





Vision

Establishment of a scientific and technical University of Excellence to nurture young and talented human resource for the service of Indian Society and world at large preserving the integrity and sanctity of human values.

Mission

The mission of the University is the pursuit of education, Scholarship and Research at the highest levels of Excellence.

Objectives

- **Provide education and training of excellent quality both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.**
- **Ensure that the university achieves and maintain an international standing in both teaching and research.**
- **Promote study and research in new and emerging areas and encouraging academic interaction of the faculty and students at national and international levels.**
- **Encourage close collaboration with industry and facilitate the application of research for commercial use and for the benefit of society.**



Youth Festival at SMVDU Highlights the Issue of Drug Abuse among Youth

The Board of Cultural Activities (BCA) at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages (JKAACL) and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Jammu chapter, organized a vibrant Youth Festival centered around the pressing theme of "Drug Abuse Among Youth of Jammu and Kashmir." The festival commenced with an inaugural ceremony attended by distinguished guests, including Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar as the Chief Guest, Dr. Rakesh Thusoo, President of the BCA, and Dr. Kamini Pathania, Vice President of the BCA, Dr. Rahul Sharma, Cultural coordinator, along with other dignitaries. Dr. Kamini Pathania welcomed the audience with a heartfelt address, emphasizing the importance of raising awareness about drug abuse. The Vice Chancellor followed with an insightful speech, highlighting the role of youth in combating this societal issue. The inauguration also featured mesmerizing classical and cultural performances by the talented students of SMVDU, setting the stage for a day filled with creativity and expression. The second half of the event witnessed a spirited showcase of talent through various inter-school competitions. Inklet, a creative writing contest, challenged participants to pen down compelling narratives, while the Battle of Voices showcased powerful singing talents. A captivating dance competition explored themes of human emotions, leaving the audience spellbound. The cultural evening was elevated by electrifying celebrity performances. Nishu Pandita and Group enthralled the audience with the Kashmiri folk dance 'Roshuk,' while Ram Dutta and Group delivered a soul-stirring rendition of the traditional art form 'Gitro.' Both these performances were sponsored by JKAACL. The grand finale featured an energetic performance by the renowned Sajan Musical Group, Sponsored by ICCR leaving the crowd cheering for more. Dr. Rajesh Kumar and Mrs. Reena Slathia attended the show and congratulated the board for organising such a splendid show. The festival not only celebrated the rich cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir but also served as a powerful platform to engage youth in meaningful conversations about the dangers of drug abuse. BCA, SMVDU was highly appreciative of ICCR and Ms. Harvinder Kour, JKAS, Secretary JKAACL and Mr. Anil Tickoo for their prompt response and sponsorship of folk dance and music teams.

Awareness Campaign on Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women and Students in Higher Educational Institution Held at SMVDU



Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) in Collaboration with National Service Scheme (NSS) and National Cadet Corps (NCC), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) organized a one day Awareness Campaign on "Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women and Students in Higher Educational Institution" at Matrika Auditorium, SMVDU. The event inaugurated with the National Anthem. Sexual harassment is a serious problem throughout the globe including higher educational institutions. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has already issued directions to deal with issues of gender based violence and gender sensitization programmes. The objective of this one day event was to spread the awareness among the stakeholders of SMVDU in particular and higher educational institutions in general for preventing such harassments. The Guest Speaker of the event was Advocate & Legal Consultant, Ms. Kiran Thakur. Ms Thakur highlighted that 'Harassment' is not a one-time action; it often involves repeated offensive, unwelcome behaviour that continues over time. It can be in words, actions or gestures that make someone feel uncomfortable, intimidated or humiliated. This ongoing mistreatment can have serious effects on a person's well-being, such as, mental health issues, loss of self-esteem, difficulty in working or living peacefully. The speaker elaborated on the POSH Act, 2013 and University Grants Commission (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2015. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor SMVDU, Prof. Pragati Kumar, Chief Guest of the event congratulated the organizing team for making effort to expand the awareness on sexual harassment in SMVDU. He added that the host University is named after the name of divine mother that emphasizes more responsibility on SMVDU members to respect, protect women and make them aware of about their rights. He further pointed out that the moral value of equality should never be forgotten and communication should be maintained regularly to avoid such incidences. Sh. Ajay Kumar Sharma, Registrar SMVDU (JKAS), Faculty members, Non-teaching staff and students of SMVDU and SMVD College of Nursing attended the awareness campaign. Inclusion of Rangoli Competition, Poster Making and Awareness Rally made the awareness campaign more effective and appealing. Prizes were awarded to the winners. The organizing committee of the event was comprising of Dr. Kakali Majumdar, Dr. Kamini Pathania, Mr. Rajesh Sharma, Ms. Ritu Sharma, Ms. Tanya Sharma, Members of the ICC; Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Dr. Kamaldeep, the Coordinators of NSS Unit; Dr. Varun Dutta from NCC Unit of SMVDU, Mr. Jaipal Singh Jamwal, Staff associated with ICC and student volunteers of NSS & NCC. The campaign successfully completed with an Awareness Rally.

