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Ramakrishna Math & Ramakrishna Mission Sevashram

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Math News

Celebrations



171st Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Sri Ramakrishna was celebrated at Ramakrishna Math with due solemnly and grandeur. A 5-day long programme was organized from 1st March, 2006 comprising of Worship, Prayer, Bhajans, Discourses, Feeding of the poor and Cultural functions. A workshop on Personality Development and a Musical Drama by Sri Ramakrishna Seva Samiti, Lucknow were special highlights. The programme culminated with the Fire Works on the 5th of March, 2006.



A week-long Discourse on Bhagwatgita was conducted by Swami Satyarupanandji Maharaj from 18th March, 2006 within which period a spiritual retreat was also conducted with the participation of more than 350 devotees.

Birth Day Celebrations of Sri Ramachandra, Sri Shankracharya and Budhadev were celebrated at the Math during the month of April and May, 06 with Puja and Discourse on their respective lives and teachings. Special Puja was also performed on the night of 26th March, 06 on the occasion of Phalahaarini Kali Puja.



Yogasana Camp



Since 24th May, 06, a two week long Summer Camp for Yoga Training was conducted at the Math for several batches of young men everyday from 5:30 am to 6:30 pm in which different Yogasanas, Pranayam exercises and meditation were taught to the young participants between age group of 15 & 35 years by Yogacharya Sri Alok Chakroborty.

Rathyatra



The Rath Yatra Festival of Lord Jagannatha was celebrated at the Math by way of worshipping the frame of Sri Sri Durga (Kathamo Puja) which marked the beginning of preparations for the grand worship to be performed in September, 2006.

Polyclinic News

Ramakrishna Mission Sevashram, Lucknow runs the Vivekananda Polyclinic, a 350 bedded multi-speciality community hospital, with the objective of providing quality healthcare at the lowest cost to all patients and to provide charity services to deserving persons from lower socio-economic strata.

Free Cardiac Camp



A 2-day free Cardiac Camp was organised on 12th & 13 th May, 2006 at Vivekananda Polyclinic in collaboration with Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, New Delhi by a team of five Cardiologists led by Dr. N.N. Khanna. The camp aimed at spreading mass awareness, screening potential cardiac cases, guide the patients regarding proper treatment. All diagnostic tests including ECG, Blood Sugar, Echo-Cardiogram and cardiac medicines were done/given free.

The camp was inaugurated by Sri Ashok Bajpai, Hon'ble Minister, U.P. Government, who was the first person to submit to a checkup. In all, 540 persons were seen, 403 free ECGs and Blood Sugar investigations and 36 Echo Cardiograms were done.

This camp was the third effort by Vivekananda Polyclinic to provide quality cardiac checkup facilities to people in and around Lucknow with the objective of developing Cardiac awareness.

As a follow-up, Dr. N.N. Khanna of Indraprastha Apollo visits the hospital fortnightly to conduct cardiac OPD.

Vivekananda Polyclinic adds a new dimension to Joint Replacement Surgery



It has become the first hospital in North India to acquire a Computer Assisted Navigation System, the latest tool to facilitate joint replacement surgery of knee and hip to near 100% accuracy. To create awareness among the public and doctors alike, a two-day workshop was organised at Vivekananda Polyclinic on 29th and 30th April, 2006. It was inaugurated by Sri Naveen Chandra, Chief

Secretary, U.P. Faculty included, among others, Dr. S.J. Yeo, eminent joint replacement surgeon from Singapore, Dr. S.K. S. Marya, Dr. J. Maheshwari from New Delhi, Prof. S.S. Agarwal, Prof. S.K. Das and Prof. R.N. Misra from Lucknow.

Dr. Yeo performed live total knee replacement which was telecast to approximately 100 delegates plus the public on closed circuit television.

Polyclinic adds a New Operating Room

Consequent upon progressive addition of super-specialities i.e. Neuro, Plastic, Urology and Laparoscopic surgeries has increased exponentially over last two years. In order to meet the increased demand for operating time, a new Operating Room (OT 5) has been added in O.T. Complex. It became functional on Tuesday, 4th April 2006. Thus, now six Operating Rooms, including the one dedicated to Eye O.T. are functioning. All emergency cases are now taken up in O.T. 5 without dislocating elective surgery in any of the O.Ts. It is also being used regularly by surgeons needing additional operating time. However, even this may not suffice and one more regular operating room is planned for near future.

Surgical Operations cross the 400 monthly mark

During the month of May 2006, 401 operations were performed in the Modern Operation Theatre block having five Operating Rooms. Neurosurgery Unit, pride of the hospital, crossed the mark of 75 operations. This has been made possible due to all round contribution of indoor and operation theatre staff working in unison and is an indication of growing confidence of our Clientele.

