

# Chronicle

An online quarterly Newsletter

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University

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## Editorial

### Welcome to the next issue of Chronicle!

The second quarter of 2009 was an epoch- making period for SMVDU. Commencing with a stimulating ambience of cultural and sports festival, it brought in its wake the visits of a galaxy of dignitaries and marked its culmination with another historic moment for SMVDU when the UGC Team gave a nod for Central assistance to the University.

A memorable event of the quarter was the visit of a teacher, a social worker and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board member Ms. Sudha Murthy who was "fairly impressed" by the growth of the university under the stewardship of Prof.N.K Bansal. Ms. Murthy happily announced three medals for outstanding students especially the one for the 'best and the outstanding girl student' because she personally feels that "Girls should be encouraged and promoted as they have to face hurdles at every step of life". Hats off to Madam Murthy!

We are glad to present a glimpse of all these historic moments of SMVDU in the present issue of **Chronicle**..

Happy Reading!!!



**Vandhana Sharma**

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## **USIEF to expand its reach in J&K through SMVDU**

United States India Educational Foundation (USIEF) which is responsible for administering the Fulbright Fellowship programme in India is holding a workshop to evolve strategies to



increase representation from the underserved areas like Jammu and Kashmir. USIEF New Delhi has recently announced a new round of fellowships for 2010. This fellowship programme which is one of the prestigious programmes in the world is applicable to students, researchers, professionals and faculty members for study and research in the US. Fulbright programme which is also one of the largest fellowship programmes in the world has over 16200 fellows so far under its exchange programme. In order to promote visibility of Fulbright programme particularly in the underserved areas like Jammu & Kashmir which has only 16 Fulbright fellows between 2001-08 compared to 203 from Delhi during the same period, USIEF is conducting this workshop. In this workshop over 40 Fulbright Campus Representatives and an equal number of Fulbright Alumni apart from the representatives of USIEF and USAID shall be participating. Out of all the 40 campus representatives, Dr. Sunil Kumar Wanchoo, Assistant Professor, Fulbright Campus Representative from SMVD University has been given an exclusive slot to make a presentation on Challenges and Strategies in reaching out to educational Institutions and Society in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. As a part of USIEF's continued effort to recruit scholars from underserved areas

Dr. Wanchoo's presentation is expected to help USIEF to come up with a renewed effort for increasing the representation of Jammu and Kashmir in the prestigious Fulbright programme.

USIEF has shown keen interest in the activities being undertaken by SMVD University for the promotion of Education and awareness among students from different schools and colleges in last five years under the banner of National Science Day. This has resulted in a strong association between SMVD University and USIEF in last couple of years. USIEF had held its first outreach programme in Jammu and Kashmir in SMVD University last year. As part of the continued effort in this direction USIEF had deputed Prof. V. K. Jindal, Punjab University to deliver the Sir C V Raman Memorial public lecture on Nanotechnology and Nanomaterials on National Science Day – 2009.

## **Resurgence-2009**



A Three-Day cultural and Sports Youth Festival, Resurgence 2009 from April 9-11, 2009 was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. N.K. Bansal. In keeping with the university motto of a holistic development of the students, all such activities at SMVDU are by the students, of the students and for the students. In his inaugural address, the Chief Guest, Prof. N.K. Bansal appreciated the efforts and team spirit of students of SMVDU who have been working tirelessly to present such a mammoth cultural and sports event. Prof. Bansal claimed that the



students of SMVDU are different with an exciting blend of the cultural and technological spirit of the country. He wished that one of the renowned members of the university Executive Council, who recently commented in the 13th Executive Council meeting that the SMVDU was conceptualized with an aim to have and produce different students, could come and attend the Resurgence 2009 to see for himself that his wish has been fulfilled.

In his welcome address, Prof. R.S Misra, Dean of students gave the aim of the Youth festival which is to channelise the Youth into constructive, creative and competitive activities. The Cultural Secretary of the event Mr. Divisth Kakkar gave an overview of the both inter-university and intra-university events broadly categorized into Literary, Musical, Theatrical and classical. Ms. Pratima Labroo, the Sports Cultural Secretary shed light on the fun and games aspect of the event. Various universities and colleges from J&K participated in the Inter-University events on 11 April, 2009. An informal evening of street plays and DJ Nights were also a part of the festival besides competitive items.