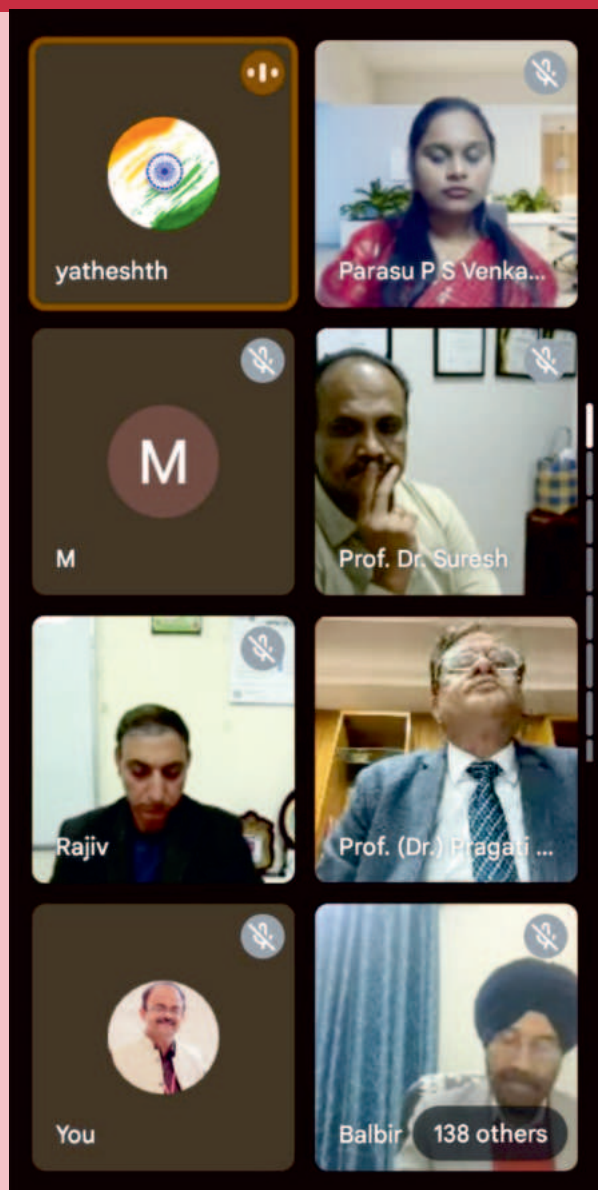
Two-Day Workshop on Student Orientation Successfully Conducted at SoCSE, SMVDU



The School of Computer Science and Engineering (SoCSE), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), successfully organized a two-day workshop on Student Orientation by External Experts. The workshop was conducted under the leadership of Dr. Baijnath Kaushik, Head of SoCSE, and in the presence of Mr. Sanjay Sharma, the Organizing Secretary for the event. The event commenced with an impressive lecture by Prof. Savita Nayyar, Professor, Department of Law, and Director, Centre for Women's Studies, University of Jammu. She delivered a session on Cybersecurity, discussing various types of cybercrimes and the legal frameworks to address them. Her session was highly informative and appreciated by all participants. This was followed by an insightful session by Dr. Badri N. Subudhi from IIT Jammu, who discussed the Applications of IoT and Deep Learning in Healthcare Systems, highlighting how advanced technologies are reshaping the healthcare sector. On the second day, Dr. Puneet Goyal from IIT Ropar delivered an engaging lecture on the Fundamentals of Image Processing and Deep Learning and Its Applications, providing participants with a comprehensive understanding of these transformative areas of technology. The event saw active participation from faculty members, research scholars, and students. It was eloquently hosted by Tavneet, Subha, Hridanshu and Vanshika, with the Vote of Thanks delivered by Mr. Abhigya Mahajan. The workshop was highly successful, fostering a platform for knowledge exchange and motivating students and faculty alike to explore new horizons in their academic and professional journeys. The success of the event reflects the dedication and collaborative efforts of the organizers and participants, paving the way for future academic endeavors at SMVDU.

SMVDU Inaugurates the Six Day Online AICTE ATAL FDP on Green Hydrogen Generation and Opportunities in India

A week-long virtual faculty development programme has been inaugurated at the School of Mechanical Engineering, SMVDU Sponsored by ATAL AICTE on 'Green Hydrogen Generation and Opportunities in India'. The programme was registered by 215 participants across 21 states in India. There are 11 speakers from India and one international expert from the U.K. in the programme and the schedule of 13 technical sessions by the experts. The Inauguration Function was graced by Sh. Saurabh Bahgat IAS Commissioner/Secretary, Department of Science and Technology J&K being the chief guest of the event. Sh. Bhagat mentioned various Govt. initiatives to promote renewable energy sources and emphasized the need for such alternative energy sources to become India Energy Independent by 2047. Prof. (Dr.) Paragati Kumar Vice Chancellor, SMVDU delivered his presidential address. Prof. Pragati Kumar emphasized that every country should work on green energy sources to sustain the current need. Prof (Dr) Balabir Singh Dean Faculty of Engineering and Dr Yatheshth Ananad, Head, SoME were also present during the ceremony and shared their thoughts on the topic. All the speakers praised the initiative and congratulated the participants for the successful completion of the programme. The speakers also highlighted the importance of such courses in the capacity building of the country's energy sector. The Faculty development programme was coordinated by Prof. (Dr.) Eswaramoorthy Muthusamy and co-coordinated by Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Asst Prof-SoME, SMVDU. The inaugural ceremony ended with a vote of thanks from Dr. Rajiv Kumar Co-coordinator.



Training Program on Embracing Behavioral Skills for Workplace Effectiveness Commences at SMVDU



The School of Business at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) inaugurated a three-day training program titled "Embracing Behavioral Skills for Workplace Effectiveness" for Shrine Board employees scheduled from 12th-14th Dec, 24, with the participation of 30 attendees. Prof. Jyoti Sharma welcomed the participants and emphasized the importance of the program in fostering workplace harmony and enhancing professional capabilities. The first session, conducted by Prof. Suparn Sharma, focused on emotional intelligence. Dr. Shazia Bukhari conducted sessions on attitude and interpersonal skills, while Mr. Sumanta Sarthi Sharma provided valuable insights into mindful self-regulation. Dr. Arti Maini will discuss the significance of effective listening and life positions in shaping workplace behavior. Further sessions include exercises on behavioral harmony and the importance of gratitude at the workplace, facilitated by Dr. Rashi Taggar. Dr. Jyoti Sharma will address resilience building as a crucial component of behavioral skills. The program also features contributions from external experts, including Prof. Manoj Aggarwal from IIT-Jammu, who will elaborate on strategies to avoid and manage conflicts in the workplace, and Mr. Ajay Khajuria, who will highlight the role of constructive criticism in enhancing behavioral skills. Planned and coordinated by the faculty members of the School of Business under the guidance of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar, this initiative aims to develop critical skills among executives, reaffirming SMVDU's commitment to professional excellence.

