

ON A DAY-LONG TOUR OF VARANASI

Kashi Will Emerge As a Big Centre for Healthcare: Modi



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the inauguration of the RJ Sankara Eye Hospital, in Varanasi on Sunday – ANI

Our Political Bureau

New Delhi: Blaming the previous governments for neglecting eastern Uttar Pradesh, PM Narendra Modi on Sunday said Kashi, which has its identity as a centre of religion and spirituality, will now also emerge as a big centre of healthcare.

PM Modi was speaking at the inauguration ceremony of the RJ Sankara Eye Hospital in Varanasi which he represents in the Lok Sabha. Shankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha, Shankar Vijayendra Saraswati was also present on this occasion. The RJ Sankara Eye Hospital is the 14th hospital to be run by the Kanchi Math in the country. The PM met with the Shankaracharya of Kanchi before the inauguration.

"For a long time, Kashi's identity has been that of a centre of religion and spirituality. But now, it is also set to emerge as a big centre of healthcare with various top-of-the-line health treatment facilities now available in Varanasi," PM Modi further said. He added 25 crore people have emerged from poverty in the last one decade. "That is why, our government is paying special attention

to ensure people remain healthy," he said. People of eastern UP, accommodating at least 20 districts, will be benefitted by the RJ Sankara Eye Hospital, besides, those who are living in the border areas of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh.

PM Modi, who was on a day-long tour of Varanasi, also launched a series of development initiatives, including multiple airport projects across the country

14TH HOSPITAL



RJ Sankara Eye Hospital in Varanasi is the 14th hospital to be run by the Kanchi Math in the country

worth over ₹6,700 crore. This is PM Modi's first visit to Varanasi since June 18. He laid the foundation stone for airport runway expansion, construction of a new terminal building, and other allied work at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, which will cost around ₹2,870 crore.