Amongst the cultural events, Jammu University bagged first prize while in Debate competition Kashmir University got first prize. However, the trophy for overall Best Performance was bagged by SMVDU.

## JK Bank ATM inaugurated at SMVDU



The 245<sup>th</sup> ATM of J&K Bank was inaugurated at J&K Bank branch Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University by Prof. N.K Bansal Vice Chancellor SMVDU. While inaugurating the ATM of the bank, Prof. Bansal thanked the authorities of the bank for installing the new ATM at the university which is the need of the hour. He appreciated the fact that the existing branch of J&K Bank has been with the university since its inception and its growth has been synonymous with that of university. Speaking on the occasion Mr. Abdul Rashid Vice President J&K Bank Jammu north zone thanked Prof. Bansal for extending his wholehearted cooperation to the bank from time to time. Mr. Rashid highlighted various schemes of the bank and requested various distinguished guests present on the occasion to deal with the J&K bank exclusively and enjoy the benefits of the modern technology enabled services of the bank and best customer service being provided by the bank throughout the country.

## SMVDU Signed MOU with Thapar University



In its endeavour to strive for excellence, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra has recently signed an MoU with Thapar University, Patiala (TU) on April 28, 2009 in the presence of Prof. N.K. Bansal, Vice Chancellor SMVDU & Prof. V. Verma Dean College of Sciences, SMVDU Katra, Prof. Abhijit Mukherjee, Director & Prof. R.K. Sharma, Dean Academic Affairs, Thapar University, Patiala.

The MoU would provide an impetus to

Research & Quality Education in the evolving field of Biotechnology & Biosciences. Under this MoU, admissions in M.Sc. (Biotechnology) course at SMVDU will be made on the basis of the rank order merit obtained by the students in the Competitive Exam to be conducted by TU at New Delhi & Patiala on June 6, 2009. Interested students shall, however, apply for the above course in SMVDU against advertisement to be released shortly. The forms for the above competitive exam of TU will be available at Axis Bank, Bahu Plaza, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

This MoU would facilitate Joint Research in the field of Biotechnology besides facilitating Faculty Exchange.

## Bringing Laurels to Alma Mater



Anurika Arora a sixth semester Electronics and Communication Engineering student of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra brought laurels to the university and state of Jammu & Kashmir by standing at sixth position in grand finale of Career Launcher's national level leadership summit Tycoon-09 held at Delhi. In this leadership hunt, over two Lakh College students from across country participated and in the final Anurika from SMVDU the only contestant from J&K could make it to the final where she competed amongst 32 national finalists and stood sixth at national level. Career Launcher, Jammu branch hosted felicitations in SMVDU to honour the Tycoon-

09 finalists on 27-04-09. Professor N.K. Bansal Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, SMVDU gave away the awards to Ms. Anurika, national finalist and Mr. Kunal and Mr. Summit regional finalists. During the occasion Head Career Launcher Branch Jammu handed over the trophy of the best engineering college of state to Professor Bansal and praised him for his excellent initiatives and vision for creating excellent infrastructure within a short period of about five years and producing quality engineers and managers. Professor Bansal congratulated the winners and said that SMVDU is committed to create and provide best infrastructure and academic environment to the students to excel in all spheres of life.

## Farewell to Graduating Students



Katra, May 1, 2009. In the sprawling lawns of VC lodge, a mood of nostalgia and applause prevailed when Prof. N.K. Bansal, Vice Chancellor, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University hosted a farewell party to the graduating students. Comparing the University infrastructure then and now, the outgoing students thanked Prof. Bansal for providing such excellent facilities and academic environment to them. Prof. Bansal wished all the students the best of opportunities and luck as they are entering a new phase of their lives. As part of the cherished memories, students were capturing the moments in their cameras by getting photographs with their teachers and friends.



In the same occasion, prizes were also given away to the winners of the Intra-University events of the recently held annual Sports and culture festival of SMVDU, Resurgence 2009.