One Day National Seminar on "Philosophy of the Vedas and the Vedic Roots of Indian Culture" Held at SMVDU

A highly engaging and intellectually enriching One Day National Seminar on the theme "Philosophy of the Vedas and the Vedic Roots of Indian Culture" was organized on 18th Dec, 24 by the School of Philosophy and Culture and School of Languages and Literature. The event aimed to explore the timeless wisdom of the Vedas and its profound influence on Indian culture, philosophy, and heritage. The seminar was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Prof. Pragati Kumar, Honourable Vice-Chancellor of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), who delivered an insightful address highlighting the relevance of Vedic knowledge in contemporary times. The Keynote Address was delivered by the eminent scholar and Padma Shri awardee, Prof. Vishwamurti Shastri, who illuminated the audience with his profound understanding of the Vedas, emphasizing their universal and eternal values. The event also featured Mr. Sanjeev Verma, Commissioner/Secretary to the Government of



Jammu and Kashmir, as the Guest of Honor. Mr. Verma spoke about the Vedic roots of Dogri language and culture by analysing various examples from the region. Renowned academic and scholar, Prof. Dilip Kumar, Regional Director of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), enriched the seminar with his scholarly perspective as an Invited Speaker, delving into the interdisciplinary applications of Vedic philosophy in various fields. The seminar was coordinated by Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi, Head, School of Philosophy and Culture (SoPC), Dr. Anurag Kumar, Head, SOL&L, Mr. Sumanta Sarathi Sharma and Dr. Isha Malhotra. The Vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Uday Pathania. The event saw active participation from scholars, students, and faculty members across disciplines including the dignitaries Mr. Niraj Gupta, Finance Officer, SMVDU, Dr. Vineet Tyagi, Dean, Research and Development, Dr. Anish Kumar and Dr. Shashi Kumar, Faculty members of Vedic Studies. Students from Government College for Women, Parade Ground, led by Prof. Mamta, and from Panthal Higher Secondary School, led by Dr. Bhupender Heera participated in the seminar.

NEP Orientation and Sensitization Program Held at SMVDU



The UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC), SMVDU in collaboration with Girdari Lal Dogra Memorial Degree College, Hiranagar, Jammu & Kashmir has organised the 8 Day Online training Program titled "NEP Orientation & Sensitization". It was conducted for University and College teachers from all over India during. The Event is being organized under the objectives of UGC-MMTTC which aims at "Improving the quality of Education at all levels by infusing quality and excellence in our teachers and teaching". By participating in the program, the Faculty Members get trained to impart holistic education, imbibing the ideals of India-centric ethics and human values. The Inaugural address was delivered by the Chief Guest of the event, Prof. Supran Kumar Sharma, Director, MMTTC-SMVDU, who dwelt upon the need for sensitizing faculty members in realizing their role in futuristic institution-building in the Indian Education Policy ecosystem. He also spoke about aspects of redesigning the higher education ecosystem as envisaged by NEP 2020, which requires strengthening the role of the Faculty. Further, the Guest of Honour of the Programme Dr. Pragya Khanna, Principal, Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial Degree College, Hiranagar, Jammu & Kashmir described the role of a teacher in the implementation of the NEP-2020 as vital. Therefore, this type of workshop would strengthen teachers' knowledge for the successful implementation of NEP-2020 in various higher education institutions across India. In a valedictory programme on 18th December, 2024, Dr. Pabitra Kumar Jena, Coordinator of the programme, spoke about how the course contents of the 8 Day Online Training Program, such as Holistic and Multidisciplinary Education, Indian Knowledge Systems, Academic Leadership, Governance and Management, Higher Education and Society, Research and Development, Skill Development, Student Diversity and Inclusive Education and Information & Communication Technology, enhanced the knowledge of faculty members who participated from Various State Universities, Deemed to be Universities, Private Universities, Institutions of National Importance, Colleges and other Higher Education Institutions across India. In this programme, a total of 165 participants attended various technical sessions online. The event, spread over 10 days, included 16 Technical Sessions and the Speakers were specifically selected from various Institutions of the country to articulate the need for imparting training and skills to Faculty Members for the smooth and successful implementation of NEP-2020 as per the decisions taken by UGC at Institutions of Higher learning across the country. A vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Kamaldeep, Co-Coordinator of the Programme, who thanked Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU, for his constant guidance. He also thanked Sh. Ajay Kumar Sharma (JKAS), Registrar and Sh. Neeraj Gupta (JKAS), Finance Officer, for their cooperation and help in organizing this programme. Dr. Kamaldeep also thanks all the participants who have attended this program online across India. Finally he thanked Prof. Sharada Potukuchi, Prof. Raghvendra Mishra, Prof. Ankush Anand, Dr. Anil Bharadwaj, Dr. Surinder Singh, and Dr. Sunanda, Members of the organizing committee of MMTTC-SMVDU for the successful completion of the programme.

