

Muni Seva Ashram, Goraj's

# अनुसंधान

CHRONICLES OF PURPOSE, PASSION, AND PROGRESS



Founder  
Pujya Shree Anuben Thakkar



Chairman  
Dr. Vikram Patel

23C1916-April 2026



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Reverence for life,  
expressed through compassion  
towards all beings, is the foundation of  
a just and harmonious world.

15/03/2026

Since its inception, Muni Seva Ashram has lived by a simple belief - harmony with nature and cultural values. Long before sustainability became global, the Ashram embraced alternative energy as a way of life.

## 'Most cooking is steam-based'

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The 5,000 people include patients, relatives, 2,500 residents on the campus and 1,800 students enrolled in the schools, nursing institutes and vocational training centres.

Most cooking is steam-based, allowing large-scale preparation of rice, dal and vegetables. Even oil-based dishes such as bhajiyas and puris are cooked using solar-powered systems.

A key element is the 'Big Dish' solar concentrator developed by the Australian National University and Sunrise CSP Australia. It generates steam capable of cooking over 2,000 meals a day while also supporting the hospital's one-tonne laundry and sterilisation needs.

The concentrator uses 90% of the sunlight falling on its reflector—far higher than the roughly 20% conversion efficiency of photovoltaic pa-



The certification of the Mujkuva biogas plant

nels. The steam also supports the hospital's 200-tonne AC system. Ashram chairman Vikram Patel said, "The model reflects the vision of founder Anuben Thakkar who believed service to society must go hand in hand with self-reliance and care for nature."

A similar story is unfolding in Mujkuva village near Anand, where women turned 'gobar' into 'dhan' through the Mujkuva Sakhi Khad Sahkari Mandali Ltd, the co-

untry's first all-women manure cooperative.

Launched in 2018 with 25 members, the cooperative now has 150 women. Most families are engaged in animal husbandry and use cow dung to generate biogas.

"Cooking fuel is never a concern for us, even though we live in a joint family of 10," said Hema Padhiyar, who with secretary Jagruti Padhiyar was invited by President Droupadi Murmu to Rashtrapati Bhavan during Republic Day celebrations.

Members say each household saves Rs2,000 a month by avoiding LPG cylinders. Slurry from the plants is also sold as organic fertiliser to NDDB Mrida Ltd, helping farmers adopt natural farming.

In stark contrast to the panic in parts of the country, Rekha Maharaj and 50 other women in Kutch are unfazed as their kitchens run on biogas plants installed over the last three years.

## Amid LPG supply crisis, sun and dung power kitchens in rural Gujarat

Solar, Biogas Plants Help Cook Meals For Thousands

Prashant Rupera & Radha Sharma | TNN

Vadodara/Ahmedabad:

Even as images of people queuing up for LPG cylinders become increasingly common amid the war-triggered supply crisis, some rural pockets in Gujarat offer a striking contrast.

From solar steam kitchens



At Muni Seva Ashram in Goraj, solar-powered kitchens cook two meals a day for nearly 5,000 people

feeding thousands at Goraj near Vadodara to dung-powered cooking gas in Mujkuva village near Anand and Kutch villa-

ges, local renewable energy systems are insulating communities from the fuel crunch.

At Muni Seva Ashram in Goraj, solar-powered kitchens cook two meals a day for nearly 5,000 people. Nearly 80-85% of cooking requirements are met through solar energy and biogas. The campus houses the Kailash Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, four schools, hostels, old-age homes and several community facilities.

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Today, through solar kitchens and biogas systems, these efforts quietly serve thousands - showing that mindful living can nourish both people and the planet.

We are grateful to The Times of India for highlighting this journey on the front page. If it inspires even one more community, it will have served a greater purpose.

“

More than artificial intelligence, the world needs ecological intelligence - where living simply becomes strength, sustaining nature becomes duty, and sensitivity becomes our deepest connection.



## From Learning to Livelihood: A Path to Self-Reliance :

Empowering youth with skills, confidence, and self-reliance, the Vocational Training Centre at Muni Seva Ashram is transforming lives across the region.

With modern facilities, expert trainers, and industry-ready programs, students step out as capable professionals-often securing jobs without delay or even starting their own ventures.

Recently, Grade 11 students from Kanya Saksharta School, Ghoghamba, Panchmahal district, visited the centre to explore career pathways and gain first-hand insights.

We warmly invite more young minds to visit, learn, and shape a brighter future.



