



Rajasthan Declares Half-Day Holiday for Pran-Pratishtha Ceremony

Why in News?

The Rajasthan government declared a **half-day holiday in the state on January 22** in view of [the consecration ceremony of Ram temple in Ayodhya](#).

Key Points

- The state's order comes after the Centre announced a half-day holiday for all its employees on January 22.
- 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**.
- The city has undergone major improvements in preparation for the temple's inauguration:
 - Prior to the Ram temple's opening, **hotel rates in Ayodhya** reportedly **increased** and many are already booked.
 - **Vande Bharat Express** will connect two prominent temples in Uttar Pradesh - Ram Janmabhoomi and Gorakhnath.
 - **Airlines intend to provide service to and from major cities** such as Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, and Ahmedabad.
- The construction of the Ram Temple has already **helped the economic condition in Ayodhya**. The increasing number of tourists visiting the district creates new job opportunities for locals.

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