



Infrastructure Development for Tourism

Why in News?

The Uttar Pradesh government will spend ₹4,560 crore in 2025-26 to upgrade roads connecting important religious and historical sites.

- The plan covers 272 projects aimed at boosting religious tourism, improving infrastructure, and making travel easier for devotees.

Key Points

- **About the Project:**
 - **Major focus areas include:** [Ayodhya](#), [Varanasi](#), [Mathura](#), [Chitrakoot](#), Prayagraj, Naimisharanya, and Mirzapur.
 - These places are of significant religious, cultural, and mythological importance.
 - Roads selected typically witness an **average footfall of 5 lakh devotees per year**.
 - Execution will be managed jointly by the **Public Works Department (PWD)** and the **Religious Works Department**.
 - The **Principal Secretary of Religious Works Department** has approved the road strengthening efforts.
 - **Land Acquisition Considerations:** Priority is given to routes that require minimal land acquisition to ensure fast-tracked implementation.
 - **Key Project Features:**
 - Road widening and strengthening
 - Surface repairs and lane markings
 - Pedestrian sidewalks and carriageway upgrades
 - Beautification and expansion
 - Traffic management enhancements
 - Improved road safety standards
 - **Significance:**
 - Reduced travel time and enhanced safety for pilgrims.
 - Smoother, more organized journeys for tourists and devotees.
 - Boost in religious tourism and local economic development.

