



Madhya Pradesh to Develop Places Associated with Deities

Why in News?

On the occasion of [Janmashtami](#), the Madhya Pradesh government has decided to **develop places connected to** the two revered deities [Lord Ram](#) and **Krishna**.

Key Points

- Madhya Pradesh has a glorious history as **Lord Ram spent 11 years in the state while Lord Krishna got education in Acharya Sandipani Ashram in Ujjain.**
- The initiative to **establish 'Geeta Bhawans' in various urban areas** of the state **aims to promote the study of Lord Krishna.**

Janmashtami

- [Janmashtami](#), also called **Gokulashtami or Shrikrishna Jayanti**, is a major Hindu festival celebrating the birth of Lord Krishna, the **eighth avatar of Vishnu.**
- It is celebrated on the **Ashtami (eighth day) of Krishna Paksha** in the **Bhadrapada month** of the **lunisolar Hindu calendar**, usually in **August or September.**
- One of the key highlights of Janmashtami is the "**Dahi Handi**" event.

Acharya Sandipani Ashram

- [Ancient Ujjain](#), apart from its political and religious importance, was a **prestigious center of learning at the beginning of the Mahabharata period.**
- **Lord Krishna and Sudama** received regular **education in the ashram of Guru Sandipani.**
 - The area near the ashram is known as Ankpat, a place believed to have been used by Lord Krishna to wash his writings.
- The numbers 1 to 100 found on a stone are believed to have been engraved by Guru Sandipani.
- The **Gomti Kund** mentioned in [the Puranas](#) was the source of water supply to the ashram in the olden days.
- The followers of the [Vallabh sect](#) consider this place as the 73rd seat out of the 84 seats of [Vallabhacharya](#) where he gave his discourses across India.