## Science Olympiad 2025–26 Results



We are proud to share the achievements of our students in the Science Olympiad 2025–26, a national-level examination conducted by Silver Zone Foundation.

Based on their performance at the school level, five students were awarded symbolic medals along with certificates:

- **Gold Medal & Certificate:** Shraddha Rathva & Trupti Khant
- **Silver Medal & Certificate:** Bhargav Bhabhor & Janvi Rathva
- **Bronze Medal & Certificate:** Bhavya Mistry

We congratulate all the achievers and their teachers for their hard work and dedication.

## Together in Strength: Gurudatt's Story of Resilience

This inspiring story, featured in The Times of India, deeply moved us. We sincerely thank them for bringing forward such a powerful narrative of hope and resilience.

Gurudatt Dave, a young student battling stage IV lymphoma, chose courage over despair. Despite undergoing intense treatment, he achieved remarkable academic success—an extraordinary feat.

At a time when he had every reason to pause, he chose to persevere. His journey is a powerful reminder that unwavering determination can overcome even the toughest challenges.

We at Muni Seva Ashram's KCHRC feel grateful to have supported him through his treatment. Stories like his reaffirm our faith in resilience, hope, and the incredible strength of the human spirit.

## Battling cancer, MSU student secures top ranks in GATE

Prashant Rupera  
@timesofindia.com

**Vadodara:** In a remarkable story of resilience and determination, Gurudatt Dave (22), a final-year engineering student of Maharaja Sayajirao University (MSU), has secured All India Rank (AIR) 75 in electronics and AIR 333 in electrical engineering in GATE 2026, despite battling stage IV lymphoma and undergoing gruelling chemotherapy sessions.

Diagnosed in March 2024 after experiencing persistent back pain and swelling, Dave underwent six intensive chemotherapy cycles over nearly three-and-a-half months at Muni Seva Ashram, Goraj. "The first week



Gurudatt Dave

after every session was extremely difficult, and I was mostly on bed rest. I would study gradually once I started recovering," he said.

Even before his diagnosis, Dave faced academic setbacks, having been detained due to backlogs during the transition from his second to third year. However, he persisted and first appeared for GATE in 2025, securing AIR 1,334 in electrical engineering.

ring. Unsatisfied, he tried again, this time opting for two papers — a strategy that paid off with top ranks.

Dave credited his mentors, friends, and family for support during the challenging period. "Mrunal sir always kept motivating and guiding me," he said.

Coming from a modest background, with his retired father employed in a non-technical role at MSU, Dave now plans to pursue higher studies at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru. While he is inclined towards research, he said his long-term plans will evolve with experience.

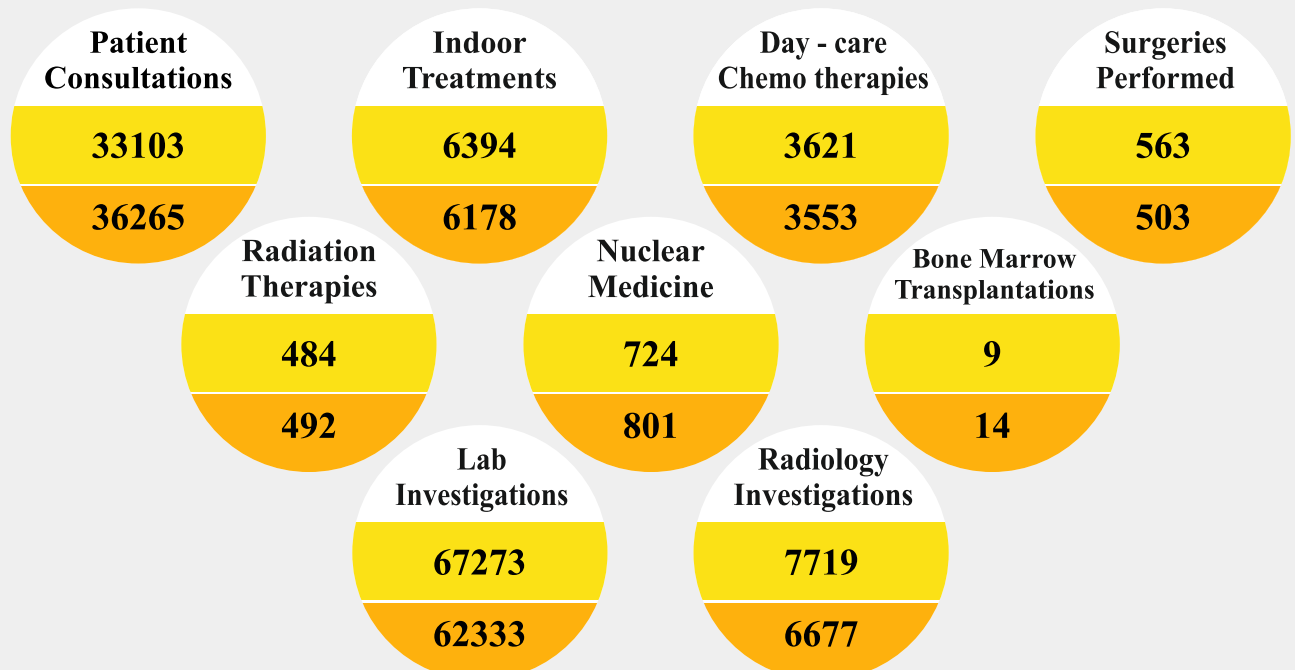
Reflecting on his journey, Dave said, "The setbacks pushed me to stay focused."

