

'PM's ideas driving force behind Ayodhya projects'

Had Suggested Addl Tourism Attractions

Devotees would obviously be attracted towards God and there will be a huge footfall in Ayodhya to see Lord Ram after the temple is inaugurated. However, we must focus on additional vistas, tourism attractions so that the visiting devotees stay and spend time in the town," the PM said during a recent meeting with the Trust functionaries.

Trust secretary Champat Rai and chairman of the temple construction committee and former principal secretary to the PM Nripendra Mishra, along with other trust members, had met Modi on October 25 to invite him for the consecration of the Ram Lalla idol, slated for January 22 next year. The PM has confirmed his presence at the function.

One of the suggestions was to set up a world class "museum of temples" and its construction is likely to start soon on a war-footing. The museum showcasing the rich architectural tradi-



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with Union home minister Amit Shah and BJP chief JP Nadda in New Delhi on Thursday

tions of Indian temples will be built on the banks of Sarayu River and 25 acres of land has been identified for the project. "PM Modi's ideas are the driving force behind multiple projects being taken up in Ayodhya," said a source.

Other projects include 'Ram Charit Manas Experience Centre' which will depict the life of Lord Ram in an engaging manner while a world-class wax museum will depict various subjects related to Ramayana, sources said.

A mega multimedia foundation park is also being constructed in the shape of a lotus flower besides projects such as 'Ayodhya Haat' and 'Ayodhya Aerocity'.

The development and infrastructure projects have been categorised into eight broad themes—Aesthetic Ayodhya, Clean Ayodhya, Efficient Ayodhya, Accessible Ayodhya, Experiential Ayodhya, Modern Ayodhya, Cultural Ayodhya and Healthy Ayodhya.

The most visible change will be in the facades of the buildings along the city's main arteries. "The front portion of all the buildings and structures situated on Ram Path have been razed. After the road-widening work, the façade control guidelines will be implemented," said Vishal Singh, vice-chairman of Ayodhya Development Authority (ADA), the agency leading the development work.

The building facades are being redone in the Nagara style of architecture that's seen in the temples of north India. Implementation of the façade control guidelines on the four key city routes connecting the temple complex with other parts of the district will cost Rs 45-50 crore.