SMVDU Showcases Excellence at Jammu Mahotsav 2024



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University proudly participated in the two-day Jammu Mahotsav, organized by the Ladakh Jammu Kashmir Economic Growth & Development Dialogue (LEAD) at GGS Science College, Jammu. The university effectively showcased its academic and extracurricular achievements at a specialised Stall, attracting a large number of visitors. Visitors were provided with detailed information about the university's various programs, including its undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral offerings, along with insights into the admission procedures. Faculty and scholars at the stall highlighted the university's achievements and its proactive efforts in fostering holistic development through academic excellence and societal outreach. The stall garnered significant attention for SMVDU's community development initiatives, such as Vikalp, a program where university students teach underprivileged children. Additionally, the active contributions of the National Service Scheme (NSS) and National Cadet Corps (NCC) were showcased, highlighting their impact on both the university and the surrounding community. NSS at SMVDU actively engages in community service through initiatives like cleanliness drives, health camps, and skill development programs, while NCC fosters discipline, leadership, and patriotism through drills, camps, and awareness campaigns. The Technology Business Incubation Center (TBIC), the university's incubator for fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, was another major highlight of the stall. SMVDU was represented by faculty members, namely Prof. Ashutosh Vashishtha, Dean, Faculty of Management, Dr. Varun Dutta (NCC Coordinator), Dr. Rajiv Kumar (NSS Coordinator), Dr. Pabitra Kumar Jena, Dr. Rajesh Kumar and Ms. Kirti, alongside dedicated PhD scholars Ms. Kalpana, Mr. Manish, Ms. Neha Gupta, and Mr. Vikas. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, commended the efforts of the university team and extended his best wishes to the organizers of LEAD and Jammu Mahotsav for their initiative in promoting regional growth and collaboration.

Two-Month Basic Soft Skills Training Inaugurated at SMVDU for the Unemployed Youth



The SMVDU Skill Hub Centre inaugurated its Two-Month Training Program on Basic Soft Skills for Unemployed Youth. The program aims to empower unemployed youth with essential skills to enhance their employability and contribute to their personal and professional growth. This training program, a part of SMVDU's University Social Responsibility (USR) initiative, is open to unemployed youth with a minimum qualification of 10th pass. Participants will receive a certificate upon completion, along with job placement support. Such programs showcase SMVDU's dedication to creating a positive societal impact through skill development and education. The inauguration ceremony was graced by Sh. Ajay Kumar Sharma, JKAS, Registrar, and Prof. Balbir Singh, Dean of Academic Affairs, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), and Dr. Yatheshth Anand, HOD, School of Mechanical Engg. Katra. They emphasized the significance of such initiatives in fostering skill development and upliftment of the local community. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU, Prof. Pragati Kumar lauded the initiative as a testament to the university's commitment to empowering youth and fostering societal progress through skill development and education. He expressed confidence that the program would significantly enhance the participants' employability and overall personal growth. The program is being coordinated by Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Associate Professor and Coordinator, SMVDU Skill Hub Centre, who highlighted the program's

objectives and the university's commitment to community service. The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Er. Deepak Byotra, Superintendent, Central Workshop, who expressed gratitude to the dignitaries, participants, and faculty & staff members for their support in making the event a success.

SMVDU Hosts the 8th Alumni Meet 2024



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) hosted the 8th Alumni Meet 2024 bringing together graduates to celebrate their enduring connection with their alma mater. The event, organized by the Office of International and Alumni Affairs, highlighted the university's commitment to fostering lifelong relationships with its alumni. The meet witnessed enthusiastic participation from alumni spanning multiple graduating batches. Former students, now excelling in various fields such as engineering, management, architecture, civil services gathered at the picturesque campus to reconnect with old friends, mentors, and the institution that shaped their future. Prof Yugal Khajuria (Dean International and Alumni Affairs) welcomed the alumni and briefed about the various initiatives and schemes being launched by the university in which alumni can actively participate. The event commenced with a formal inaugural session graced by Prof. Pragati Kumar (Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU) and other distinguished faculty members. In his keynote address, Prof. Kumar welcomed the alumni and emphasized their pivotal role in shaping the university's legacy and future. "Our alumni are our pride and our strongest ambassadors," Prof. Kumar stated. "Your achievements inspire our students, and your support propels SMVDU to greater heights." Prof. Balbir Singh (Dean, Academic Affairs) also emphasized on the role of alumni in shaping academic curriculum and mentorship of current students. Various notable alumni spoke at the occasion and provided their feedback. Alumni interacted with faculty, current students, and each other, sharing career insights and experiences. Vibrant performances by SMVDU's current student cultural groups and alumni added a festive touch to the proceedings. The meet also hosted a group discussion in which Alumni participated on topics like "Bridging Academia and Industry" and "Building a Global Alumni Network." chaired by Prof. Yugal Khajuria (Dean, IAA) wherein various notable alumni such as Mr. Rahul Mahajan (JKAS), Mr. Rohit Saini (CEO, Wonder Homz), Mrs. Anisa Nabi (JKAS), Mrs. Ruchita Bakhshi (State Project Manager, Himayat Mission), Amit Sharma (AE, JKSPDC), Ar. Satyanshu (Assistant Professor) participated. The discussion also included groundwork for a more robust alumni network. The university announced initiatives to enhance alumni engagement, including an online alumni portal, mentorship programs for current students, and collaborative research opportunities. The alumni pledged their support to further SMVDU's mission of academic excellence and global outreach. Moderated by Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq (Associate Dean, International and Alumni Affairs), the discussion was attended by Prof. Balbir Singh (Dean Academic Affairs, SMVDU), Dr. Sanjay Mohan, CEO TBIC SMVDU and Mr. B.K. Bhatia (TPO, SMVDU) and Dr. Rajiv Kumar (NSS Coordinator, SMVDU). Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq (Assoc. Dean, IAA) in the formal vote of thanks thanked all the alumni, student and NSS volunteers, university administration for their support. Dr. Irfan also informed that it was the first step towards reviving the alumni interaction at SMVDU and more such events are planned in the coming days. The event concluded with a gala dinner, where alumni shared anecdotes, celebrated milestones, and rekindled the SMVDU spirit.

