

The major achievements of Kurukshetra Development Board

- **Renovation of Eastern Brahma Sarovar**

The work of renovation of this part of the Brahma Sarovar was taken in hand in the year 1968 and was completed in the year 1981 at a cost of Rs. 2.75 crore. The fresh Canal water was released in this part of the Sarovar in May, 1973.

- **Renovation of Western Brahm Sarovar**

The work of renovation of Western half of Brahma Sarovar was taken in hand in the year 1984 and was completed in the year 2003 at a cost of Rs. 13.00 crore. The fresh Canal water was released in this part of the Sarovar in September, 1987.

The total length of eastern and western half of the Brahma Sarovar is about 3360 feet and its breadth is 1500 feet. The depth of the sarovar is 15 feet. However for bathing the water level on bathing platform is just 4 feet. There after RCC railing has been provided. 20 nos. ladies bathing ghats have been constructed. Twenty one toilet blocks have been constructed all around the Brahma Sarovar with modern civic amenities. The work of upkeep and maintenance of these toilets have been handed over to the Sulabh International Social Service organization on pay and use basis.

Regular water supply is being made to the tirtha from Bhakra canal by the water services department free of cost. Permanent lighting has been provided all around the Brahma Sarovar. Ceremonial gates have been constructed on north & south sides of the Brahma Sarovar.

A big Chariot (Gita Updesh scene) of about 75'x 35'x 26' got fabricated at a cost of about Rs. 2.00 crore by the India Tourism Development Corporation has been installed in the Purushotampura Bagh, Brahma Sarovar on 20th July, 2008.

- **Renovation of Sannehit Sarovar**

This sarovar was renovated in the year 1987. So far Rs. 2.00 crore have been spent on the renovation and beautification of this sarovar

which includes construction of lotus pool, providing of boundary wall and steel grill and 30 meter High mast light etc. The length of the sarovar is about 1500 feet and breadth 500 feet. The sarovar is linked with the Brahma Sarovar for supply of water. For augmentation of supply of water in the tirtha a Tube well has been installed in the Srikrishna Museum complex. To beautify the environ of Sannehit Sarovar 7 kanal 3 marla land has been acquired on north side of sarovar. The old sadaries of tirtha purohits Brahaman Sabha & one Dharamshala standing on its bank has been demolished & 20 rooms of Purohit Sadan have been constructed by KDB. Haryana Tourism has completed the work of providing white marble on the bathing steps & platform/pavements. Besides above, the Haryana Tourism has made arrangement for illumination of the Sarovar area.

- **Renovation of Jyotisar Tirtha**

A mango shaped lake was constructed at this sarovar in the year 1973 at a cost of Rs. 16.50 lakhs. The work of renovation and beautification of this sarovar was taken in hand in the year 1984 and was completed in the year 1987 at a cost of about Rs. 50.00 lakhs.

The Government of India, Ministry of Tourism has installed a Light & Sound programme at the Jyotisar Tirtha in the year 2003 at a cost of about Rs.1.5 crore. The duration of the show is 55 minutes each in Hindi and English. The running and maintenance of this show is done by Haryana Tourism. The rate of entry fees is Rs. 15/- for the visitors of age group six to twelve years and Rs.20/- per person the visitors above twelve years age.

- **Renovation of Saraswati Tirtha, Pehowa**

The work of renovation of this Tirtha was completed in the year 1999-2000 at a cost of about Rs. 1.00 crore. The other works includes acquisition of 7 acres land for mela area, approximately Rs. 45 lakhs have been spent on this work.

The work of construction of Saraswati creak from Prachi Tirtha to Saraswati Tirtha was taken in hand by the Sarswati Vikas Trust and volunteer donations. This work has been completed at a cost of more than Rs. 1.00 crore which was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Haryana in March, 2006. Haryana Tourism has recently constructed new Ghat at Pehowa and KDB has made arrangement for illumination of the new Ghat at a cost of Rs. 9.00 lacs.

Recently Saraswati Dwar at Pehowa has been constructed at a cost of about Rs. 148.00 lakhs.

- **Renovation of Bhisham Kund. Narkatari:-** This Tirath has been renovated in the year 2000 at a cost of Rs. 13.00 lacs.
- **Renovation of Banganga, Dayalpur:-**This Tirath has been renovated in the year 2001 at a cost of Rs.12.80 lakhs.
- **Renovation of Shalihotra Tirath, Sarsa:-**This Tirath has been renovated in the year 2001 at a cost of Rs. 22.00 lakhs.
- **Renovation of Bindusar Tirath, Hansdehar:-**This Tirath has been renovated in the year 2002-03 at a cost of Rs. 64.55 lakhs.
- **Renovation of Pandu Pindara Tirth at Pindara:-** This Tirtha has been renovated at a cost of about Rs. 3.30 crores.
- **Renovation of Sarpdaman Tirtha at Safidon:-** This Tirtha has been renovated at a cost of 30.93 lakhs.
- **Renovation of Kapil Muni Tirtha at Kalayat:-** The work of renovation and development of this tirtha has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 116.00 lacs in the year 2009.
- **Renovation of Rin Mochan Tirtha at Rasina:-** The work of renovation and development of this tirtha has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 106.67 lakhs in the year 2008.
- **Renovation of Lokodhar Tirtha at village Lodhar:-** The development of this tirtha is complete at a cost of Rs. 233.00 lacs.
- **Renovation of Bid Kyar Lake at Kaithal:-** The work of development of Bid Kyar Lake at Kaithal has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 6.50 crore. The expenditure on storm water drain and water supply line has been met by the Public Health Department, Haryana. Special funds have been sanctioned by the Government for the development of this Tirtha.

