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Yogi Adityanath: UP government to make Agra an IT hub, generate jobs for thousands of youth

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LUCKNOW: Questioning the intent behind the works undertaken in Agra by previous governments, chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday said that the city did not need Mughals but Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Addressing a prabuddha sammelan ahead of the local body elections due in the state by the end of December, the CM said the previous government was building a museum dedicated to Mughals in Agra but his government has decided to instead dedicate it to Chhatrapati. The city, under BJP, was getting back its mythological identity, the CM said.

"Before 2017, Agra was known as one of the dirtiest cities in the country. However, in the past five-and-a-half years, everyone has witnessed the changing picture of Agra. We have decided to make this a hub of IT and electronics which will provide employment to thousands of youth," he said.

The CM also launched 88 development projects worth Rs 488 crore for the district.

Referring to the pollution in Agra due to which the Supreme Court had earlier directed that industrial activity around it be shut down, the CM said that no new construction was being allowed due to it. "All kinds of restrictions had to be imposed on the then government for promoting anarchy and disorder. The SC had brought Agra under the Taj Trapezium Zone. So now, keeping in mind pollution issues, we have decided to set up IT and electronics industries in Agra and surrounding areas so that thousands of youth can get employment," he said.

He said that Agra is now establishing a new paradigm under the Smart City Mission. It has modern public transportation facilities and by next year, Agra will get Metro Rail.

Talking about security in the state, the CM said that the mafia, which had earlier spread fear among people, was now begging for mercy due to strict imposition of law and order. He said that now criminals were wandering in the streets with placards hanging around their necks pleading for their lives and stating that they were willing to sell vegetables instead. Before 2014, he said, there was anarchy within the country and there was a deep sense of mistrust towards politics.