Pathology Acquires New Technology



Pathology has added several new tests after acquiring a fully automated AXSYM Immuno-analyser, using new technologies of macro particle enzyme immunoassay, fluorescent particle immunoassay, and chemo-luminescence, providing greater accuracy for sensitive tests e.g. thyroid panel, hormone assays, etc. New tests eg. HBe Ag, B 12 assays have been added. Department has also acquired a new Tissue Processor for better processing of histopathology. Biochemistry, Immunology and Sample Sorting Units have been re-organised.

Medical Education Cell

The Hospital has been conducting for the last two years, D.N. B. Programme in the disciplines of Surgery, Medicine, Anaesthesia, Paediatrics, and Family Medicine. Inspection has been carried out for accreditation in the disciplines of Ophthalmology, Gynaecology/Obstetrics, and Neuro Surgery.

The hospital also conducts, IMA-recognised paramedical diploma courses in Medical Laboratory Technology (DMLT) and Radiology/Imaging (DMRT). The first batch of DMLT students have appeared in their final examination conducted by Indian Medical Association, New Delhi. Results are awaited.

Library News

The Vivekananda Polyclinic Medical Library, with spacious reading room, has over 3300 books, and 48 Medical Journals including 25 subscribed foreign journals. It is open throughout the week not only to doctors and paramedical staff of the Polyclinic but also to medical students of other Institutions as well. The Library added 61 new titles in the first half of 2006. It has internet and satellite connections to receive programmes transmitted by IGNOU or the National Board.

Neurosurgery Department News



Since the starting time, in September 2003, Neurosurgery has been an ascending course in terms of operations performed, IPD admission and OPD cases. Till date, almost 1500 operations have been performed. The initial average was 45-50 per month which has now become almost 70 per month.

The initial indoor strength was of 18 beds but with the newly constructed, centrally air conditioned Neurosurgery Ward, which was inaugurated by Revered Swami Atmasthanandaji Maharaj, Vice President of Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission, Belur, in January 2006 the IPD now has 32 beds including 6 private rooms. The entire patient care is provided by the team of trained nursing staff and no patient's attendant is allowed in the Ward. All patients are provided diet in the Ward only and it is daily inspected by the Dietician of the hospital. The entire patient record keeping is as per WHO code and detailed computerized summaries are provide to every patient at the time of discharge.



Sticking to surgical ethics and having guidelines and set protocols has been the key to the success story so far. Determination and continuous hard work has greatly added to the present status of the neurosurgery department.

With the blessings of Swamiji, clinical acumen, experience and surgical expertise of Prof. D.K. Chhabra and indefatigable efforts of Dr. Tarun Kumar Pandey and Dr. Himanshu Krishna, backed by competent anaesthesia team, ICU and nursing staff, the status of neurosurgery department at Vivekananda Polyclinic has become comparable to any other neurosurgical centre in the State. Inspection for starting DNB in neurosurgery has taken place and permission is likely to come in the near future.

The Smile Train, an American N.G.O. provides free surgeries to children with Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate



This Project started at Vivekananda Polyclinic on 1st March 2005 with the objective of helping all cleft children to smile and to increase awareness among population. Primary emphasis is on quality and not numbers alone. Our awareness drive through different programmes, media support and mouth to



mouth publicity of good services to the patients have resulted in a steady increase in the flow of patients. Right now, the number of surgeries has increased to 10 per week.

In the first two quarters of March to September 2005, 80 clefts were operated. In the second two quarters i.e. September 2005 to March 2006, 160 cases were operated, thus doubling the number. Numbers have further increased and from April to June 2006, 117 cases were operated. In appreciation of excellent services rendered, the Smile Train Project, Headquarter USA, has given Vivekananda Polyclinic the 'Centre of Excellence Award' and a Grant of Rs. 1.6 Crores to establish India's first Cleft and Craniofacial Centre here.

