

GMC Anantnag - To new beginnings

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ANANTNAG: It was in 2017 that the technical evaluation committee of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare approved the establishment of 5 new medical colleges, Govt Medical College, Anantnag being one among the five. While the institution had been operating from District Hospital Anantnag, the new campus at Dialgam has been partially completed with five buildings handed over and expected to be fully handed over likely by March of 2022.

Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, Dr Piyush Singla said that the college and associated hospital will provide much needed specialised patient care not only to District Anantnag but the adjoining districts as well. He said that owing to its proximity to NH44, the medical infrastructure will be instrumental in treatment of trauma cases. He emphasized that the college will reduce the referral rate

AP&FW Department Kashmir sends 4th Consignment of Kashmir vegetables to Dubai

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: While pursuing the Department's vision of introducing & promoting Kashmir based vegetables, spices and other agriculture commodities on the global marketing platform so that the farmers, agriculture entrepreneurs and other stakeholders from the UT of J&K could play a role and experience new horizons of global agriculture economy, Department of Agriculture Kashmir in collaboration with an international marketing group LuLu has sent the fourth consignment of Kashmir specific vegetables, spices, cereals.

The consignment includes Kale, Turnip, Carrot, Radish, Broccoli, Lotus root and G.I. tagged Saffron to Sharjah Dubai.

Regarding today's initiative, Director Chowdhary

Over 5 lakh devotees throng Kashi Vishwanath Dham on New Year

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Kashi Vishwanath Dham, the renovated temple complex which was recently inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saw a record footfall on the first day of the new year with over five lakh devotees thronging the holy place, official sources said on Sunday.

Even on Mahashivratri, considered the most auspicious day to visit the temple in Varanasi, the devotees' numbers never exceeded 2.5 lakh, they added. "Local administration was up for a surprise on January 1 when more than 5 lakh people thronged the Kashi Vishwanath temple. For them, this number was unprecedented. They were expecting a best case number of not more

NGT addressed environmental disputes in 2021

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The National Green Tribunal in 2021 not only flagged key environmental issues of the country but also brought a new dynamic functioning style as it sensitised the government machinery to act fast and intensify its surveillance and vigilance mechanism.

The NGT cracked the whip on industrial units causing pollution and stressed on cleaning of the Ganga and the Yamuna.

With courts switching to the virtual mode in the wake of COVID-19, the NGT continued to hear the cases through video conferencing and it even advanced its summer vacation for 2021 in the light of exponential surge in coronavirus cases in April and May.

The year gone by also saw imposition of heavy fines and environment compensations on public authorities for failing to discharge their "statutory" obligations and corporate houses for damaging the environment and ecology.

Expressing dissatisfaction over the cleaning of Ganga, the NGT said innocent citizens drink water of the river out of reverence without knowing the harmful contents and the least expected from the authorities is to notify the extent of harmful contents at appropriate locations.

Observing that the challenge of cleaning Ganga

from the district and minimize burden on tertiary care centres in Srinagar

The College Campus at Dialgam is spread over sprawling 20 acres of land and is being constructed at a cost of Rs 116 crores. The infrastructure at the new campus includes a total of 10 blocks spanning 31,287 square metres. These include administrative block, central library, laboratory cum lecture complex, 2 departmental blocks, Principal's residence, accommodation for faculty and 2 hostel blocks that will house 472 students. The campus includes 4 lecture halls with a combined capacity of 500, a lecture theatre to seat 250 students at once, central library with a seating capacity of 200 people at any given time, a conference hall, an examination hall and 9 common laboratories.

Er Showkat Ahmad Dar, SE JKPPCC, the implementing agency for the project said that the college campus has been meticulously

planned with provisions of green spaces and keeping in consideration the environmental aspect of development.

He said that while 5 blocks have been handed over, the construction has been mostly completed and only internal finishing is under process in the remaining blocks and these will likely be handed over in March. He said that plans related to landscaping are at the approval stage and will be taken up simultaneously while the college is functioning.

GMC Anantnag has an annual intake capacity of 100 medical students and 100 nursing students. At present, two batches are pursuing their degree at the college. The nursing college caters to nursing colleges of Pulwama, Kulgam and Shopian and also functions as the south campus of Islamic University of Science and Technology.

