



# Uttarakhand's Narayankoti Temple: Adopt a Heritage Project

## Why in News

Recently, the Narayankoti temple (Uttarakhand) has been included under the Centre's [Adopt a Heritage project](#).



## Key Points

### ▪ Adopt a Heritage Project:

#### ◦ About:

- Launched on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 ([World Tourism Day](#)), it is a **collaborative effort by the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture and [Archaeological Survey of India \(ASI\)](#), State/UTs Governments.**

#### ◦ Aim:

- To **develop [tourism amenities](#)** at heritage/ natural/ tourist sites spread across India to make them tourist friendly, in a planned and phased manner.

#### ◦ Implementation:

- The **sites/monuments are selected** on the **basis of tourist footfall and visibility** and can be **adopted by private and public sector companies and individuals** — known as **Monument Mitras** — for an initial period of **five years**.

- The Monument Mitras are **selected by the ‘oversight and vision committee,’** co-chaired by the **Tourism Secretary and the Culture Secretary**, on the basis of the bidder’s ‘vision’ for development of all amenities at the heritage site.
  - There is **no financial bid involved.**
- The corporate sector is expected to use **Corporate Social Responsibility** (CSR) funds for the upkeep of the site.

### Other Related Schemes

- **DekhoApnaDesh**
- **Iconic Tourist Sites**
- **Swadesh Darshan**
- **Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)**

### ▪ Narayankoti Temple:

- The temple is a **group of ancient temples**, about 2 km from Guptkashi on the **Rudraprayag-Gaurikund highway**.
- This is the **only place in the country which has nine planetary temples in a group** that are a “symbol of nine planets”.
- It is devoted to **Lakshmi Narayana** who is associated with Pandavas.
- It is believed that these temples were **constructed in the 9<sup>th</sup> century**.

### Other Important Places in Uttarakhand

- **Chardham** - Gangotri, Yamunotri, Badrinath (on the bank of River Alaknanda, dedicated to Lord Vishnu), Kedarnath (dedicated to Lord Shiva), collectively known as Char dham.
  - Under the **Chardham Pariyojana**, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is aiming to improve the connectivity for Chardham.
- **Hemkund Sahib:** Formerly known as Gurudwara Shri Hemkund Sahib Ji, it is a Sikh place of worship and pilgrimage site in Chamoli district. It is devoted to **Guru Gobind Singh**, the tenth Sikh Guru, and finds mention in Dasam Granth, a work dictated by Guruji himself.
- **UNESCO World Heritage Site** of Valley of Flowers and Nanda Devi (National Parks).
- **Jim Corbett National Park** (oldest national park of the country) and **Rajaji Tiger Reserve**.

**Source: IE**

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