## One day Workshop- cum -Seminar on HRD scheme



A “one day Workshop-cum-Seminar on HRD scheme”, Ministry of Textiles (Handicrafts) Govt. of India was organized by the office of Development Commissioner (H) New Delhi on 11-05-2009 in collaboration with Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra. In this workshop more than 70 officials from Ministry of Textiles, NGO's and institution participated. Prof. N.K.Bansal, Vice Chancellor was the chief guest of the workshop.

Sh. B.K.Bhatia, Director CRSRD, welcomed the officials participants and University staff and Sh. A.K.Handoo, Regional Director (H) highlighted the various schemes run by the Ministry of Textiles (H) in his speech. Mr. Handoo appreciated the vision and the efforts put in by Prof. N.K.Bansal to create a world class academic institution in this region with in a short span of five years. Mr. Handoo was very happy to see the infrastructure of the University and invited the faculty of the University to associate with this department through projects and consultancy work under various schemes of Ministry of Textiles (H).

Chief Guest Prof. N.K.Bansal emphasized on linking academic institutions with skill oriented

programmes like this for the benefit of Society and Nation as a whole. He stressed on the need of role of Govt. of India to support agriculture and handicraft for the upliftment of common people to make the economy stronger. Prof. Bansal appreciated the various schemes of MoT(H) for the promotion of Indian Handicraft Industry and assured the officials for the successful implementation of project “Training through established instructions under HRD scheme”, sanctioned by the office of Development Commissioner (H) N Delhi.

## M.A (Philosophy) Students qualified NET,JRF

Three students of the pioneering batch of M.A (Philosophy) appeared for UGC (JRF) NET December 2008. All three of them have qualified and one of them has also been awarded Junior Research Fellowship (JRF).

The name of the students are:

1. **Dinesh Jamwal** (2007 PMP 02) qualified **UGC (JRF) NET**.
2. **Ramesh Chander** (2007 PMP 06) qualified **UGC NET**.
3. **Sanjay Kumar** (2007 PMP 07) qualified **UGC NET**.

## Sudha Murty, SMVDSB member impressed by progress of SMVDU



Drawing a vivid picture of fast growing infrastructure and academic activities of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, the Vice Chancellor Prof. N.K.Bansal made a presentation on the various facilities being provided in this centre of excellence for technical and professional education.

Mrs. Sudha Murty, member Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) and the Additional Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB, Mr. M.K.Dwivedi, who were on a day's visit to the varsity, were present on the occasion.

The Vice Chancellor gave an overall view of the functioning of the University and progress in building infrastructural facilities during the past five years.

Mrs. Sudha Murty appreciated the fast-paced growth and development of the University in terms of its modern buildings and also wide range of technical courses, including studies in Philosophy.

Mr. Dwivedi, said that the fast growth of the university was due to uninterrupted flow of financial resources and also the dynamism of Prof. Bansal.

Later, she also went around the state of art auditorium where the screening of a "Making of Matrika" was projected.

Mrs. Murty had interaction with the senior faculty members as well as the students.

## UGC team visit SMVDU



A high level team from University Grants Commission led by Prof.T.Tirupati Rao, Vice-Chancellor, Osmania University, Hyderabad visited Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) today to get first hand information about its functioning and assessment for extending Central assistance. This premier scientific and technical institution of J&K State has excellent physical infrastructure and decent academic standards.

The visiting team had interaction with the Vice-Chancellor SMVDU, Prof.N.K.Bansal who briefed them in detail about the fast - pace development and functioning of different UG and PG courses being offered by the university in various fields like Electronic and Communication, Biotechnology, Computer sciences, Philosophy, Languages, Architecture and other disciplines.

The other members of the team are Convener, Dr.K.P.Singh (Joint Secretary), UGC, Prof.Naresh Kumar, Kurukshetra University, Prof.P.Kaliraj, Anna University, Chennai, Prof.Sharda Sharma, Delhi University, Prof.Sujata Miri and Prof.M.L.Batra. The UGC team, accompanied by Vice Chancellor, SMVDU inspected all the wings of SMVDU and acquainted themselves with the basic infrastructural facilities, equipment available position of the faculty for conduct of high technical education and research work. The team had interaction with the all faculty members, staff and also the students in the campus and got feedback.