UPPCS Foundation Course

आ Hindi Medium

En English Medium



Personalised Mentorship



Free Study Material

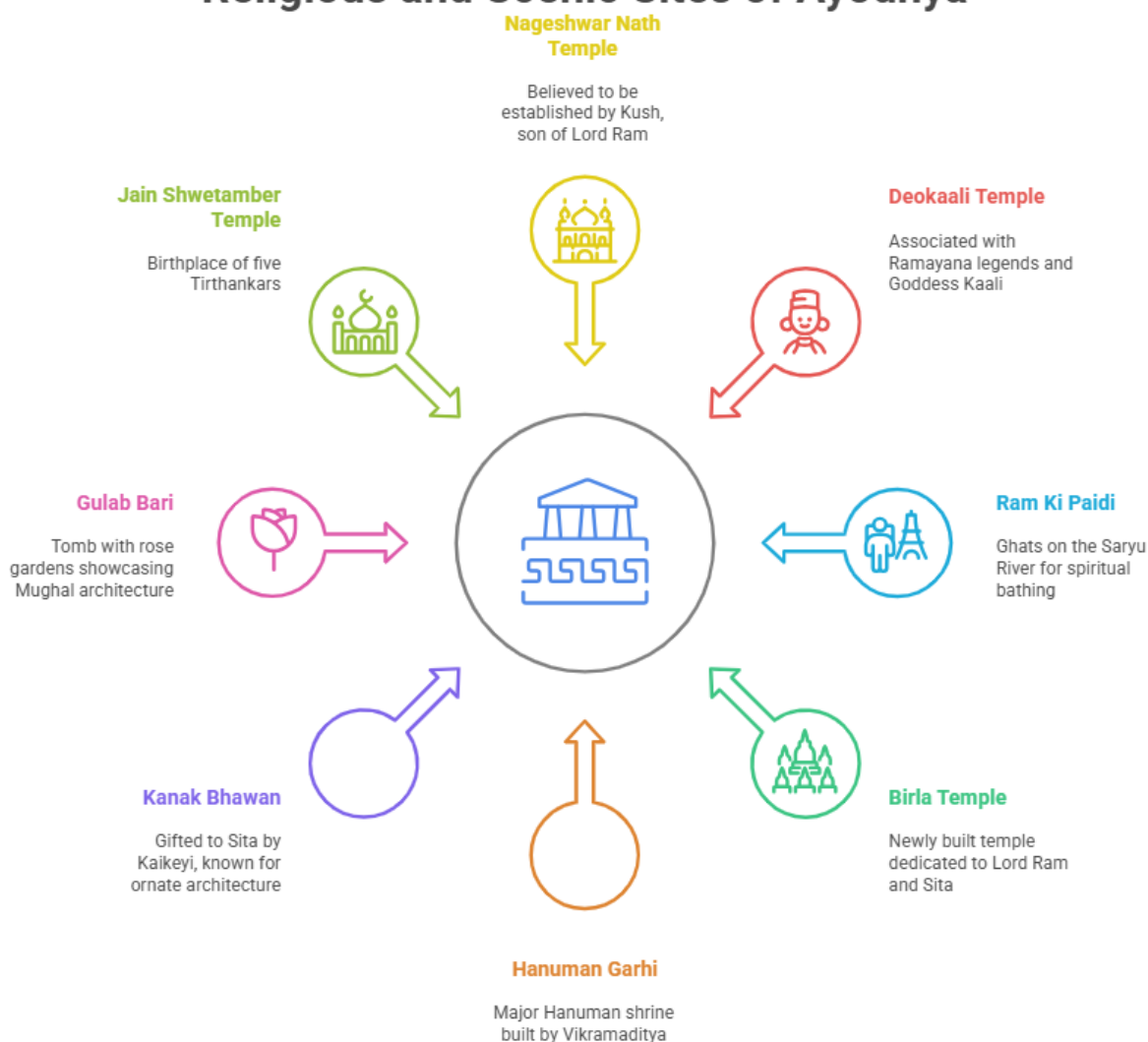


Answer Writing Practice

Admissions Open

87501 87501

Religious and Scenic Sites of Ayodhya



Tourist Places of Varanasi

- **Sarnath:** Located 10 km northeast of Varanasi near the confluence of the Ganges and Varuna rivers, Sarnath is a significant Buddhist site where Lord Buddha gave his first sermon.
- **Ganga Ghat:** The ghats of Varanasi are iconic riverfront steps on the banks of the Ganges. The city has 88 ghats, most of which are used for bathing and religious rituals.
- **Shree Kashi Vishvanath Temple:** One of India's most revered temples, dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is a major spiritual center and an important pilgrimage site.
- **BHU (Banaras Hindu University):** Situated in the historic city of Varanasi, also known as **Kashi**

or the City of Lights, BHU is a landmark educational and spiritual hub surrounded by many important religious places.

Mathura & Vrindavan Region

- **Shri Krishna Janmbhoomi (Mathura):** The sacred site marks the birthplace of Lord Krishna, believed to **be where he manifested in a prison cell**.
- **Shri Dwarkadhish Temple (Mathura):** One of the **oldest and largest temples in Mathura, dedicated to Lord Krishna** in his Dwarkadhish (King of Dwarka) form.
- **Raman Reti, Gokul:** Situated near Mathura, Raman Reti (or Raman Van) is believed to be the **sacred land where young Krishna played in the sands**.
- **Shri Banke Bihari Mandir (Vrindavan):** A major Krishna **temple in Vrindavan**, known for its unique worship style and deep spiritual atmosphere. It attracts thousands of devotees daily.
- **ISKCON Temple, Vrindavan:** Also known as the Sri Krishna Balrama Mandir, this is the first temple built by the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), and a hub of Krishna devotion worldwide.
- **Shri Radha Rani Mandir (Barsana):** Located in Barsana, this temple is dedicated to Radha Rani and is a major pilgrimage site in the Braj region, drawing large crowds during festivals like Holi.

Chitrakoot

- **Ram Ghat:** A sacred ghat on the **banks of the Mandakini River where Lord Ram, Sita, and Lakshman are believed to have bathed**. It is a hub of spiritual activity, especially during festivals.
- **Kamadgiri:** A forested hill **believed to be the original Chitrakoot**. Devotees undertake a **parikrama (circumambulation)** around the hill, considering it extremely sacred.
- **Bharat Milap Mandir:** Located on **Kamadgiri Parikrama path**, this temple marks the site where Bharat met Lord Ram to persuade him to return to Ayodhya.
- **Hanuman Dhara:** A scenic **spot on a hilltop where a stream flows over a Hanuman idol**. It is believed that Lord Ram **calmed Hanuman's anger here** after the burning of Lanka.
- **Sati Anusuya Ashram:** An ancient ashram associated with the sage Atri and his wife Anusuya. It is surrounded by tranquil forests and natural springs.