



# Ropeway from Tapovan to Kunjapuri Temple

## Why in News?

The **Uttarakhand government** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with a Swiss [ropeway](#) manufacturer for the development of a **ropeway project from Tapovan to Kunjapuri Devi Temple**.

## Key Points

- **About the Project:**
  - The ropeway will link **Tapovan in Rishikesh** with the **Kunjapuri Temple** in Narendranagar, a key spiritual site.
  - The objective is to **reduce travel time, enhance visitor safety, and minimize environmental degradation** caused by vehicular traffic.

## Kunjapuri Temple

- **Location:** It is located near Rishikesh in the Tehri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand, situated at an altitude of 1,676 meters above sea level on a hilltop.
- **Significance:**
  - The temple is dedicated to **Goddess Durga** and is one of the **13 Shakti Peethas in the Shivalik range**.
  - It is also one of the **three major Shakti Peethas in Tehri district**, along with **Surkanda Devi** and **Chandrabadni**, forming a **sacred triangle** established by [Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya](#).
  - It is renowned not only for its spiritual significance but also for its **panoramic views of the Garhwal Himalayas**, including peaks such as **Swargarohini**, [Gangotri](#), **Banderpunch**, and **Chaukhamba**.
  - From the summit, visitors can also see the **Bhagirathi valley** and cities like **Rishikesh**, **Haridwar**, and the **Doon Valley**.

## Parvatmala

- **National Ropeways Development Programme (Parvatmala):** It was launched to improve transport connectivity in mountainous regions such as **Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir, and the North-East**.
  - The [Parvatmala scheme](#) aims to build modern, eco-friendly ropeway systems strengthening remote and border villages.
- **Key Projects Approved in Uttarakhand:**
  - Govindghat to Hemkund Sahib Ropeway.
  - Sonprayag to Kedarnath Ropeway.
  - **NOTE:** Both projects follow a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model under Design-Build-Finance-Operate-Transfer (DBFOT).
- **Advantages of Ropeways:**
  - Efficient and safe alternative to difficult mountain roads.
  - Faster travel by bypassing terrain obstacles.

- Environmentally friendly with minimal land use and emissions.
- Economical with lower maintenance and labor costs.
- Supports last-mile connectivity and mass passenger transit.

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