

Bhojpur Temple Hosts Cleanliness Drive

Why in News?

On 10th August 2025, **Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board organized** a successful **cleanliness drive** at the **tentative UNESCO World Heritage site Bhojpur Temple (Bhojeshwar Mahadev Temple)**, spreading the message of national pride and environmental responsibility.

■ The event was conducted under the theme "Azadi Ka Utsav Swachhta Ke Sang," encouraging people to celebrate freedom with cleanliness.

Key Points

- Environmental Awareness: Participants focused on eco-friendly waste disposal, especially flowers and offerings, promoting cleanliness and preserving heritage.
- Spiritual Awareness: Karma Yoga teachings from the <u>Bhagavad Gita</u> were shared, blending social, environmental, and spiritual consciousness.

Bhojeshwar Mahadev Temple





- Location: Bhojpur, Raisen District, Madhya Pradesh
- Historical Significance: Built in the 11th century by Raja Bhoj of the Paramara dynasty, dedicated to Lord Shiva.
 - Added to the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 2024.
- Architecture:
 - Style: Bhumija, with **Dravida** influences on shikhara.
 - The temple's Bhumija-style architecture influenced later temples like Udayeshwara and Bijamandal.
 - Notable Features:
 - Lingam: Colossal (2.3m tall and 5.4m in circumference).
 - **Shikhara:** Towering, with intricate carvings and projections.
 - Incomplete Structure: Includes unfinished mandapa and ceiling.
 - Unique Elements:
 - Line drawings carved on nearby rocks depicting the intended temple design.
 - Carved masonry blocks and earthen ramps around the site.
- Uniqueness of Temple:
 - Architectural Grandeur: Massive size, intricate carvings, and the colossal lingam showcase Paramara dynasty's architectural brilliance.
 - Reflects the **religious**, **cultural patronage and architectural vision** of Raja Bhoj and the Paramara dynasty.
 - The Bhojeshwar Temple is similar to the Chola's <u>Brihadisvara Temple</u>
 (Thanjavur) in terms of scale and grandeur.
 - If completed, **Bhojeshwar's shikhara would be taller than Brihadisvara's,** measuring 100m compared to 59.82m.