- **Renovation of Love Kush Tirtha at Mundri:** - The work of renovation and development of this tirtha has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 185 lakhs in the year 2014.
- **Renovation of Kaya shodhan Tirtha at village Kasuhan:** - The development of this Tirtha has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 2.02 crore.
- **Renovation of Pushkar Tirtha at Pokher Kheri :-** Construction of approach road from village to Tirath at a cost of 23.17 lacs.
- **Renovation of Brahmasar Tirtha at Thana:-** The work of renovation and development of this tirtha has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 48 lakhs in the year 2013-14.
- **Renovation of Kulotaran Tirtha at Kirmach:** - The work of renovation and development of this tirtha has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 53.00 lakhs in the year 2012-13.
- **Renovation of Sitamai Tirtha at Sitamai:** - The work of renovation and development of this tirtha has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 82.00 lakhs in the year 2012-13.
- **Renovation of Dashawmedh Tirtha at Salwan:** - The work of renovation and development of this tirtha has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 76.00 lakhs in the year 2014.
- **Pundrik Tirtha at Pundari:** - The work of renovation and development of this tirtha has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 184.50 lakhs in the year 2014-15.
- **Renovation of Nirankar Tirtha, Kharak Ramji:** - The work of renovation and development of this tirtha has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 131.00 lakhs in the year 2014-15.

Acquisition of Land:-

a) The Board has acquired about 200 acres of land around the Brahma Sarovar, Sannehit Sarovar and at Saraswati tirtha at Pehowa for the Mela area.

b) The Board has developed a Dharamshala complex on the North side of Brahm Sarovar in which the construction of their Dharamshalas. The concerned institutions have constructed Dharamshalas on the land provided by the Board and more than 1000 rooms are available in these Dharamshalas for stay of visiting pilgrims/tourists. In the year 2002 a piece of 3 acre of land has been allotted to the Shaheed Madan Lal Dhirga Samarak Samiti for construction of Dharamshala on the South side of Sannehit Sarovar. The work of construction of Dharamshala by the Samiti on this land has been completed.

Other major cultural activities

- **Establishment of Sri Krishna Museum:** - The Sri Krishna Museum was established by the Kurukshetra Development Board in the year 1987. The Museum was commissioned in its new building in the year 1991. The second block of the Museum was added in the year 1995. The theme of the museum is Krishna, Kurukshetra and Mahabharata. The Museum building is centrally air conditioned. The Board has so far spent more than Rs. 4.00 crore on the construction of Museum building and air conditioning thereof and purchase of Art objects and display material etc. Two blocks of museum building comprises six galleries in which the artifacts, art objects and antiquities related to Krishna, Mahabharata and Kurukshetra theme have been displayed. First Gallery of the museum consists wood carvings, metal casting and ivory carvings. Second gallery consist archeological artifacts and stone sculpture from Haryana and places associated with Krishna like Dwarka and Mathura. This gallery also houses archaeological artefacts recovered from important Harappan sites of Haryana. Third gallery shows some exquisite miniature paintings, palm leaf etchings and some illustrated manuscripts. Fourth gallery houses the fine collection of Madhubani paintings and three tableaux depicting Rasleela of Krishna in Manipuri style, the heroic death of Abhimanyu in Yakshagana style and Shanti Parva of Mahabharata in Rajasthani style. Fifth gallery mainly depicts the colorful episodes of Mahabharata through wall paintings of India. Sixth gallery houses nine tableaux depicting the episodes of the life and exploits of Krishna.

- **Multimedia Mahabharata and Gita Gallery of Srikrishna Museum**

With a view to impart ideas and ideals enshrined in the Mahabharata and to enlighten the people through the philosophies of Krishna, Bhishma, Vidura and other ancient philosopher and seers in state -of - the -art manner, the gallery has been set up as an extension of the existing Sri Krishna Museum by Haryana Tourism in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India under the project 'Integrated Development of Panipat-Kurukshetra- Pinjore Circuit'. The Kaleidoscope Entertainment Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi has executed the project. The gallery is extended over three floors adjoining the second block of Srikrishna Museum building with entrance through the second floor of the existing museum building. The gallery has been opened for public after its inauguration by Hon'ble President of India on 8th Feb. 2012.