**Gurudatt's journey is not just about academic success—it is a testament to courage, will, and grace.**

### Kailash Cancer Hospital & Research Centre Q4 Service Overview: YOY Comparison

2025-26

2024-25



## Ram Navmi Celebration



Students of EMRS, Maganpura campus celebrated Ram Navami-the birth of Prabhu Shri Ram-with devotion and soulful bhajans.

## World Tuberculosis Day Observed



On the occasion of World Tuberculosis Day, an expert talk on “Tuberculosis and Its Management” was organized at our Institute of Nursing.

We sincerely thank Taluka Health Supervisor Shailesh Patel for delivering an informative and insightful session.

## Nursing students visited the Gujarat Vidhan Sabha



Recently, B.Sc. Semester 6 students from our Institute of Nursing visited the Gujarat Vidhan Sabha and attended the final day of its summer session on 25th March 2026.

## Excellence achieved. Values upheld. 1st Rank at Taluka Level!

Our Vivekanand Uttar Buniyadi School, at Vanakuva Green Campus, has secured **first rank among residential schools at the taluka level** in the overall category under the *Samagra Shiksha* survey implemented by the Gujarat Council of School Education. The school has been honoured with a **certificate, shield, and a cash prize of**



**₹11,000** in recognition of this achievement. This has been earned through outstanding performance across key parameters such as **quality education, cleanliness, conservation of natural resources, health, safety, and positive behavioural transformation.**

## CNC Programming Course Launched – Empowering Skills for a Stronger Future.

Our VTC has introduced a new course in CNC Programming. We sincerely thank Shree Rajen and Nandini Shah (Washington State, USA) for their generous support in providing essential hardware to successfully launch this program.



## Bhagini Mandir :

Recently, Bhoomi Charitable Trust, Vadodara, invited our Bhaginis to participate in singing, dance and ramp walk events. Despite receiving only two days' notice, they prepared enthusiastically and gave their best performances.



“ The more we come out and do good to others,  
the more our hearts will be purified. ”

Swami Vivekanand

**If you can, welcome her home.  
If not, let us care for her-with you.**

Once, someone asked Pujya Shree Anuben about seva close to her heart.

She answered without a moment's pause- **"Gau Seva."**

For her, it was never just about caring for a cow.

It was about a way of living-with gratitude, respect, and compassion.

She would often say,

**"In every home, institute, there should be a cow."**

Not for what she gives, but for what she stands for-gentleness, selflessness, and a quiet connection between us and nature.

But what happens when a cow stops giving milk?

In many places, she is forgotten.

Pujya ben taught us otherwise.

She showed us that care should not depend on usefulness.

Even then, the cow continues to give - nourishing the soil, supporting nature, and reminding us to live simply and kindly.

At Muni Seva Ashram, we try to live by this every day.

We care for indigenous cows with love and respect—honouring not just an animal, but a philosophy.

**If you can, bring a cow into your life.**

**If not, you can still be a part of her care.**

**Your support is more than a donation.**

It is food for her, care in her later years, and a step towards a more compassionate world.

Come, be a part of this journey-where seva becomes love in action, and every life matters.



## Vanprasthashram is not about aging, it is about living with dignity and grace:

At Muni Seva Ashram, our humble effort is to ensure that the golden years of life are lived with dignity, respect, and a sense of belonging. Govardhan Vanprasth Mandir offers a serene, green environment, eco-friendly living, and simple organic food that nurtures both body and spirit.

