



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **CEO Dialogue: Financial empowerment through financial planning and education on 4th November, 2019.**
- **One Day Workshop on R Under the aegis of the Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya on 9th November 2019.**
- **International Conference: Applied Biology and First Annual Convention of the Society of Biologists from 04th – 06th November, 2019.**
- **National Level Quiz Competition on 15th November, 2019.**
- **TEQIP-III Sponsored Faculty Development Program on Energy Simulation from 04th – 08th November, 2019.**
- **National Workshop on Developments and Prospects of Thermoelectric Energy Conversion Device and its Applications from 28th – 29th November 2019**

PATRON

Prof. R. K. Sinha
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Amitabh V. Dwivedi

EDITORIAL TEAM

Dr. Simran Preet Kaur
Ms. Surbhi Sharma

DESIGN & DRAFT:

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PHOTOGRAPHY:

Mr. Om Parkash

Campus Jottings

Mahatma Gandhi's 150th Birth Anniversary Celebrated at SMVDU

SMVDU Katra, October 2019. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, celebrated the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of Nation, along with the 116th Birth Anniversary

of the second Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, on 2nd October 2019. The celebrations coincided with the conclusion of various co-curricular activities, such as poetry & essay writing, drawing and other creative



events, organized by the Hindi Cell, SMVDU, during the Hindi Pakhwara, 2019. At the onset, an exhibition on Gandhi Virasat-Kagazkala was inaugurated by Padma Shri Prof. RK Sinha, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU and Ms. Neetu, DIG, CRPF, Jammu Range, at Matrika Auditorium, SMVDU. The one-week exhibition was organized by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi. The event was facilitated by Mr. Virendra Bangroo, Director, Jammu & Kashmir Regional Centre, established at SMVDU Campus. After the inauguration, the dignitaries proceeded to address the audience. Prof. Sinha, in his speech, made a declaration that the university campus will be free from the single-use plastic from today onwards, and emphasized the role of cleanliness in and around the campus. Ms. Neetu, in her address, inspired the students about the way CRPF contributes to the national security. On the occasion of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the CRPF instituted a Rolling Trophy for the winners of the intramural co-curricular activities in SMVDU. This year the Vayu and Agni House jointly shared the trophy. The cash prizes and certificates were also distributed amongst the winners of various events organized during the Hindi Pakhwara. The other dignitaries present, included Prof. (Dr.) D. Mukhopadhyay, Dean, FoHSS & FoM and Chairman, Hindi Cell; Prof. AK Sharma, Head, School of Physics, Dr. Yugal Khajuria, Dean of Student Welfare; Dr. Anil Tewari, Nodal Officer, Hindi Cell; Dr. Amitabh V. Dwivedi, Head, School of Languages & Literature; Dr. RK Jha, Dean, Research & Development, Mr. Sumanta S. Sharma, President, Board of Cultural Activities, and other faculty & staff members, and their family.

Governor Malik Addresses 7th Convocation of SMVDU

Exhorts youth to excel in education



SMVDU Katra, October 22. The 7th Convocation of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) was held where the then Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Satya Pal Malik, was the Chief Guest and delivered the Convocation Address. During the function the Governor and other dignitaries awarded 931 degrees, including PhDs, Masters and Bachelors degrees, and presented 12 Gold and 17 Silver medals to meritorious students. Prof. Ravindra Kumar Sinha, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU, presented the Vice Chancellor's Report, highlighting the past achievements and future action plans. While addressing the gathering he thanked the Governor for sparing valuable time out of his hectic schedule to bless the degree awardees and the university community. He gave details of the placements and publications brought out by the University, research projects sanctioned to the faculty and the various workshops and conferences that have been organized in the recent past. He said that university is poised to be a center of excellence with the blessings of Mata Vaishno Devi Ji. The following were awarded the Chancellor's Gold Medal: Parth Gupta, Zuhaib Ahemad, Karuna Goyal, Shailesh Pandita, Ratandeep Sharma, Shaguna Gupta, Shriya Singh, Vimarsh Padha. Besides these, several students received university Silver medals, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Medal for best UG and PG students and best girl students for the years 2018 and 2019.

