

UP rapidly moving towards \$1 trn-dollar economy: PM

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Highlighting the state's cultural legacy, Modi said the consecration ceremony at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, reconstruction of the Kashi Vishwanath Dham, organisation of Maha Kumbh, and the ongoing Magh Mela reflected UP's rich cultural strength, which unlocked immense tourism potential.

"UP was also a fertile ground for the freedom movement. The state was the birthplace and workplace of icons such as Rani Lakshmi Bai, Jhalkaribai, Begum Hazrat Mahal, Mangal Pandey, Ram Prasad Bismil, Chandrashekhar Azad and Ashfaqullah Khan. In the medieval period, Raja Suheldev ended the terror of invaders, while history also bore testimony to the valour of Raja Bijli Pasi," he said. Carrying forward these inspiring legacies, the people of

'UP grew from BIMARU to India's growth engine'

In his video message to people of the state, CM Yogi Adityanath highlighted how UP, a state with limitless possibilities, broke the shackles of struggle and policy paralysis and grew from a BIMARU state to India's growth engine. Identifying Ayodhya, Kashi, Mathura and Sambhal as examples of the state's cultural revival, he said UP was a centre of Indian culture, literature, music, art and spiritual consciousness for years. "In this Amrit Kaal, our state is fulfilling the idea of inclusive development while holding on to its cultural and spiritual heritage," Yogi said. The govt, he said, established the rule of law and good governance, while labour reforms, deregulation, MSME, skill development, start-ups and ODOP helped to generate employment and take the state on the path of 'local to global'. He identified a historic increase in the participation of women in workforce, improved health services due to expansion of medical infrastructure, and better trade, tourism and investment because of robust road, air and water connectivity. "Due to our clean intent and strong resolve, UP emerged from a bottleneck state to a breakthrough state," he said.

UP forged a distinct identity for the state through hard work, strength and dedication. "Today, the state is rapidly moving towards becoming a trillion-dollar economy," he said.

The PM said that under the BJP govt, both pending and new projects were being completed at a rapid pace. He added that 'Pragati' meetings at the central level played a key role in exped-

iting development. He said that after the Purvanchal, Bundelkhand and Delhi-Meerut expressways, the Ganga Expressway was set to give fresh momentum to the state's growth.

"UP will soon have 21 airports, the highest in the country. International airports at Lucknow, Varanasi and Ayodhya opened new gateways to the world, while the upcoming Noida International Airport at Jewar will meet the aspirations of millions of passengers," the PM said. "With its vast human potential, UP is strengthening the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan'. Every district of the state has a unique strength, and the 'One District, One Product' initiative is empowering millions of small and cottage industries," he said. He said that through semiconductor chip manufacturing, BrahMos production and Defence Corridor, UP was emerging as a symbol of a developing India.