What truly defines this space is our compassionate rural staff, whose warmth and care create a feeling of home.

We are happy to share heartfelt feedback from Mr. Rajesh Chitalia, reflecting these experiences.

We remain deeply grateful for the trust and the opportunity to serve.



### We are humbled by the love and trust our elders place in us

Their words are blessings  
we cherish deeply.

Jai Shree Krishna Hemantbhai,

Today we have completed our stay of one month and are leaving tonight for home.

I am very happy that my father's health remained stable, as opposed to my worry of continuing deterioration immediately before we left home.

Thought to share with you my feedback.

In terms of tangibles - the quality of accommodation, furniture & fixtures, cleanliness, food, menu, infrastructure etc were unmatched!

But more importantly what moved me was intangibles...the greenery around, clean air, sunshine, cool weather, constant bird chirping, the vibes in the prayer hall, courteous staff etc were way beyond our expectations. When we go back, no one will believe that in 40° celcius hot weather, we did NOT switch on air conditioning even once!!!

I also appreciate the way the LPG crisis was managed and we got to eat food which was cooked naturally (with more efforts) with the help of fire-wood, which people in cities crave nowadays!

The extraordinary bonus to me was to know and feel privileged to pay visit, along with my team, the VTC and the Eklavya School Maganpura.

On an overall basis, we had a very good time here and got to know how memoth the Muni Seva Ashram institution is and the way it contributes to the two fundamental aspects of the society, namely, healthcare and education!!

My father and I both thank you for giving us the opportunity to visit Govardhan and feel much better.

Jai Shree Krishna

Rajesh Chitalia



| Dr Vikrambhai Patel's USA Tour : April & May 2026 |                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Date                                              | Location                                                                                  |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2026                       | Atlanta – Gokuldharm, 2297 Satellite Blvd, Buford, GA 30518                               |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2026                       | Newyork - Gujarati Samaj of Newyork , 13-15 Horace Harding Expy., Fresh Meadows, NY 11365 |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2026                       | New Jersey – Vadtalldham, 1667 Amwell road, Somerset, NJ 08873                            |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026                          | Ohio - TUDC Temple , 7379 Squire Ct., West Chester, Ohio 45069                            |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2026                          | Sterling Chateau banquet , 38500 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48310                    |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2026                          | Vadtalddham Temple , 10825 clodine Road, Richmond, TX 77407                               |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2026                          | BAPS Temple, 12305 Natural Bridge Road, Bridgeton, MO 63044                               |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026                         | Sanatan Dharma Temple , 15311 Pioneer Blvd , Norwalk , CA 90650                           |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2026                         | San Francisco - Multi Hall, Grant Park, 1575 Holt Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94024             |

## With Gratitude and Hope

Every milestone of Muni Seva Ashram has been nurtured by the compassion, faith, and generosity of our donors, well-wishers, and friends across the world. Your support - whether through financial contributions, time, expertise, or heartfelt encouragement - quietly strengthens our mission and sustains the spirit of service that guides all our work.

The expansion of our services, the creation of new facilities, the introduction of meaningful programs, and the compassionate care extended to thousands of beneficiaries each year are all made possible through your unwavering support. Each gesture of goodwill becomes a beacon of hope for someone in need. For this enduring trust, we remain deeply and eternally grateful.

We remain committed to the highest standards of transparency and accountability. Every contribution is acknowledged promptly with an 80G-compliant receipt, ensuring clarity and confidence in our shared journey of service.

For our supporters in the United States, MUNI SEVA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION USA (MSCF) has been established and approved by the IRS under Section 501(c)(3). Donations made to MSCF are generally tax-deductible under U.S. tax laws.

We warmly invite you to stay connected with the life and work of the Ashram.

Daily updates and glimpses of our initiatives are shared on our Facebook and Instagram platforms, while newsletters and detailed information about our activities can be found on our website: [www.greenashram.org](http://www.greenashram.org)

We welcome photographs, stories, and information related to Muni Seva Ashram from around the world — its initiatives, fundraising efforts, and members of the Ashram family. Your contributions help us share inspiring stories of compassion and service through this newsletter.

Your suggestions and feedback are invaluable to us. Please help us make अनुसंधान even more meaningful by writing to us at: [anusandhan@greenashram.org](mailto:anusandhan@greenashram.org)

Thank you for being a part of this journey of compassion and service. Your support continues to kindle hope, restore dignity, and illuminate the lives of countless individuals.

“ We are here to awaken from the illusion of our separateness. ”