



Madhya Pradesh to Boost Cruise Tourism

Why in News?

Recently, the [Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board](#) has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)** and the **Government of Gujarat** to elevate [cruise tourism](#) in Madhya Pradesh.

Key Points

- Under this collaboration, **two floating jetties, known as pontoons**, have been dispatched from Kolkata to Kukshi in the state.
 - The proposed cruise route is set to embark from [Ekatma Dham \(Statue of Oneness\)](#) in **Omkareshwar, Madhya Pradesh**, and voyage to the [Statue of Unity in Kevadiya, Gujarat](#).
- According to the terms outlined in the MoU, IWAI is committed to providing two floating jetties to both Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.
- Additional **infrastructure and amenities for cruise tourism will be developed by the state** government, fostering economic growth in the region and extending benefits to the local populace.
- **Cruise tourism** promises not only to **enrich the tourism landscape** but also to offer tourists an immersive experience of the local culture, traditions, lifestyle, and cuisine amid the scenic vistas of the [Narmada River](#).

Narmada River

- The Narmada River (also known as Rewa) serves as a traditional boundary between North and South India.
- It is 1,312 km west of its origin from the [Amarkantak peak](#) of Maikal mountain. It flows into the **Gulf of Khambhat**.
- It drains a large area in Madhya Pradesh besides some areas in the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- **It is a West flowing river of the peninsular region** flowing through a rift valley between the Vindhya Range on the north and the Satpura Range on the south.
- **Tributaries:**
 - The **predominant tributaries from the right** are – Hiran, Tendori, Barna, Kolar, Man, Uri, Hatni, and Orsang.
 - The **predominant left tributaries are** – Burner, Banjar, Sher, Shakkar, Dudhi, Tawa, Ganjal, Chhota Tawa, Kundi, Goi, and Karjan.
- **Dams:**
 - The Major dams on the river include Omkareshwar and Maheshwar dams.



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