Governor Malik while addressing the students, parents and the university community underscored the importance of education in our lives. He said, education and the education only had led civilizations out of poverty to prosperity. He cited former Secretary Condoleezza Rice, USA, as a role model of one's rise to great heights in life solely due to educational achievements. He emphasized that there is ample potential in the students of Jammu and Kashmir, which is evident from the number of students

desiring to enter higher education year by year. Taking note this he stated that he had been taking personal interest in this field which had resulted in sanctioning of 50 degree colleges by his government, and 50 more are in the pipeline which includes colleges for professional education besides 8 medical colleges. The Government also plans to set up the first medical university soon. While congratulating the degree awardees, he said that they are about to enter the next phase of their lives and expressed confidence that they will contribute meaningfully to the welfare of our country in particular and humanity at large. He expressed satisfaction at the progress made by SMVDU in short span of its existence, and hoped that the university will progress in leaps and bounds under the dynamic and able leadership of Prof. R. K. Sinha, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU. He said that he had directed the Chief Secretary to provide every possible support, including more and sustained funding to the university. He assured the university community that every possible support shall be extended to make sure that the university continues to progress so that more and more deserving students get the opportunity to be part of this center of learning.

Several eminent persons, including Dr. Ashok Bhan, Mr. Vijay Dhar both Members of SMVDSB, Prof. Manoj K. Dhar, VC, University of Jammu, Prof. A. K. Bakhshi, VC, PDM University, Shri Umang Narulla (IAS), Financial Commissioner to Governor, Shri Simran Deep Singh (IAS), CEO., SMVDSB, Members of Executive Council and Academic Council of the University besides several other guests including Police officers, prominent personalities from various walks of life, Faculty Members, staff, students of the university and their parents were present on the occasion.

Short Term Course on Engineering Optimization Begins at SMVDU



SMVDU Katra, October 2019. A TEQIP-III sponsored Short Term Course on "Engineering Optimization" started at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) Katra. The course was scheduled from 21st - 25th October, 2019, organized jointly by the School of Mechanical Engineering, SMVDU and Department of Mechanical Engineering, JNTU, Hyderabad with an objective to impart knowledge of various optimization techniques and its role in engineering applications. About 30 participants from various institutes across the country attended the course. The course was coordinated jointly by Dr. Ankush Anand, Faculty, School of Mechanical Engineering (SME), SMVDU, Katra, and Prof. Indra Rani, JNTUH, Hyderabad with Mr. Amit Kumar Sinha, Faculty, SME, SMVDU as the organizing secretary. Dean, Faculty of Engineering, SMVDU Prof. E. Muthuswamy was the chief guest at the inaugural function. The course coordinator, Dr. Anand, briefed all the participants about the need for organizing this short term course and its relevance in addressing various issues involving engineering, science and, technology. Dr. R.K. Mishra, Head, SME, SMVDU, Katra, also shared his views on the theme of the course. Expert speakers from IITs and industry interacted with the participants during the week long course.

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Witnessed its 6th Alumni Meet



SMVDU Katra, October 2019. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University witnessed its 6th Alumni Meet on 21st October 2019. On this occasion, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. R.K Sinha, extended a cordial welcome to all the alumni. He extended his best-wishes and also wished a good luck to all the alumni for their future endeavours. The faculty Incharge Alumni Affairs said, "alumni is a reflection of the university's success. They are the strength for the society and need to contribute in nation building. The alumni meet is an occasion for the congregation, association, and reminiscences." The Training & Placement officer, SMVDU, Mr. Bhatia expressed his thanks to the alumni who had helped current batches in their careers. Dr. Sumeet Gupta, President SMDU Alumni Association (SMVDUAA), said that the university has an alumni association that shall act as a bridge between the university and alumni for the welfare. Er. Irfan Ul Haq, member secretary of SMVDUAA, expressed his gratitude to the university for providing the opportunity and asked the alumni for active participation in the development of the society as well as the university. The members of the alumni recollected their experiences of stay on campus and the memorable moments they shared with the faculty. They felt the reunion is a great time and a revival in their future lives. The alumni expressed their heartfelt gratitude towards the faculty members and their alma mater, while expressing their profound faith in the SMVD University. More than three hundred alumni working in different MNCs and in Government Sectors, such as TCS, Wipro, Genpact, ICICI Bank, SBI Life Insurance, Reliance Jio, Deloitte India Forensics, Revenue Department (KAS), Indian Navy, and few, working as entrepreneurs expressed their views and shared their experiences. Cultural and musical events during the Alumni Meet were performed by students followed by the High Tea. The alumni present acknowledged the fact that SMVD University is continuing and carrying forward the mission of pursuing excellence in education, scholarship and research, and its application to the society at the highest international levels of excellence.

