

# U.P. now treading path of aspirations: Modi

PM launches Rs 1780 cr projects in Kashi, hails Yogi govt on eve of 1st anniversary of its second term

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**VARANASI** : Noting that the Yogi Adityanath government completes the first year of its second term on Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said Uttar Pradesh has emerged from the shadows of disappointment and is now treading the path of aspirations and expectations.

He also said Uttar Pradesh is adding new dimensions to every sector of development in the state.

The Prime Minister made these remarks at a public meeting at Sampurnanand Sanskrit University ground in his Lok Sabha constituency Varanasi after laying the foundation stones and inaugurating a total of 28 projects worth Rs 1780 crore. These projects include a passenger ropeway system for Kashi.

"The Yogi government in Uttar Pradesh is completing the first year of its second term tomorrow, on 25th March," Modi said and added, "Yogiji has created a new record of being the chief minister of the state for the longest time (unbroken stint)."

He also said Uttar Pradesh is a clear example of increased security and service ensuring prosperity.

"Where security and facilities increase, prosperity increases for sure. This is what is happening in Uttar Pradesh today," he said.

He also stated the development of Kashi (Modi's Lok Sabha constituency Varanasi) was being discussed all over

the country and the world.

There is heritage as well as development in Kashi, said Modi. Starting his speech with the chant of Har Har Mahadev, Modi extended Navratri greetings to the people of Kashi.

"With the blessings of Maa Chitraghanta, a new chapter is being added to the happiness and prosperity of Banaras. Today, the development of Kashi is being discussed all over the country and the world. Everyone who visits Kashi is taking energy from here."

Modi said there was simultaneous 'darshan' of the old and the new in Kashi. He mentioned there was a global buzz around the Kashi Vishwanath Dham, Ganga Ghat and the longest river cruise. Over seven crore (70 million) tourists visited Kashi in just one year, he said.

These tourists are creating new economic opportunities and employment in the city, the Prime Minister said.

He also highlighted the new development projects related to tourism and the beautification of the city.

"Be it roads, bridges, railways or airports, the connectivity to Varanasi has completely eased," the Prime Minister said as he pointed out that the new ropeway project will take the connectivity in the city to a new level.

He noted that it will boost facilities in the city along with creating a new attraction for tourists.

The distance between Varanasi Cantt railway station and the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor will be covered within minutes after completion of the ropeway while easing traffic congestion in areas between Cantt Station and Godowlia. He emphasised modern facilities for the ropeway will create a new centre for economic activities.

Modi also talked about the



(Left) Prime Minister Narendra Modi, CM Yogi Adityanath, governor Anandiben Patel, deputy CM Brajesh Pathak and others at the inauguration and laying of foundation stone of various development projects and (right) a party supporter celebrating during the ceremony at Sampurnanand Sanskrit University ground in Varanasi on Friday.



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## KEY POINTS

**1** PM Modi lays foundation stone of passenger ropeway from Varanasi Cantt station to Godowlia.

**2** He dedicates 19 drinking water schemes under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

**3** Kashi defied the apprehensions of people and succeeded in transforming the city, he says.

**4** PM also says everyone has witnessed the transforming landscape of Ganga Ghats in the past nine years.

**5** Modi observes that eight crore (80 million) households in the country have received tapped water supply in the last three years.

new ATC (air traffic control) tower at Lal Bahadur Shastri Airport here as a step towards strengthening the air connectivity with Kashi.



BJP supporters during the function at Sampurnanand Sanskrit University ground in Varanasi on Friday.

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He touched upon the development of floating jetty and underlined that the main focus point has been the needs of pilgrims and tourists.

"Everyone has witnessed the transforming landscape of the Ganga Ghats in the past nine years," he remarked.

PM Modi said processing, transportation and storage facilities here were giving new impetus to export of the 'langda' mango of Varanasi, 'bhindi' (ladyfinger) and 'hari mirch' (green chillis) of Ghazipur, Jaunpur's mooli (radish) and 'kharbooje' (musk melon) to international markets.

Modi said that even though the people may call him the 'Pradhan Mantri', he holds the belief that he is here only to serve the people.

He also interacted with beneficiaries of various government schemes and winners of the Khelo Banaras competition where a lakh (100,000) athletes participated.

He mentioned new sporting facilities for the youth of Varanasi. The foundation stone for the Phase 2 and 3 expansion of Sriga Stadium was laid on Friday. He also said an international cricket stadium would come up in Varanasi.

## 'INDIA ON WAY TO TB ERADICATION BY 2025'

**VARANASI**: Executive director of Stop TB, Dr Lucica Ditiu said that India was on the way to TB eradication by 2025 under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Dr Lucica remarked that the summit was taking place in one of the oldest cities in the world (Varanasi) to discuss a thousand-year-old disease (TB). She also underlined the global welfare embrace of India's G-20 Presidency and explained the importance of the theme - One World One Health.

She also said that due to the efforts of countries like India, the number of people not getting diagnosis and treatment for TB had gone below 3 million for the first time. She praised India's scale in tackling TB and the TB Free India initiative and expressed the belief that India would end TB by 2025.

She also informed about the UN high-level meeting on TB taking place on September 22 during the UN General Assembly in New York and also requested the Prime Minister's presence in the meeting.

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