Rural Health Programme



Vivekananda Polyclinic is proud to run a 100% charitable Rural Health Programme which started in 1989. Presently four villages are visited weekly:

- Harpan Ataria (Distt. Lucknow) on Wednesday and Saturday
- Ram Van Kutir (Distt. Barabanki) on Thursday
- Paharnaga (Distt. Lucknow) on alternate Monday
- Katra Bakkas (Distt. Lucknow) on alternate Monday

A team of two general physicians, one Ophthalmologist, one Gynaecologist, one Dental Surgeon, one Ayurvedacharya, DNB students, paramedical staff with materials and medicines go to each centre on programmed basis. Consultation, medicines and routine blood tests are done free of cost. Those requiring specialised treatment are referred to the Hospital. An important component of the programme partially funded by the Blind Foundation, USA, is control of blindness and cataract patients are brought to the Vivekananda Polyclinic for free IOL implantation. The number of patients seen over the past four months are as follows:

Type	March	April	May
Allopathic	5076	2760	2695
Ayurvedic	492	437	346
IOL	192	184	99

Plastic, Cranio Facial & Micro Surgery at Vivekananda Polyclinic



Vivekananda Polyclinic organised 'Cranio-Con 2006', a 3 days Workshop from 11 to 13th March, 2006 on Cranio-facial surgery to mark the start of this facility.

This was made possible by well coordinated team work between Plastic, Neuro and Orthodontic surgeons, working jointly, ably aided by skillful Anaesthesia team. A total of 11 cases were operated by eminent surgeons, including : Dr. K.S. Goleria, Mumbai, Dr. K. Sridhar, Chennai, Dr. Brian Sommerlad, U.K., Prof. D.K. Chhabra, VPC, Prof. S.K. Bhatnager, VPC, Prof. A.K. Singh, Dr. V.Khanna, VPC, Dr. A. Kumar, and others. The Workshop combined U.P. Chapter, Plastic Surgery's Annual Conference also. Seventy delegates attended. Department of Plastic Surgery has been giving immense benefit to hand injury patients, including complicated brachial plexus injury, involving skillful micro-vascular and micro-neural repair and stage reconstruction which is shown in the photos below.



The department also deals with Cosmetic surgery and Post-burn deformities. The Department has been recognised as a Centre of Excellence and undertakes radical surgery of Oral Cancer e.g. Cancer of jaw followed by reconstructions to give a functionally useful life.

Enlightening Discourse



Swami Brahmeshanandamji Secretary of Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Chandigarh, was a guest speaker at Cranio-Con and gave a Power Point Presentation and talk on 'Religion, Faith and Medicine', on 12th March 2006 in the Polyclinic. Swami Brahmeshananda, being a doctor of Medical Gastroenterology, even need keen interest in the audience and responded to many questions.

Nursing School and Nursing College News

In a first in Uttar Pradesh, Vivekananda College of Nursing for graduate programme in nursing, with 50 seats, has complete one year. This will, in due course, replace the School of Nursing, which has been functioning successfully for the last 20 years. The students of both institutions jointly celebrated International Nurse's Day on 12 May 2006 with appropriate mixture of solemnity and gaiety. The interested students participate in special programmes at the Math such as Guru Purnima.



The College plans to do pioneering work in Nursing Education and to impart professional expertise to young aspirants who will be groomed to dedicate themselves to the service of humanity. Sanction on the Indian Nursing Council (INC) as well as approval of the U.P. Nurses and Midwives' Council have been obtained. The College is being affiliated to King George's Medical University (K.G.M.U.), Lucknow, the renowned century old Medical Institution of the Country.

The motto as given by Swami Vivekananda is 'Service to man is Service to God', thus forming the Basic Philosophy behind caring for patients with a spirit of devotion and commitment, regardless of caste, creed or religion and therefore the College shall endeavor to train the students to acquire knowledge, develop skills and positive attitude, as also enable them to carry out their duties and responsibilities as competent professional nurses with the above mentioned ideals.

Duration of the course is 4 years. The whole course has been divided into four yearly terms.

Appeal

Continuance and expansion of the aforesaid activities of the Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission Sevashram, Lucknow largely depends on the benevolent participation of the noble-hearted. We, therefore, appeal to one and all to contribute their mite for selfless service of the common people. Any amount will be thankfully received and gratefully acknowledges. Contributions for the Math and the Mission may kindly be sent by M.O. or Cheque / Draft in favour of Ramakrishna Math, Lucknow or Ramakrishna Mission Sevashram, Lucknow respectively. Donations are exempt from payment of Income Tax under Section 80G.

Charitable News

- A free glass of milk and nutrients (bun/banana) are distributed to nearby children every afternoon.
- A free glass of hot milk from Math Dairy is distributed every morning to patients in general beds.
- Pharmacy sells medicines at 5% discount to cash paying customers.
- Rural Health Programme in all 4 places is totally charitable including supply of medicines.
- Rural patients coming to VPC for cataract surgery as part of Blindness Control Programme are given free surgery, stay and IOL.
- Infants and children suffering from cleft lip and cleft palate are treated, totally free.
- General patients pay a nominal OPD registration charge of Rs. 10/- and bed charge of Rs. 30/- per day.

