

Bundelkhand's ancient Dashavatar Temple to get major tourism push

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LUCKNOW: The Uttar Pradesh government has announced a major tourism development project around the historic Dashavatar Temple in Deogarh, Lalitpur, to promote Bundelkhand as a religious and heritage tourism destination.

The nearly 1,500-year-old temple is known for its Gupta-era architecture and detailed carvings dedicated to Lord Vishnu. It is considered one of the oldest surviving temples in northern India.

Officials said the project aims to preserve the region's cultural heritage while improving facilities for visitors. Director general tourism Vedpati Mishra said the initiative reflects the state government's "Vikas Bhi, Virasat Bhi" vision. He said the temple's historical and architectural importance attracts pilgrims,



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researchers and tourists from across the country.

According to officials, Lalitpur recorded more than 60.74 lakh tourist arrivals in 2025. The government is now focusing on improving infrastructure around important heritage sites in the region.

The Uttar Pradesh Avas Vikas

Parishad has been appointed as the implementing agency for the project.

The proposed work includes construction of a grand entrance gateway, RCC and masonry structures, steel framework, modern flooring, cladding work and other visitor amenities. Protected by the Archaeological Survey of India, the Dashavatar Temple is regarded as an important example of early Indian temple architecture. Built in the traditional Panchayatana style using polished stone blocks, the temple features carvings of Lord Vishnu's ten incarnations along with depictions of Ganga, Yamuna and other Hindu deities.

The Uttar Pradesh government has sanctioned ₹2.80 crore for the project. Officials said ₹1.75 crore has already been released for the first phase of development.