Workshop on Outcome-Based Education under PM-USHA Held at SMVDU

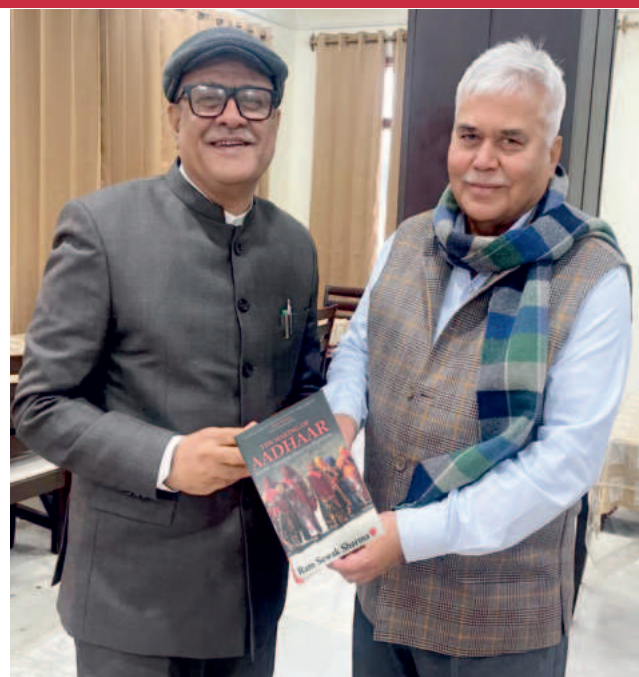
Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University successfully organized a one-day workshop on Overview of Outcome-Based Education (OBE) and Intricacies in Self-Assessment Report (SAR) Preparation under the PM-USHA Scheme, an initiative of the Ministry of Education, Government of India to strengthen the university. The workshop aimed to enhance the understanding and implementation of OBE frameworks and streamline the preparation of SARs, which is pivotal for achieving and maintaining NBA/NAAC accreditation standards. The event witnessed active participation from faculty members, administrators, and academic leaders, reaffirming SMVDU's



commitment to quality education and its alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 under the able leadership of Prof. Pragati Kumar, Hon'ble Vice-chancellor, SMVDU. The event commenced with opening remarks by the Dean of Academic Affairs & Coordinator of the Workshop, Prof. Balbir Singh. He emphasized the importance of integrating outcome-based approaches to ensure holistic and skill-oriented education. The first session of the workshop taken by Prof. A.K. Tandon, Founder Director of Bhagwan Parshuram Institute of Technology (GGSIIP University, Delhi (experienced NBA/ NAAC assessor) focussing on the principles and practical applications of OBE. The second session was delivered by Prof. Niranjan Bhattacharya, Director, Dr. Akhilesh Das Gupta Institute of Professional Studies (ADGIPS), New Delhi and an accomplished professional in academic quality assurance and accreditation, who shared invaluable insights into the intricacies of SAR preparation. His talk emphasized the importance of data-driven approaches and institutional transparency in achieving accreditation excellence. The event was managed by Dr. B.B. Jindal (Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, Engg.) as Co-Coordinator and finally concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Shafaq Rasool, (Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, Non-Engg.) as Workshop, organizing secretary. The proceedings of the workshop were carried by Ms. Antriksha Rathore and Ms. Rabiya Tabbassumm Khan of School of Biotechnology.

Dr. Ram Sewak Sharma Presents His Book The Making of Aadhaar: World's Largest Identity Platform to Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU

Dr. Ram Sewak Sharma, a distinguished bureaucrat and former Chairman of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), presented his seminal book *The Making of Aadhaar: World's Largest Identity Platform* to Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), during his visit to the university campus. The book chronicles the journey of building Aadhaar, a monumental initiative that has become the world's largest biometric identification system, impacting over 1.3 billion Indians. Dr. Sharma shares insights into the technological, administrative, and policy challenges that were overcome to implement this transformative project, which has revolutionized identity verification and enabled digital inclusion across India. Prof. Pragati Kumar, while receiving the book, expressed deep admiration for Dr. Sharma's visionary leadership and the remarkable success of Aadhaar. "Aadhaar is not just a technological achievement but also a testament to the innovative spirit of India. This book will serve as an inspiration and a valuable resource for academicians, policymakers, and technologists alike," Prof. Kumar said.



The event was followed by a deep engagement in a lively discussion about the future of digital identity and its role in nation-building. Dr. Sharma emphasized the importance of technology-driven governance and the need for continuous innovation to ensure inclusive growth. Dr. Sharma's visit to SMVDU is





part of his ongoing efforts to share knowledge and inspire the next generation of leaders in technology and public policy. The Making of Aadhaar has been widely acclaimed for its in-depth analysis and candid portrayal of one of the most ambitious projects in India's history. The university library will soon include copies of the book to encourage students and researchers to delve into the intricate processes behind creating scalable and impactful solutions for societal challenges.

Deliberations on Academic Excellence with EC Members Held at SMVDU



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University witnessed a significant academic milestone during a one-day visit and deliberation by esteemed external members of the Executive Council (EC) on 31st December 2024. The idea of holding these deliberations was proposed by the Honourable Chancellor of SMVDU, Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, in the 35th Executive Council meeting on 30th November 2024, aimed at assessing the university's infrastructure, academic framework, and prospects, saw participation from some of the most distinguished academicians in the country. The deliberations were led by Prof. Pankaj Chandra, Vice-Chancellor and Chairman of the Board of Management, Ahmedabad University, alongside Prof. A.S.K. Sinha, Director of the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology, Uttar Pradesh; Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Director of IIT Jammu and Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU. The EC members commenced their visit with a comprehensive tour of SMVDU. The experts were introduced to the university's state-of-the-art facilities and high-end equipment across various laboratories. These included labs catering to emerging disciplines such as biotechnology, 3D printing, artificial intelligence, 5-G, and IOT labs. The experts expressed appreciation for advanced equipment such as the Mass Array, Sanger Sequencer, NGS platforms (i-Seq, mi-Seq) Microarray, and other cutting-edge technologies. Impressed by the sophisticated infrastructure and the university's emphasis on advanced research capabilities, the visiting members commended the efforts to establish a strong academic and research excellence foundation. The deliberations were chaired by Prof. Pragati Kumar and attended by all visiting experts, Registrar Sh. Ajay Kumar Sharma, Finance Officer, Sh. Neeraj Gupta, senior administrators, Deans, Associate Deans, and Heads of the schools. During the meeting, several critical issues were discussed, and key suggestions were made to enhance SMVDU's alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The deliberations concluded with a shared vision of establishing SMVDU as a leading institution of excellence in academics and research. The visiting experts commended the university's proactive approach and dedication to implementing NEP 2020. They also assured their support in guiding the institution toward achieving its goals. The event was coordinated by the Academic Affairs section.

