Kapileshwar temple Belagavi, is known as the Kashi of the south. There is an inscription in the Kamal Basti which suggests this temple is one of the oldest in the state and dates back to 1000 AD. The shrine is revered as the southern equivalent of Kasi—Dakshina Kasi. It is staunchly believed that pilgrimage to Jyotirlingas, numbering 12 and scattered across India, won’t be complete without worshipping the presiding deity of this shrine. As in Kashi, the devotees are allowed close access to Shiva which gives devotees much spiritual bliss. Legend has it that the linga here was venerated by Kapila Muni and hence the name Kapileshwar.