Later, team leader, Prof.T.Tirupati Rao in his initial reaction said " We are impressed by the overall growth of this varsity in short span of five years and they are struck by the achievement of the Vice-Chancellor Prof.Bansal. He said he was pleased to know that students from all over the country are admitted in this technical residential university.

## Transferring Technology to Industry



School of Biotechnology, SMVDU, Katra has perfected a technology involving a rare *actinomycete* from a unique eco-geographical niche to M/S Prathista Industries Limited, Hyderabad. The technology has been developed by a team of researchers headed by Professor V.Verma, Dean College of Sciences & Director School of Biotechnology of the university. The technology on implementation will go a long way in the treatment of human nosocomial infections caused by multi drug resistant pathogens (MDRs).

The negotiations for the transfer of technology were held in the office of Vice Chancellor Prof. N.K. Bansal, who encouraged various programmes of joint collaboration between academia & industry. Earlier CEO & MD of M/S Prathista Industries Limited, Hyderabad visited the University and held detailed discussions with the Vice chancellor, faculty and the research scholars of School of Biotechnology of the university. M/S Prathista Industries Limited, Hyderabad has an MoU with the university and has already provided employment to a number of Biotech graduates, who passed out recently from SMVDU and has agreed to further support research in the field of Biotechnology in the university.

## Chief Minister inaugurated Central Workshop and Short term course on Energy and Power Management at SMVDU.



Jenab Omar Abdullah inaugurated a 4-Day Short Term Course on Energy and Power Management organized by School of Infrastructure & Resource Management, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University.

Welcoming the Chief guest Jenab Omar Abdullah, Hon'ble Chief Minister, J&K and other dignitaries present on the occasion, the Vice Chancellor, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Prof. N.K.Bansal, a pioneer in renewable energy and renowned energy scientist himself gave a presentation on the theme of the course :Energy and Power management. In his presentation, Prof. Bansal gave an overview of the energy and power scenario in India with a special focus on J&K and highlighted the disastrous gap between power supply and demand in the country. Based on the Econometric model developed by his team, Prof. Bansal highlighted that if the current trend continues, the energy disaster level would be alarming by 2045. However, as part of the solution, there is a need to focus on renewable energy resources which needs to be developed aggressively and there is a yearning need for Energy and power management. Twenty officers of Power Development department, Govt of J&K and other departments are participating in the 4-



Day Short Term Course from June 1, 2009- June 4, 2009

Jenab Omar Abdullah also inaugurated the central workshop, School of mechanical Engineering. The Central Workshop houses Machines, Smithy, Carpentry, Forging and Welding shops. After the inauguration of workshop, Jenab Abdullah visited three state of the art laboratories viz. Computer integrated manufacturing, Strengths of material and thermal engineering labs of the School of mechanical Engineering.

In his inaugural address, the chief guest, Jenab Omar Abdullah appreciated the pace of development in SMVD University and shared that although it is his first visit to SMVD University, he had heard positive things about the university especially its infrastructure, faculty and students. Jenab Abdullah expressed satisfaction over the theme of short term Course which is highly relevant in the current times of power and energy crises which needs to be managed effectively. He emphasized that Power is one of essential priorities of his government the other two being Security and employability and expressed hope that that things will take a positive turn with the knowledge and research experience of scientists like Prof. Bansal. In his address, Mr. Davinder Rana, Political Advisor to chief Minister, complimented the academic standards and infrastructural standards of university and hoped that the university will cater to the development and upliftment of adjoining areas especially Reasi district too.

## **Valedictory session of short term course on Energy and Power Management**

The short term course on "Energy and Power Management" organized for the officers of Power Development department, Government of Jammu and Kashmir by School of Infrastructure Technology and Resource Management, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University successfully concluded, here today. The course primarily focused on energy

auditing, energy efficiency in buildings, Energy efficiency in electrical equipments, Energy efficiency in thermal utilities and on Renewable Energy which includes Lectures followed by Exercises and discussions.



In his valedictory address, Prof. N.K.Bansal, Vice Chancellor, SMVD University, who is also an authority on energy, spoke about the technical advances in energy sector, underscored importance of its efficient management. He drew the picture of global and national energy scenario both in conventional and renewable sources.