Celebrations & Days Observed

Dogri Manyta Divas Celebrated at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University proudly celebrated Dogri Manyta Divas to honor the recognition of the Dogri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution. The event was coordinated by Dr. Anurag Kumar, Associate Professor and Head, School of Languages and Literature, and Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi, Head, School of Philosophy and Culture. The program was convened by Dr. Amitabh V. Dwivedi and Dr. Isha Malhotra, showcasing a collaborative effort to promote the rich linguistic and cultural heritage of the Dogri language. The celebration featured a series of events, including expert talks, cultural performances, and discussions emphasizing the significance of Dogri as a symbol of regional identity and pride. Faculty, students, and staff participated enthusiastically, making the event a resounding success. Speaking at the occasion, Dr. Kumar highlighted the importance of preserving and promoting Dogri, emphasizing its vital role in connecting the present generation with their cultural roots. Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi underscored the philosophical and cultural dimensions of linguistic heritage, urging the university community to contribute actively to the preservation of indigenous languages. The event concluded with a vote of thanks.

External Experts

SMVDU Hosts a Lecture Series by External Experts for Bachelor of Design Students



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University organized an engaging Lecture Series for Bachelor of Design (B.Des) students, featuring renowned external experts from the field of design and innovation. The Lecture Series at the University campus covered various topics, including sustainable design, user-centric innovation, and emerging design technologies. Prominent speakers include Prof. Mihir Bhole from the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, Dr. Taruna Singh (Department of Design, DTU), Ms. Monica Singh (Artist and Designer), Prof. Ranganath. M. Singari (Former Head of the Department of Design, DTU) who shared their expertise and engaged students in thought-provoking discussions. The lecture series also included faculty interactions wherein Ar. Abhinay Gupta and Dr. Yatheshth Anand (Head, SoME), and Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq (Assoc. Professor, SME) also participated with other Bachelor of Design Program faculty members. The interactive sessions offered students a chance to gain a deeper understanding of contemporary design challenges and trends. The speakers also highlighted the significance of design thinking, prototype development, and the integration of aesthetics and functionality in modern-day problem-solving. The Lecture Series received an enthusiastic response from students, who actively participated in Q&A sessions and appreciated the opportunity to connect with industry leaders. Prof. Ankush Anand, Coordinator of the Bachelor of Design program at SMVDU informed "SMVDU is the first university in the UT of Jammu of Kashmir to offer a Bachelor of Design course and the program is being mentored by Prof. Lalit.K.Das (Former Professor of Design, IIT Delhi)". Professor Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU, emphasized the importance of such initiatives, stating, "Exposing students to the wisdom of industry experts broadens their perspectives and enhances their ability to apply design concepts practically." SMVDU plans to continue organizing such knowledge-sharing events to nurture innovation and prepare students for successful careers in the ever-evolving field of design.

Faculty/Staff Updates

Talk Delivered

SMVDU Faculty Delivered a Talk in FDP at Singapuram, Telangana

Prof. (Dr.) Eswaramoorthy Muthusamy, Professor in School of Mechanical Engineering, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, delivered Resource Person talk in AICTE ATAL FDP entitled 'Recent Advances in Energy System for Sustainable Development' organised by the Department of Electrical Engineering Kamala Institute of Technology Singapuram, Telangana. Prof. Eswaramoorthy delivered a resource person talk about 'Solar Thermal System and its Applications'. Various insights about the need for solar thermal systems and its applications to become India Energy Independent by 2047. Concentrating and non-concentrating solar thermal systems with various thermal energy storage for low, medium and high temperature applications. Supercritical CO₂ power cycles, Organic Rankine Cycle and Solar Solid Particle Receiver are enlightened to the participants. Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) K.R. Jha, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof. (Dr.) Yatheshth Ananad, Head, School of Mechanical Engineering of SMVDU, has congratulated and wished him for his outreach activities.



Publications/Paper Presented

Dr. Ram Prakash, Associate Professor, School of Physics, presented a paper entitled, "Structural, Photoluminescent, and photoemission studies of Sm^{3+} Doped $\text{KZr}_2(\text{PO}_4)_3$ nanophosphor" in the international union of materials research society international conference in Asia 2024 (IUMRS-ICA-2024), 35th Annual general meeting of Materials Research society of India (MRSI) and 6th international materials conclave at UCC Auditorium at DAVV, Indore from 3rd - 6th Dec, 24.

Student Updates

B.Tech. Mechanical Students of SMVDU Visit JKMPCL, Jammu for Industrial Exposure



Mechanical Engineering students from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) had the opportunity to visit Jammu & Kashmir Milk Producers Co-operative Ltd. (JKMPCL), Jammu, as part of an industrial visit aimed at providing practical exposure to their curriculum. The visit was coordinated by Dr. Varun Dutta and Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Faculty members from the School of Mechanical Engineering (SoME), along with Mr. Chandan Sharma, staff member of the department. During the visit, students gained invaluable insights into the operational aspects of the JKMPCL plant. They observed the functioning of critical components such as boilers, the refrigeration plant, and the overall plant setup. The session provided the students with hands-on knowledge of industrial processes and their applications in the field of mechanical engineering. Mr. Sardar Chand, General Manager of JKMPCL, and his team warmly facilitated the visit and shared their expertise with the students. Their guidance and detailed explanations significantly enhanced the learning experience. Dr. Yatheshth Anand, Head of the School of Mechanical Engineering, emphasized the importance of such industrial visits for engineering students. He stated, "These visits bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, preparing students to face real-world industrial challenges." He also thanked the University Administration & Prof. Pragati Kumar, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the University for facilitating and encouraging the technical visits. The visit was highly appreciated by the students, who expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to interact with industry professionals and learn about modern industrial practices.