Yoga Sessions Conducted at SMVD University

SMVDU Katra, October 2019. The National Service Scheme (NSS) along with Yoga and Fitness Club at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, had organized yoga sessions in the month of October. At the onset, the sessions began from 2nd October, commemorating the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, and continued till the month end. The university students had participated in the sessions and showed great interest. The sessions were open to all the residents of the campus, included faculty and staff members along with students. All the sessions were



held on weekends and holidays in order to enable one and all to participate in them. The program aimed to sensitize people towards comprehensive nature of yoga towards life and well-being. The yoga instructor of these sessions was Mr. Gurmeh- a well-qualified yoga trainer and a daily practitioner. He informed students about the benefits of yoga for the body and mind before starting the asanas. Students, faculty members and residents participated in the sessions which were jointly coordinated by Mr. Sumanta Sarathi Sharma, Faculty Coordinator, NSS, and Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi, Convener, Yoga and Fitness Club. Considering the success of the Yoga sessions, it is being planned to start the yoga sessions again in the month of November provided the request received and the enthusiasm shown by the students.

Celebration and Day Observed

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Fraternity Celebrates Dussehra



SMVDU Katra, October 2019. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) fraternity celebrated Dusshera on campus with enthusiasm. A large number of faculty and staff members along with their family joined and enjoyed the festivities. All were filled with great joy and zeal in the presence of the Registrar Prof. VK Bhat. The children were dressed up in their best, like Ram; Sita; Ravana; Laxman and Durga; and showcased their histrionics and dance performances during the occasion. The significance of Dussehra was also described with the help of poetry recitation, while highlighting the ten inauspicious qualities of Ravana. A quiz was also organised for the little kids which held everyone's attention. The luscious dinner at the university guesthouse culminated the celebration. Padam Shri, Prof. RK Sinha, Vice-Chancellor, extended his warm greetings and good wishes to all.

Faculty/Staff Updates

Publications

Dwivedi A.V. (2019) Women and Religious Freedom. In: Demy, Timothy J., Shaw, Jeffrey M. (eds) Religion and Contemporary Politics-A Global Encyclopedia, Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO

Dwivedi A.V. (2019) Bhartiya Jana Sangh. In: Demy, Timothy J., Shaw, Jeffrey M. (eds) Religion and Contemporary Politics-A Global Encyclopedia, Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO.

Dwivedi A.V. (2019) Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP). In: Demy, Timothy J., Shaw, Jeffrey M. (eds) Religion and Contemporary Politics-A Global Encyclopedia, Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO

Dwivedi A.V. (2019) Hindu Nationalism. In: Demy, Timothy J., Shaw, Jeffrey M. (eds) Religion and Contemporary Politics-A Global Encyclopedia, Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO

Dwivedi A.V. (2019) Kashmir. In: Demy, Timothy J., Shaw, Jeffrey M. (eds) Religion and Contemporary Politics-A Global Encyclopedia, Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO

Dwivedi A.V. (2019) Weber, Max. In: Demy, Timothy J., Shaw, Jeffrey M. (eds) Religion and Contemporary Politics-A Global Encyclopedia, Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO

Dwivedi, A.V. (2019) Review of The Routledge Handbook of Language Learning and Technology, Fiona Farr and Liam Murray, eds., pp. 206-9, Volume 24, 2018/2019 in ICON-The Journal of the International Committee for the History of Technology. (SCOPUS)

Chaturvedi, M.M. and Sarma, A.V.R. (2019) Does Inner Awareness Always Accompany Outer Awareness During Perception? *Problemata* vol. 96, pp. 134-147. (SCI & SCOPUS)

Talk Delivered

Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi delivered two lectures on "Ethical Human Values" and "Ethical Professional Values" on 10th October 2019 to the participants of the two day course on "Ethics and Soft Skills" at Sher-I-Kashmir Police Academy, Udhampur.

Mr. Sumanta Sarathi Sharma delivered two lectures on "Aptitude and Foundational Values in Service" and "Challenges to Ethics and Moral Accountability" on 11th October 2019 to the participants of the two day course on "Ethics and Soft Skills" at Sher-I-Kashmir Police Academy, Udhampur.

