hostel

The Governor, Shri. N.N. Vohra, who is also the Chancellor of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University inaugurated a boys hostel with all the modern amenities for 300 students in the varsity



campus today.



On the occasion Prof. N.K. Bansal, Vice chancellor briefed about all the facilities like dinning halls, gym, recreation and meeting room for the parents.

This newly constructed hostel known as Neelgiri has been constructed at a cost of Rs 7.5 crore in a record time.

The total capacity of the all the boys and girls hostels with the inauguration of Nilgiri hostel in SMVD University is around 1000. The construction of another hostel namely Vidhyanchal is also going apace.

Those who were present at the inauguration ceremony included Prof. Varun Sahani, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu, Sh. B.B. Vyas Principle Secretary to Governer, Mrs. Shaila Bansal, Prof. R.S.Misra, Registrar/Dean Students Welfare, Prof. V.Verma, Dean College of Sciences and, Mr. Sanjeev Verma, District Development Commissioner, Reasi, all the Deans/directors of the SMVD University.

Two-Day Workshop on "Trends in Bioinformatics"



Two days workshop on "Trends in Bioinformatics" starts with lighting of traditional lamp by the Governor, Shri. N.N. Vohra in the Matrika Auditorium in Shri Mata Vaishno Devi

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University here this morning

The workshop has been organized by the SMVD University in collaboration with the University of Jammu and has been Prof. V.Verma, Dean Collage of Sciences and Director, School sponsored by Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. It is envisaged to provide hand-on training in various the objectives of the workshop. aspects of Bioinformatics and also initiate an era of Later, technical sessions was held at Seminar hall in School of cooperation and coordination among different institutes and Biotechnology, SMVD University. Dr. Sandhya, IIT Delhi the University of the Region.

Thirty five delegates including top experts in bioinformatics, the research scholars and the students from various degree colleges of Jammu region, SKUAST-J, University of Jammu, analysis and Computational methods. SMVD University, IIIM, Jammu are participating in the twoday long deliberation in the SMVD University.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor, who is also the chancellor of the university, underscored the need for close Shaila Bansal, Prof. R.S.Misra, Registrar/Dean Students cooperation and coordination between the various educational Welfare, Prof. V.Verma, Dean College of Sciences and, Mr. institution to promote the scientific knowledge and research work.

The Governor appreciated that the two premier Universities of Jammu have taken an initiative to jointly conducting the Infrastructure for Bioinformatics being further upgraded workshop on March 16-17 at Jammu University and the in SMVD University: Prof. Bansal concluding part from March 18-19 in School of Biotechnology, SMVD University.

Expressing a word of praise for the high speed growth of SMVD University, Shri Vohra said that not only very modern infrastructure has been built in the resent years but also heading towards academic excellence.

Shri Vohra stated that a short term course for Energy and Power Management course for the state officers of the Power development department will be conducted shortly by the SMVD University under Stewardship of Prof. Bansal who is an expert in Energy. He disclosed that he had discussed this matter with the Chief Minister, Sh. Omar Abdullah who has also agreed to this proposal.

Prof. N.K.Bansal, Vice Chancellor, SMVD University, in his welcome address, stated that this workshop, first of its kind, will lead to many fruitful researches in the nearby future. He said that the prospects of advances in bioinformatics have a reaching benefits for the society.

Bioinformatics, Prof. Bansal said "involves the comprehensive application of Mathematics, Statistics, pure and applied sciences as also computer sciences to important discipline for research and industrial applications including DNA/RNA/protein sequence.

Prof. Bansal said that on the IIT pattern this temple of learning has already initiated work on bio informatics by providing high class laboratories and equipments as also involving public – private partnership. In this regard he referred to recent MOUs by the SMVD University with different national and The experts in this field need to posses high skill in international institutions.

Prof. Varun Sahni, Vice chancellor, University of Jammu expressed thanks for the cooperation and collaboration in organizing this important workshop.

Prof.M.K.Dhar, Director, Department of Bioinformatics,



University of Jammu underlined the importance of this field in the overall development of the society.

of Biotechnology, SMVD University spoke about the aims and

made a presentation on the topic "Gene to Drug in Silico: A Molecular Bioinformatics Approach" and Dr. A. Krishnamachari, JNU Delhi, gave an overview of Sequence

Those who were present at the inauguration ceremony included Prof. Varun Sahani, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu, Sh. B.B. Vyas Principle Secretary to Governer, Mrs. Sanjeev Verma, District Development Commissioner, Reasi, all the Deans/directors of the SMVD University.