NSS

NSS SMVDU Volunteers Painted Govt. High School Sirah



NSS SMVDU volunteers organized a wall painting event at Govt. High School, Sirah village. Creative social messages were drawn on various walls of the school. The main motive behind the initiative was to make school students feel proud and happy while coming to school. Volunteers sincerely worked for around four hours and showcased their creativity during the event. NSS volunteers Sadhvi Sharma, Abhishek Sharma, Dheeraj and Deeksha worked enthusiastically during the event. NSS Programme Coordinator, Dr. Rajiv Kumar was also present during the whole event in the school. School Headmistress Mrs. Rachna and senior teacher Mrs. Laxmi appreciated the efforts of SMVDU volunteers for beautifying the school with their creative skills.

Ph.D.

Mr. Basit Abas, Declare Qualified for the Award of Ph.D.

Mr. Basit Abas, son of Mr. Mohammad Abas Shah and Mrs. Aisha Akhter, has been declared qualified for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the School of Business by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, J&K. He completed his research on the topic "Workplace Deviance in Organizational Setups: A Study of Jammu and Kashmir" under the guidance of Dr. Syeda Shazia Bukhari, Assistant Professor, School of Business, SMVDU, and co-supervision of Prof. V. Srikanth, Professor, Institute of Public Enterprise (IPE), Hyderabad. During his research journey, Mr. Basit Abas published his work in reputed high-impact journals indexed in ABDC, SSCI/SCI/SCIE, and Scopus, and presented his findings at international conferences. He expressed his gratitude to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University for providing the necessary resources and support for his research. He also extended heartfelt thanks to the Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad, for administering the National Research Fellowship (NRF), significantly supporting his academic endeavors. Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, (Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, Dr. Ashutosh Vashistha, Dean, Faculty of Management, Dr. Syeda Shazia Bukhari, Supervisor, School of Business and other committee members congratulated Mr. Basit Abas on his remarkable achievement and wished him a bright and successful future.



Mr. Ravi Kant Agarwal, Declare Qualified for the Award of Ph.D.

Mr. Ravi Kant Agarwal, S/o Lt. Mr. Nand Kishore Agarwal and Mrs. Santosh Rani Agarwal, has been declared qualified for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the School of Business by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, J&K. The candidate worked on the topic "Determinants of Corporate Solvency: An Empirical Study with Reference to India" under the supervision of Dr. Ashutosh Vashishtha, Professor, School of Business, SMVDU, Katra. Mr. Ravi Kant Agarwal has published research papers in various reputed ABDC/SCI/SCIE and Scopus journals, and has also presented papers in international conferences. The candidate thanked Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University for granting all the necessary support and facilities for carrying out the research work. Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar (Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU), Dr. Vineet Tyagi (Dean R&D), Dr. Ashutosh Vashishtha (Ph.D. Supervisor and Dean, FoM), Dr. Jyoti Sharma (Head, SoB), and other committee members congratulated the candidate and wished him a bright future ahead.



Ms. Hemant Kushwaha Qualified for the Award of Ph.D. in Management

Ms. Hemant Kushwaha, a research scholar in the School of Business at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University has completed her Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Management under the guidance of Dr. Sanjay Kumar Mishra, a faculty member at the School of Business, SMVDU. Ms. Kushwaha conducted a study on "Essays on Business Legal Expenses Insurance". Her research has been published in high-impact factor international journals ranked in the B categories based on the ABDC indexing and under SCOPUS. Additionally, Ms. Hemant Kushwaha has presented her research work at numerous national and international conferences. Currently, she is working as an Assistant Professor (Commerce) at Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies (Deemed University). She extends her heartfelt gratitude to the School of Business at SMVDU for their essential resources and unwavering support throughout her research journey. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU, Professor, Ashutosh Vashishtha, Dean, Faculty of Management, Professor Jyoti Sharma, Head of the School of Business, and other committee members congratulated Ms. Hemant Kushwaha and wished her a bright future.



Mr. Sudhir Kumar Pathak Declared Qualified for the Award of Ph.D.

Mr. Sudhir Kumar Pathak s/o Mr. Dindayal Pathak has been declared qualified for the award of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Energy Management by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, UT (J&K). The candidate has worked on the topic "Energy and Exergy Analysis of Evacuated Tube Collectors based Solar Water Heating Systems with Thermal Energy Storage" under the supervision of Dr. Vineet Veer Tyagi, Associate Professor, School of Physics, SMVDU, Katra. Mr. Sudhir Kumar Pathak has published his research work in various reputed high-impact factor SCI/SCIE and Scopus-indexed journals, and also presented papers in international and national conferences. The candidate thanked Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University for providing all necessary support and facilities for carrying out the research work. Also, Mr. Pathak attributes his success to the unwavering support and blessings of his parents, as well as the constant encouragement from his spouse, Ms. Krati Shukla. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, Prof. R S Mishra (External expert), Prof. Balbir Singh, Dean of Academics, Dr. Kumud Ranjan Jha, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Vineet Veer Tyagi, Supervisor, Dr. Sanjeev Anand, and other committee members congratulated the scholar and wished him a bright future.



Mr. Koushal Singh Declared Qualified for the Award of Ph.D.