Dr. Anil Kumar Tewari delivered two lectures on "Ethical Reasoning and Ethical Dilemma" and "Ethical Leadership" on 11th October 2019 to the participants of the two day course on "Ethics and Soft Skills" at Sher-I-Kashmir Police Academy, Udhampur. Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi delivered two lectures on "Ethical Human Values" and "Ethical Professional Values" on 10th October 2019 to the participants of the two day course on "Ethics and Soft Skills" at Sher-I-Kashmir Police Academy, Udhampur.

Seminar Presentation

Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi and Dr. Anil Kumar Tewari presented their papers, titled 'Scepticism and Mysticism' and 'कश्मीर शैव दर्शन में प्रमाण चिन्तन' respectively in a national seminar on "Contribution of Jammu and Kashmir to Indian Thought" organized by the Centre for Comparative Religions and Civilizations, Central University of Jammu from 22nd -23rd October 2019.

Dr. Balbir Singh, Associate Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering, attended an exploratory meeting on "Industry 4.0 readiness" at IITD-AIA, Foundation for Smart Manufacturing, IIT Delhi, under Smart Advance Manufacturing and Rapid transformation Hub (SMARTH) Udyog on 11th Oct 2019.

Course Attended

Dr. Ram Prakash, Assistant Professor, School of Physics, presented a research paper, entitled "Optimization of Deposition parameter of Cr doped Eu₂O₃ Thin Films " at 3rd International Conference on Condensed Matter and Applied Physics (ICC-2019), held at Govt. Engineering College, Bikaner (Rajasthan), from 14th -15th October 2019 .

Student Updates

Ms. Charu Sharma Declares Qualified for the Ph.D.

SMVDU Katra, October 2019. Ms. Charu Sharma has been declared qualified for the award of degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Mathematics by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra. She worked on the topic, "Some Difference Sequence Spaces and Weighted Composition Operators" under the supervision of Dr. Kuldip Raj, Assistant Professor, School of Mathematics, SMVDU. She has published more than 13 research papers in SCI and SCOPUS indexed journals of international repute.



Vindhayachal and Shivalik 'B' Clinch Inter-Hostel Basketball Tournament

SMVDU Katra, October 2019. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) organized inter-hostel basketball tournament for boys and girls. The finals of a week-long tournament were held. The league matches started from 14th October amongst all the teams to make it to the finals. A total of 7 hostels participated in the event. The spectacular finals were played between Shivalik 'A' and Shivalik 'B' in the girls category, and between Vindhayachal and Trikuta-Kailash in the boys category. In the boys finals, Vindhayachal, led by Abhishek Sharma, emerged as the triumphant winners in the nail biting finals with a score of 46-40. Rohit Malik scored the maximum baskets for the team. In the girls category, Shivalik 'B' registered an impeccable win with a final score of 28-8, with captain Muskaan Sharma as the highest scorer. Dr. Ashok Kumar Sharma, Head, School of Physics, SMVDU; and other faculty members of the university, including Dr. Suparn Sharma, Mr. Mir Irfan Ul haq, Mr. Sanjeev Vadawan were present along with Mr. Rajiv Kumar, Faculty Incharge Sports, SMVDU, to facilitate the winners.



SMVDU Students Bags 1st Prize at Voice of BT Contest at Amity University

SMVDU Katra, October 2019. The "Voice for BT"- A North Zone Inter-Collegiate Public Speaking Contest on Biotechnology was held in October, 2019 at Amity University, Noida (U.P.), organized by the Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises (ABLE) and supported by the firm Novozymes South Asia. More than 20 students from different Universities in North zone participated in the event by presenting their views on varied aspects of Biotechnology. Ms. Shivi Badyal, a student of M. Sc. Biotechnology (Semester III) from SMVDU, Katra (J&K) was adjudged as the Winner of the event and was awarded the First Prize consisting of cash prize Rs 20,000/- along with a Certificate, Gold Medallion and an offer to pursue 6 months internship at any of the Biotechnology Companies that are Members of ABLE. Ms. Badyal will compete in the final event which will be held later in December this year for the All India Winner's Position. Dr. Sharada Potukuchi, Head, School of Biotechnology, SMVDU, congratulated the candidate



Social Responsibility

NSS Conducts Screening of Scoliosis at SMVD University

SMVDU Katra, October 2019. The National Service Scheme (NSS) at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, conducted a massive screening campaign of Scoliosis- a complex disorder of the spine accompanied with lateral curvature of the spine. Considering that the adolescent idiopathic scoliosis is the most common type of scoliosis that occurs during the adolescent age and may progress even after adolescence, the Human Genetics Research Group of the School of Biotechnology at SMVDU have initiated a scoliosis screening program with the help of NSS at the university campus. There was a week screening-cum-awareness program that has been carried out from 14th—18th October, where several students had actively participated in it. The students were informed with the importance of the screening and all other perspectives, including diagnosis, treatment and progression of scoliosis and its after effects. In this program screening of individuals was performed along with the collection of blood saliva samples with the individual consents. The Human Genetics Group thanked the NSS and the university administration for all the necessary help.



