

# UP set to launch luxury cruise ships in Ayodhya

**Lucknow:** The Yogi Adityanath government on Saturday said it will launch river cruise and houseboat tours in Ayodhya. The 25 metre long, 8.3 metre wide luxury cruise ships will cost Rs 11 crore and house up to 100 passengers.

The first floor of the ships will offer an open deck so tourists get to view the city while cruising over the Saryu and also attend the evening aarti at the ghats. Deputy director of tourism department, RP Yadav said the department land near Chaudhary Charan Singh park in Nayaghat will be offered to the company operating the cruise to establish the jetty platform. The government has asked the com-

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pany to gear up for the launch by the time Ram Mandir gets inaugurated and also make arrangements to manage the crowd during Deepotsavs.

“Two cruise ships will be launched. The timeline for the first is October so it gets ready before Deepotsav. But a lot of work needs to be done, hence deadline could be pushed a bit,” said an officer. **TNN**

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