

Ayodhya set for a global spotlight as ₹350cr big-ticket projects take shape

Master Plan '31 Set To Fast-track Planned Devpt

Shalabh@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: Determined to put Ayodhya on the global map, the state govt has approved a series of development projects to improve the spiritual experience of visitors. Worth more than Rs 350 crore, seven major projects have been rolled out in the 2025-26 financial year at the behest of the local development authority.

In another important development that will fast-track the delivery of hospitality, retail, commercial, and industrial projects, the master plan 2031 — which would govern planned development over 873 sqkm — has been taken up by the state govt for final review and is expected to be approved within a fortnight.

Officials said the clearance



for 34 private projects would be granted, and construction activity would begin soon after the master plan is approved. Among the key projects being set up for tourists is a modern lodge. It will be set up close to Tedhibazar crossing over a Nazul land parcel. Forty-eight accommodations catering to budget and premium travellers will be constructed over the plot with a budget of Rs



(Above) As part of the Dhawajrohan religious ceremonies, vedic scholars and devotees taking out a kalash yatra in Ayodhya on Thursday; (left) the Ram Temple dhvaj will be hoisted atop the 161-foot high shikhar of Ram Mandir

20.60 crore. Civil works on the project commenced in June this year, and the public amenity will be ready by July 31 next year.

Similarly, a mini forest over a 230-acre land will be set up near Dashrath Samadhi Sthal on Bundha Road, with an estimated cost of Rs 20 crore. Themed on the lines of Shabri Van, as per the Ramayan, topographical work and land pavement exercises have been initiated over the 70-acre area for the first phase of the project.

A Rs 4 crore floating public bath kund is coming up on the Saryu River, offering separate bathing areas, changing rooms, and a restaurant, ensuring a safe and convenient experience for devotees. Thirty percent of the civil works have been completed, with the project kicking off in August. It will be ready by August next year, said officials.

The Ayodhya Development Authority has launched a residential scheme this year. The

Vashisth Kunj scheme is being set up in Sohawal, 20 km away from the Ram Temple. The ADA secured responses from people in different parts of the state and country for 600 plots that were launched. The township will be developed over a 30-hectare area.

Similarly, branding and decorative works to enhance the city's aesthetic value are also being carried out on a large scale ahead of the Dhawajrohan ceremony on Nov 25. As a new feature, visitors will see mudra miniatures, mudra stambhs, Ram stambh, and Surya stambh at regular intervals while commuting in the city.

Ayodhya Development Authority vice-chairman Anuraj Jain, said, "We have received several building plans and maps from private players who are interested in setting up projects in Ayodhya during the current financial year. Once the master plan is approved, maps will be sanctioned. The master plan is going to be taken up by housing department within a few days."