The college bestowed 58 member strong faculties catering to various depart-

ments including gynaecology, ophthalmology, ENT, Anaesthesia, Paediatrics and Radiology among others. The college has introduced special ophthalmological clinics for retina, glaucoma and cornea evaluations and phacoemulsification procedures have been started in the ophtha department.

In addition, laser assisted vitrectomy has been started along with anti vegf injection are given in routine for which patients previously had to go to PGI Chandigarh or Amritsar. In the psychiatric department, drug de addiction facility is being provided. In obstetrics and gynecology, laparoscopic surgeries are being conducted on regular basis. Similarly, the ENT wing is conducting navigation based ENT tumor removal procedures and advanced spinal surgeries are being undertaken by the orthopedic section. Owing to its proximity to NH44, the college is often the first destination for trauma cases and has an inflow of about 24 trauma patients on a daily basis.

The college has also been leveraging information and communication technology to impart modern education and training to its students. Recently, Dr Vikas Agarwal, Director Specialty ENT Hospital, Mumbai did a live demonstration of navigation based endoscopic surgery. Similar programs were hosted by other eminent physicians and surgeons from different parts of the country.

Dr Tariq Qureshi, Principal of grading, packing, labeling was conducted under the strict supervision of Director Agriculture Kashmir. Pertinently, all the global requirements for the international trade of vegetables and other agricultural commodities were considered while sending the consignment.

Director Agriculture said that so far as the recent initiative of sending vegetables to UAE is concerned, it will open a new window for Kashmir Specific vegetables, agri products/ commodities, spices to a new global marketing arena.

Joint Director Agriculture Extension, Shahid Iqbal, M. Rafiq Kakroo Pathologist, Shamsul Hassan Nodal Officer Marketing Kashmir besides other senior officers of the department were also present on the occasion.

Earlier, also vegetable consignments were sent to UAE from Srinagar International Airport and the entire opera-

tion of grading, packing, labeling was conducted under the strict supervision of Director Agriculture AP&FWD Navin Kumar Chowdhary is working on a long term ambitious plan to strengthen agriculture sector in J&K and a number of initiatives including integrated farming approach, diversification of agriculture, organic way of cultivation, introduction of new marketing channels, MoUs with different stakeholders, e-marketing of saffron at HKSTC Dussoo, etc have been taken.

Department has already introduced Kashmir specific vegetables and other agriculture products at different marketing platforms in and outside J&K.

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He said that the college is catering to around 10,000 patients on a weekly basis and people do not have to travel to Srinagar for every other procedure. He said that along with the faculty, he is committed to bring GMC Anantnag at par with the best health institutions in the UT.

He said that the college has been receiving national recognition at various levels. Recently, Dr Ramshoo, HoD medicine at the college along with Dr Adil was awarded at a national level forum in Delhi. Similarly, Dr Qureshi's academic paper was selected as the best by All India Ophthalmological society.

The hospital has been fitted with four state of the art oxygen plants to cater to oxygen requirements in normal times and as a contingent facility to tackle any jump in COVID cases. The college aims to introduce MRI facility, cath lab, advanced surgery in ophthalmology, advanced dermatology laser centre, orthopedic advanced surgery in the near future so that people can take benefit of these facilities without having to travel long distances.

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DC Kupwara inaugurates Mentorship session for Civil Services Aspirants

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KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, Imam Din on Sunday inaugurated Mentorship Session for the interested students, appearing in Competitive and Civil Services Examinations, at Town Hall, here.

The session was aimed at to provide professional guidance and counseling to the students to build up their confidence and knowledge bank.

Earlier, brief introduction of the initiative and mentorship program was given by a team of experts.

Shakeel Maqbool, IAS

allied services, 2014, DC

North Enforcement State

Taxes Department gave a

lecture on his journey from NIT

to UPSC, importance of civil

service as a professional

career and essence of appearing

in such exams, entitlements,

ranks, role and

responsibility of a civil servant.

He urged upon the

organizers and other con-

cerned officers to show their

utmost dedication in flour-

ishing the talent of the stu-

dents of the district.

Deputy Commissioner also

advised and exhorted the

Civil Services aspirants to

come forward and avail the

opportunity of free guidance.

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