Bashir Ahmed Dhar, AEE, PDD from valley expressing gratitude for SMVD university for conducting first-ever useful course for the electrical engineers. Underlining the importance of such course, he emphasized that a training institution in efficient energy management should be opened in Jammu and Kashmir. He pleaded for having such regular courses to be conducted in this varsity.

Shabir Ahmed Khan, AEE, PDD sharing his experience, said it was a unique experience which updated their knowledge on the renewable energy sector. Other participants Anil Gautam, Sanjeev Bhagat expressed full satisfaction over the course.

Prof. N.K.Bansal, Vice Chancellor along with Prof. M.L Garg, Rakesh Sharma, Dr. S.K.Tyagi, Sanjeev Anand, Pankaj Pandotra, Amit Sharma delivered lectures on various



aspects of Energy Management in the workshop

Those who attended the four-day course included Ajay Kumar kachroo, Bashir Ahmad Dar, Shabir Ahmed Khan, Sanjeev Bhagat, Anil Gautam, Vikas Khajuria, Sunil Kumar, A.R.Kirman, Mudasarhd. Amin, Rajnish Kumar, Dr. Sunil Giri and Pranav Gupta they were presented certificates of participation by the Vice Chancellor, SMVDU.

It may be recalled that Mr. Omar Abdullah, Chief Minister, J&K inaugurated this course on June 1<sup>st</sup> in the campus and underlined the importance of effective and efficient management of energy resources.

## **SMVD University eligible to receive Central Assistance from UGC**



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University has been declared eligible to receive Central Assistance in terms of the Rules framed under Section 12(B) of the UGC Act 1956. Earlier in May 2004, UGC had granted 2(f) Status to SMVDU.

This achievement of SMVD University has been possible because of the extra ordinary progress made by the University in terms of infrastructure, academics, research and development and quality of faculty and students. The status was granted on the basis of recommendations of the Expert Committee of the University Grant Commission led by Prof.

T.Tirupati Rao, Vice Chancellor, Osmania University, Hyderabad who visited the University in May 2009.

The visiting team had interaction with the Vice Chancellor SMVD University, Prof. N.K.Bansal who briefed them in detail about the fast-pace development and functioning of different UG/PG courses and R& D efforts.

The visiting team also interacted with the all faculty members, staff as well as students on the campus to get feedback on the functioning of the University.

Prof Bansal, Vice Chancellor SMVDU gave the credit of this recognition to His Excellency Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Sh. N.N.Vohra and all the faculty and staff of the University.

## **SMVDU Allotted AIEEE Counselling Centre**



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University has started admission process for the session 2009-10. Admission to various course of B.Tech is made by the University based upon AIEEE ranking. A Large number of candidates from the Jammu & Kashmir State participate in AIEEE and they had to travel to different Centres outside the J&K State for Counselling by Central Counselling Board. The candidates belonging to Jammu and Kashmir desired to have AIEEE Counselling Centre in the state so that the aspiring candidates do not have to travel outside the state for the Counselling for B. Tech. /B.Arch. Programme.

Last year SMVD University took first step to have a Counselling Centre on trial basis in the

campus and it proved successful. The admission committee of SMVDU took up the matter with concerned authorities and made efforts, as a result of which the Central Counselling Board (CCB) allotted a full-fledged Counselling Centre at SMVDU for Counselling/Admission in B.Tech./B.Arch on the basis of AIEEE 2009 ranking to facilitate the students of the State.

The Counselling Centre at SMVDU will provide Registration, filling up the choices, showing Indicative allotment (MOCK Counselling) and Locking. There will be four rounds of Counselling as directed by CCB. In first round of Counselling comprises of Registration, exercising the choice and locking, for which June 28, 2009 is the last date. First round of seat allotment will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009 and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> round on July 07, July 13 and July 19, 2009 respectively. Accordingly the reporting at Admission Centre will start from 1<sup>st</sup> July 09 onwards till 24<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

AIEEE rank is the only criterion for seeking admission in UG Programme at SMVDU. For further detailed information you may visit [www.ccb.nic.in](http://www.ccb.nic.in), [www.smvdu.ac.in](http://www.smvdu.ac.in).

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