

# Uttar Pradesh to hand over Ayodhya airport land to AAI today

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LUCKNOW: The ambitious international airport project in Ayodhya is set to attain a significant push on Thursday when the UP government formally hands over around 317 acre of land to the Airports Authority of India in the presence of CM Yogi Adityanath.

The state civil aviation department will give the land to AAI on lease for development of the Maryada Purushottam Shri Ram International Airport in the holy city. The project has been high on Yogi government agenda which returned to power for the second consecutive time.

Sources said the project is expected to receive a profound accretion in the run up to 2024 Lok Sabha elections when the saffron pantheon will look for another term under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi.

One of the most important Hindutva nerve centres, Ayodhya had attained the centrestage immediately after the BJP came to power with a landslide win in 2017. The state government has been seeking to lend a facelift to the city with a series of projects for the city.

The proposed airport, too, has been designed to put Ayodhya on a global tourist circuit, even as the construction of the much anticipated Ram Temple projects gains pace.

According to reports, the site where the airport is proposed has more than two dozen buildings. Part of the land belonging to Ram Manohar Lohia Avadh University has also come in the ambit of the airport.