



Ayodhya Deepotsav 2024 | Uttar Pradesh | 30 Oct 2024

Why in News?

Recently, preparations for the 8th [Deepotsav in Ayodhya](#) have intensified under [Chief Minister's](#) guidance to make this year's event the grandest one.

Key Points

- A total of **18 tableaux** depicting pivotal moments in **Lord Ram's life** will be displayed, symbolizing **Ayodhya's deep cultural heritage**.
 - Key events such as his **marriage, exile, and victory over Ravana** will be represented.
- The **Information Department** is creating 11 tableaux, while the **Tourism Department** is crafting seven, focusing on the seven chapters of the **Ram Charit Manas**, such as **Bal Kand and Lanka Kand**.
- Ayodhya will be illuminated extensively, with diverse lighting enhancing the city's festive spirit.

Ramlila (North India)

- Ramlila, literally "[Rama's play](#)" is a performance of [Ramayana epic](#) in a series of scenes that include song, narration, recital and dialogue.
- It recalls the battle between Rama and Ravana and consists of a series of dialogues between gods, sages and the faithful.
- It is performed across northern India during the festival of [Dussehra](#).
- The most representative Ramlilas are those of [Ayodhya](#), Ramnagar and [Benares](#), [Vrindavan](#), Almora, Sattna and [Madhubani](#).
- This staging of the Ramayana is based on the [Ramcharitmanas](#) which was composed by [Tulsidas](#) in the 16th century AD.

Green Ayodhya Fund Initiative | Uttar Pradesh | 30 Oct 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Ayodhya introduced the [Green Ayodhya Fund](#) to drive sustainable [urban development](#) and environmental conservation.

Key Points

- **Objective:**
 - The fund aims to promote [eco-friendly](#) initiatives, sustainable urban planning, and conservation efforts to create a greener Ayodhya.

- It supports projects on [waste management](#), [renewable energy](#), urban greenery, and [pollution reduction](#), aligning with environmental goals for sustainable urban landscapes.

- **Public Involvement:**

- The fund encourages community participation and donations to support initiatives, fostering a sense of shared responsibility in [environmental conservation](#).

Ram Temple

- **Traditional Architecture and Construction:**

- This is a 3-storey temple, built in the traditional Nagara style, standing tall with pink sandstone from Mirzapur and the hills of Bansi-Paharpur (Rajasthan).
- Temple covers an expansive 71 acres, showcasing the architectural marvel.

- **Temple Dimensions:**

- Spanning 250 feet in width and 161 feet in height, the main temple area covers 2.67 acres, boasting 390 pillars, 46 doorways, and 5 mandaps.

- **Unique Features Inside:**

- The main Garbh Griha holds the idols of Ram Lalla, accompanied by multiple mandaps, including Rang Mandap & Nritya Mandap.

- **Innovative Anointment Tradition:**

- On every Ram Navami at noon, a system of mirrors and lenses will focus the sun's rays on Ram Lalla's idol. This unique anointment requires no electricity, utilizing brass instead of iron or steel.

- **Sculptor's Contribution:**

- The idol of five-year-old Ram Lalla, crafted by Mysuru sculptor Arun Yogiraj, stands at 51 inches and was consecrated in a special ceremony.

- **Durability and Symbolism:**

- No iron has been used in the temple's construction, designed to endure for at least a millennium.

J&K Integrity Pledge | Jammu & Kashmir | 30 Oct 2024

Why in News?

Recently, J&K Chief Minister led an integrity pledge as part of [Vigilance Awareness Week](#) to reinforce anti-corruption efforts.

Key Points

- **Commitment to Transparency:**

- Chief Minister emphasized a corruption-free Jammu & Kashmir through reforms, strict oversight, and citizen empowerment, aligning with the Vigilance Week theme of "**Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity.**"

- **Widespread Participation:**

- The pledge involved ministers, secretariat officials, and district-level leaders, with additional ceremonies held across departments to ensure full administrative support for integrity in governance.

- **Mission for Ethical Governance:**

- CM reinforced his government's goal to prioritize public welfare, stressing a governance model that focuses on transparency, efficient resource use, and integrity-driven decision-

making.

Vigilance Awareness Week

- The [Central Vigilance Commission](#) (CVC) observes the Week every year during the week in which the birthday of [Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel](#) (31st October) falls.
- **Objective:** It affirms India's commitment to the promotion of integrity and probity in public life through citizen participation and reiterates Government's resolve to continue the crusade against corruption.

Nakshatra Sabha: Astro-Tourism in Uttarakhand | Uttarakhand | 30 Oct 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Nakshatra Sabha was launched to promote [astro-tourism](#) and local heritage across Uttarakhand.

Key Points

- **Event Overview:**
 - Organized by Starscapes in collaboration with the [Uttarakhand Tourism](#) Development Board, Nakshatra Sabha is a year-long series of immersive astro-tourism events.
 - The initiative includes celestial observations, [astrophotography sessions](#), and cultural immersion at various **dark-sky locations**.
- **Cultural Integration:**
 - Each edition highlights the region's natural beauty, cultural significance, and the interplay between astronomy and local heritage.
 - Events aim to make astronomy accessible and engaging, fostering interest among participants of all ages.
 - The program promotes awareness of [Uttarakhand's rich traditions](#) and its historical connections to astronomy.
- **Community Involvement:**
 - Local communities are encouraged to participate, enhancing tourism and supporting local economies.
 - Participants can engage in guided stargazing sessions, workshops, and discussions led by experts in astronomy and culture.

Uttarakhand Tourism Policy

- **Investment Promotion:**
 - The new tourism policy aims to attract investments by setting a minimum project cost of Rs. 5 crore, providing up to 50% subsidies in unexplored areas, and 100% subsidies for initiatives like heli tourism and adventure activities.
- **Categorization of Cities:**
 - Cities are divided into three categories (A, B, and C) with varying subsidy rates: 25% in Category A, 35% in Category B, and up to 50% in Category C, along with exemptions from stamp duty.
- **Diverse Incentives:**
 - Financial incentives are offered for various tourism ventures, including hotels, adventure sports, and eco-friendly transport options, aimed at creating new employment

opportunities and promoting sustainable tourism.

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