SMVDU Distributes Clothes, Books and Articles under University Social Responsibility

SMVDU Katra, October 2019. The student volunteers of NSS at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra initiated a drive where old clothes, books and articles were collected and distributed to the needy. In this, the students from Engineering, Architecture and Economics participated enthusiastically, while collecting them from the faculty and staff members residing on campus. Both faculty and staff members donated generously for this noble cause. Some donated their children's toys, books, tricycles, etc. After this, the collected items were sorted, and the ones which could not be used, were discarded. These were then repacked and distributed to the menial and construction workers and their children residing in nearby areas of the university. The event was coordinated by Mr. Sumanta S. Sharma, Faculty Coordinator, NSS, SMVDU, with the help of various student volunteers of NSS, SMVDU. This is one of the initiatives taken under the University Social Responsibility (USR) among several other activities. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ravindra Kumar Sinha, congratulated the team for this stupendous effort and pledged more such endeavors in the coming future.



SMVD University Organizes Education Awareness Campaign at Nearby Villages

SMVDU Katra, October 2019. Under the aegis of University Social Responsibility (USR), the student volunteers of Vikalp - a students' initiative along with NSS at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra - campaigned in the nearby village areas of Kakryal and Sirah to promote educational awareness. Vikalp began in 2009 with a thought of bringing a positive change in the society. The campaigning started in a planned way, and the volunteers formed small groups and reached out to the villagers, while spreading awareness and encouraging parents about Vikalp co-curricular activities, including computer workshop, sports competition, and other cultural events, like dance, speech, drawing, and poetry writing. The role and importance of education was also discussed, and the parents' suggestions were also noted down. The volunteers also reached out to the construction workers working on campus, and urged them to send their children to Vikalp.



The campaign was jointly coordinated by Mr. Sumanta S. Sharma, Faculty Coordinator, NSS, SMVDU, and Dr. Madhu M. Chaturvedi, Faculty Coordinator, Vikalp, SMVDU, along with student volunteers. The effort was highly appreciated by the Vice Chancellor, SMVDU, Prof. Ravindra K. Sinha, and he pledged more support for such initiatives run by the university to fulfil its social responsibility.

SMVDU Organizes 'Run for Unity'



SMVDU Katra, October 2019. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra organized the 'Run for Unity' on 31st October 2019 to commemorate Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 144th Birth Anniversary. The run started from the administrative block parking and returned to the same place after covering the distance of 5 kilometers. Around 90 students, faculty and staff members participated in it. The winners of the run in student as well as the staff category were awarded with medals by Dr. Anil Kumar Tewari, Head, School of Philosophy & Culture; Mr. Surinder Kumar, Security Officer; and Mr. Sucha Singh, Sports Coach. The run was facilitated by the Sports Wing, Security Wing and the Medical Aid Centre of the university. In the end, the National Unity Day Pledge and the Integrity Pledge for citizens were also conducted by Dr. Tewari who is also Faculty Incharge of the University Social Responsibility Cell. Every participant committed to maintaining the highest standards of honesty and integrity, preserving the unity of the nation, and working together to eradicate corruption from the country.

ALUMNI CORNER

Niranjan Kumar Rathor
Sr. Architect, Ayesa India Pvt. Ltd.
B. Arch. 2006-2011

I consider myself extremely fortunate for studying architecture under the guidance of experienced faculties at the Department of Architecture and Landscape Design (DALD), SMVD University, J&K. Its lush green, quiet and clean campus with world class infrastructure and state-of-the-art facilities provides the best learning environment.

The assignments I had done during my bachelor's program prepared me well for the professional life, and for the design execution work I did over the years. The course at DALD had given me strong building design development skills and confidence to diligently engage in most of the work I do now.

Also, the broad, interdisciplinary learning experience and interactions with my peers from diverse cultural backgrounds at the university had helped me to think beyond conventional concepts, respect cultural diversity and stay technically robust to have successfully executed many projects across the nation.