All out efforts will be made to create adequate infrastructure for comprehensive knowledge of bioinformatics in Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. This was stated by Prof. N.K. Bansal, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU while speaking at the valedictory understanding of biological systems". It is fast emerging as an session of the two - day workshop on "Trends in Bioinformatics" held at the seminar hall of School of Biotechnology, SMVDU this evening.

> Prof. Bansal said that biotechnology is a multi-disciplinary field of science about biological process. It requires the deep understanding of the genomics of protein and protein interaction.

> mathematics, computing, biology, he said and added that creating data structure for managing the ever increasing information is a must.

> Prof. V.Verma, Dean, College of Sciences who is also the Director, School of Biotechnology, SMVDU in his speech on

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the aim of the Workshop to make participants aware about the research institutes under provisions of this Memorandum. fundamentals of Bioinformatics, analysis of DNA and protein Speaking on the occasion, Dr. R.P. Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor, sequences, database searching and various aspects of Kurukshetra University and Prof. N.K.Bansal, Vice Bioinformatics has been by and large achieved during the Chancellor, SMVDU Katra told the reporters that Kurukshetra workshop. The workshop included lectures and hands on University Kurukshetra and SMVDÛ, Katra have identified sessions on information retrieval, file format, homology areas of specialization and the expertise in the fields of searching using BLAST and FASTA, Sequence alignment; Instrumentation Engineering, Management, and Commerce, pair wise and multiple and phylogenetics.

S.Mudasir Ahmid, SKUAST gave a lecture on "Approaches in the scope of this agreement which comprises of three major Phylogenetics" and the reporter was Dr. Shafaq Rasool and Dr. elements – education, research and extension activities. This Maktaba Shafi, University of Kashmir delivered lecture on collaboration would lead to joint research for Engineering and "Introduction to LINUX" followed by hand on training.

the research scholars and the students from various degree Kurukshetra & School of Electronics & Communication colleges of Jammu region, SKUAST-J, University of Jammu, Engineering, SMVDU, Katra. This collaboration would also SMVD University, IIIM, Jammu are participating in the two- provide opportunities for students and faculty team members day long deliberation in the SMVD University.

collaboration with the University of Jammu and has been programmes of the two institutions would be of great mutual sponsored by Department of Biotechnology, Government of benefit and would provide unique opportunities for India.

Those who were present at the valedictory function included Prof. M.L.Garg Dean College of Engineering, Prof. J.P.Singh, Dean College of Management, Prof. R.S.Misra, Dean College of Philosophy Culture and Languages, Directors and faculty of various Schools of the University.

currently available at the two institutions. During the technical session, chaired by Prof. Verma, Dr. universities will extend their cooperation to each other within Management courses and there will be a specific cooperation Thirty five delegates including top experts in bioinformatics, between Institute of Instrumentation Engineering (IIE), K.U. to spend time and attain experience at each others' campus for The workshop has been organized by the SMVD University in cross-fertilizing the ideas. "A synergy of the academic

Kurushetra University and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University signed a MOU



Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra today signed a MOU with Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, Jammu for Scientific Research and Educational Cooperation. Dr. R.P. Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor, Kurukshetra University, Prof. Raghuvendra Tanwar, Registrar, Dr. Sunil Dhingra, Director, IIE and Prof. N.K. Bansal, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, Katra,, Prof. M.L.Garg Dean Energy SMVDU and Prof. Kakkar SMVDU were present on the occasion. Both institutions will encourage institutional facilitated contact and cooperation between their students, faculty members, departments and

Patron: Prof. N.K.Bansal Editor: Dr. Vandhana Sharma

Designed & Compiled By: P.R.Khajuria

For any valuable suggestions please write back to mediacell@smvdu.ac.in

collaboration", told Dr. Bajpai to the media persons.

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2009

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Happy New Year 2009

Holiday List

	Tonady Liot
Jan 8	Muharram*
Jan 26	Republic Day
Feb 23	Maha Shivaratri
Mar 10	Milad un-Nabi
Mar 11	Holi
Mar 27	1st Navratra
Apr 3	Rama Navami
Apr 7	Mahavir Jayanti
Apr 10	Good Friday
Apr 13	Baisakhi
May 9	Buddha Purnima
Aug 5	Raksha Bandhan
Aug 14	Janmashtami
Aug 15	Independence Day
Sep 21	Eid-ul-Fitar
Sep 28	Dussehra
Oct 2	Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti
Oct 17	Diwali/Deepavali
Oct 19	Bhai Duj
Nov 2	Guru Nanak's BirthDay
Nov 28	Eid ul-Zuha
Dec 25	Christmas
Dec 28	Muharram*

^{*} Muharram falls twice in the year 2009. It is likely that there may be no Muharram holiday during 2010.

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