

Uttarayani Festival on Ram Temple Theme | Uttarakhand | 10 Jan 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami directed to celebrate **the Uttarayani festival** and fair, observed on <u>Makar Sankranti</u> every year in the state's Kumaon region, with the **theme of the** <u>Ram Temple consecration ceremony</u>.

Key Points

- The chief minister urged the people to perform Deepotsav in their homes and organize Kalash Yatras and Ram Katha.
- He also emphasized on organizing a campaign to clean the ghats of major rivers.
- Essay and painting competitions should be organized in schools on the ideals of Lord Ram.

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Ram Temple Consecration Ceremony

- Preparations for the 'pran-pratishtha' ceremony of Ram Lalla in Ayodhya on January 22 includes:
 - Idols of elephants, lions, Lord Hanuman and Garuda, 'vahana' of Lord Vishnu, have been installed at the entrance gate of the Ram Temple.
 - Invitation cards for the consecration ceremony have been sent out to guests including VVIPs, priests, donors and several politicians.
- According to Sri Ram Janmabhoomi Tirath Kshetra Trust, the committee overseeing the construction of the temple:
 - The Ram Mandir, constructed in the traditional <u>Nagara style</u>, is a three-storied shrine, measuring 380 feet in length (east-west direction), 250 feet in width, and 161 feet in height.
 - It has a total of 392 pillars and 44 doors. It features five Mandaps (halls) -- Nritya Mandap, Rang Mandap, Sabha Mandap, Prarthna and Kirtan Mandaps.

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