Mr. Koushal Singh (s/o Mr. Angrez Singh and Mrs. Roma Devi), Research Scholar, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), has been declared qualified for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Mathematics. Mr. Koushal worked on the topic, "Theoretical and Empirical Study of Classical and Some Non-Standard Fuzzy Information Measures", under the supervision of Dr. Surender Singh, Associate Professor, School of Mathematics, SMVDU. During his Ph.D., he has published his research work in highly reputed SCIE and Scopus indexed international journals. Professor (Dr.) Pragati Kumar (Honorable Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU), Dr. S. K. Wanchoo (Dean, Faculty of Sciences), Dr. Kuldip Raj (Head, School of Mathematics) and other members of committee congratulated Mr. Koushal Singh on his achievement. Mr. Koushal expressed his gratitude to Honorable Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU for all facilities and necessary support. He also extended his thanks to all the faculty and staff members of the School of Mathematics, and administrative authorities for their help, cooperation and guidance.



Mr. Ravi Kumar Goyal Qualified for the award of Ph.D.

Mr. Ravi Kumar Goyal, a PhD student of the School of Mechanical Engineering at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in a committee chaired by Prof (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU. The oral defense of Mr. Ravi's thesis, titled 'Performance Augmentation of a Box-Type Solar Cooker with Thermal Energy Storage Material' was conducted on 20th Dec, 24 in the AB committee room. The committee included external examiner, Prof (Dr.) Durai Prabhakaran R T, Professor at IIT Jammu, Prof (Dr.) K R Jha, Dean FoE, SMVDU and Dr. Yatheshth Anand, HoD of the School of Mechanical Engineering, and the supervisor, Prof (Dr.) Eswaramoorthy Muthusamy. The defense began with a Power Point presentation by the candidate, followed by a laborious question-and-answer session with the committee members. Mr. Ravi Kumar Goyal adeptly addressed the queries and demonstrated in-depth knowledge of his research work. His research primarily focused on enhancing the efficiency of solar cookers using different techniques of performance enhancement. Throughout his PhD journey, he published several research papers in reputed SCI and SCOPUS-indexed journals and received multiple accolades for his presentations at national and international conferences. Expressing his gratitude, Mr. Ravi Kumar Goyal thanked the committee members, supervisor Dr. Eswaramoorthy Muthusamy, for their invaluable guidance and support. He also extended his heartfelt thanks to the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Pragati Kumar, for his encouragement and insightful comments during the defense. Additionally, he expressed special thanks to DSRC Members Dr. Satya Sekhar IIT Jammu, Dr. V V Tyagi from SMVDU, and Dr. Kapil Chopra from SMVDU for their technical insights on the research work. This milestone marks a significant contribution to the field of mechanical engineering and renewable energy by Mr. Ravi Kumar Goyal.



Ms. Surbhi Sharma Awarded Ph.D. by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University is pleased to announce that Ms. Surbhi Sharma has been conferred with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). She successfully defended her research work on the topic "Locating Black Feminist Standpoint in Autobiography: An Inquiry into the Experiences of Maya Angelou". Ms. Sharma's groundbreaking research provides critical insights into the experiences and narratives of the renowned African-American author and activist Maya Angelou, exploring them through the lens of Black feminist theory. Her work significantly contributes to the fields of literary studies and feminist discourse. The research was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Anurag Kumar and co-supervision of Dr. Amitabh V. Dwivedi. Their guidance and expertise played a pivotal role in the successful completion of the thesis. Ms. Surbhi Sharma was formally congratulated by Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU, along with other members of the committee. Prof. Kumar lauded Ms. Sharma's dedication and scholarly contributions, stating that her work reflects the academic rigor and research excellence that SMVDU aims to foster among its scholars. On this momentous occasion, Ms. Sharma expressed her gratitude to her supervisors, faculty members, and the university for their unwavering support throughout her academic journey.



Alumni

SMVDU Alumnus Sub-Lieutenant Ritwik Mishra Honored with Prestigious CNS Gold Medal

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University proudly announces that Sub-Lieutenant Ritwik Mishra, a 2023 batch pass-out from the School of Electronics and Communication Engineering (SoECE), has been awarded the Chief of Naval Staff performance in the Naval Orientation Course. This prestigious accolade was presented during the Passing Out Parade Ezhimala. Sub-Lieutenant Mishra's distinguished honor exemplifies his excellence. The CNS Gold Medal is awarded to trainees who exhibit outstanding leadership, academic prowess, and unwavering commitment during their training. Sub-Lieutenant Mishra's pride to his alma mater and serves as an inspiration for current and future students. The Passing Out Parade, marking the culmination of rigorous training, was reviewed by Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, who awarded medals to meritorious Midshipmen and Cadets. The event witnessed proud parents and dignitaries celebrating the hard work and resilience of the trainees. Sub-Lieutenant Mishra's success reflects the high standards of education and values nurtured at SMVDU. The university community extends its heartfelt congratulations to him and wishes him continued success in his naval career.



Communication Engineering (SoECE), has been awarded the Chief of Naval Staff performance in the Naval Orientation Course. This prestigious accolade was presented during the Passing Out Parade Ezhimala. Sub-Lieutenant Mishra's distinguished honor exemplifies his excellence. The CNS Gold Medal is awarded to trainees who exhibit outstanding leadership, academic prowess, and unwavering commitment during their training. Sub-Lieutenant Mishra's pride to his alma mater and serves as an inspiration for current and future students. The Passing Out Parade, marking the culmination of rigorous training, was reviewed by Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, who awarded medals to meritorious Midshipmen and Cadets. The event witnessed proud parents and dignitaries celebrating the hard work and resilience of the trainees. Sub-Lieutenant Mishra's success reflects the high standards of education and values nurtured at SMVDU. The university community extends its heartfelt congratulations to him and wishes him continued success in his naval career.

Upcoming Events

- **NSS is organizing 7 Day Special Camp at Mansar, Jammu from 1st - 7th Jan, 25.**
- **Building Material Expo 25 from 3th- 6th Jan, 25.**
- **Online Faculty Induction Programme from 27th Jan - 22nd Feb, 25.**
- **10th Convocation of SMVDU in Feb, 25.**
- **InnoSpark 2025 Competition on 3rd Mar, 25.**

Patron

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MATRIKA AUDITORIUM