The Gallery is an attempt to present the Mahabharata in a linear fashion. An "experiential space" has been created herein by using different media. Through murals, mannequins, paintings and scenographies the story of Mahabharata has been depicted in an emphatic and effective way.

The entry to the Museum is through ticket. The rate of Ticket is Rs. 30/- for persons above 10 years age. The entry fees to the Museum for persons in the age group of 5 to 10 years is Rs.10/-. However for students of schools and colleges in groups, the rates of concessional entry ticket is also Rs.10/- per person.

- **Establishment of Kurukshetra Panorama & Science Centre:** - Kurukshetra Development Board in collaboration with National Council of Science Museum, Calcutta has established the Kurukshetra Panorama & Science Centre at Kurukshetra in 2001 in 4.5 acre of land. The Centre has been established at a cost of Rs. 5.20 crore. The cost has been shared in the ratio of 50:50 by the Board and Council. The centre was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 6.3.2001. The running and maintenance of the Centre is with the National Council of Science Museum. The entry to the Panorama centre is through ticket. The entry fees is Rs. 30/- for the persons above 5 years.

- **Gita Jayanti Samaroh:** - The Kurukshetra Utsav-Gita Jayanti Samaroh is being celebrated by the KDB since 1989. The Samaroh is being celebrated at National Level in collaboration with North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala, Haryana Tourism and Information and Public Relations Department, Haryana since 2002.
- The Board has allotted 6 acre of land on lease hold basis to the Haryana Kala Parishad for the establishment of multi purpose Kala Parisar for performing arts on the east corner of Brahamsarover. The work of construction of multi purpose Kala Parisar on this land has been completed.
- The Board has allotted 3 acres of land to the Sri Brahmपुरi Annkshetra Ashram Trust on lease hold basis for the construction of Astadash Vibhuti Mandir at Kurukshetra. This temple will be 18 storeyed and scences from Mahabharata, Gita and Purans will be depicted therein in different forms of arts. The work of construction of Temple is in progress.
- The Board has also allotted 6 acres of land from HIRMI at Jyotisar to the ISKCON for construction of ISKCON cultural centre. The work of construction of Temple is in progress.
- The Board has also allotted 5.52 acres of land on the east south corner of Brahamsarover to Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams for the construction of Lord Venkateswara (Balaji) Temple at Kurukshetra. The inauguration has been done by Chief Minister, Haryana on 14.8.2012. The temple proposed at approx cost of Rs. 30.00 crore. The work of construction of Temple is in progress.

Tourism:-

The Board has allotted 2 acres of land to the Haryana Tourism for the construction of Yatri Niwas at Kurukshetra.

Other Works:-

- (i) KDB has submitted a DPR to ministry of Tourism through HTC for the grant of Rs. 12.16 crores for Tirthas situated in 48 Kos area.

- (ii) Construction of Periphery roads around the Brahma Sarovar and Sannehit Sarovar, Parks, Drains and illumination in and around the Sarovars.
- (iii) Construction of Samadhi and Memorial building of Bharat Ratna Late Sh.Gulzari Lal Nanda. The work of construction of Samadhi and memorial building has been completed at a cost of about Rs. 1.51 crore. The Government of India has provided a grant-in-aid of Rs. 1.75 crore for the purpose. The Samarak Bhawan has been named as Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda Institute of National Integration and Peace. The Institute was inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor of Haryana on 4.7.2006. At present a library and personnel museum has been established. Research work on the philosophy and work of Sh. Nanda Jee will be taken in the Institute after the posts for the purpose are sanctioned. The Institute has been transferred to the Kurukshetra University for its upkeep and administration on lease hold basis for 30 years on 10.2.2010.
- (iv) Construction of Gita Dwar at Pipli at a cost of Rs. 25.00 lakh.
- (v) Construction of Surya Dwar at Sannehit Sarovar at a cost of about Rs. 12.00 lakhs.
- (vi) Construction of storm water drain in the Mela area and to stop the falling of dirty water in the Sannehit Sarovar at a cost of about Rs. 1.26 crore in 1999. With the construction of this drain, problem of drainage of storm water of various colonies of town has also been solved.
- (vii) Publication of book titled "48 KOS Kurukshetra Bhumi ki Parikrama" and release of CD and other publication of Museum.
- (viii) Preparation of documentary film on the Kurukshetra and its Tirthas.
- (ix) Installation of Statues of Yaksha on the four corners of Kurukshetra Bhumi.
- (x) Construction of parking places by the Haryana Tourism on the east and south sides of Brahma Sarover by HTC.
- (xi) Construction of Foot-path along the various roads.
- (xii) Got the direct four laned link road from GT road to Brahmsarovar constructed through HUDA, HSAMB and PWD, B&R.