

Chief Minister views presentation on proposed projects under the 'Swadesh Scheme' for development of Sarnath in Varanasi

In the next ten years, Sarnath would be beautified in four phases, keeping its spirituality intact

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Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ji today viewed a presentation on proposed projects under the 'Swadesh Scheme' for development of Sarnath in Varanasi, at the Babatpur airport auditorium, during his trip to Varanasi. The presentation for the Rs 53.81 crore projects was made by World Bank officers.

During the presentation, officers apprised of the Chief Minister that the proposed projects would include, over the next ten years, beautification of Sarnath in four phases as an ideal scenario but keeping the spirituality of the place intact.

Under these projects, the historic tree at the 'Dhamma Chakra Sthal' would be conserved and roads network and sewage system in the entire Sarnath would be developed in a planned way. Besides, meditation centres would also be developed at open spaces in Sarnath.

An action plan has been made so that after landing at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, visitors will head straight to Sarnath's Buddha theme park, deer park, Mulgandh Kuti and Dhamek Stupa. Similarly, a parking slot will be made at the Suheldev tri-section for the tourists headed towards the Varanasi city.

It may be pointed out here that Kushinagar, Kapilvastu, Sankisa in Farukhabad, Kaushambi, Sarnath and Shrawasti districts on Uttar Pradesh are closely linked with the Buddhist circuit. The Government of India is promoting facilities and development of Sarnath and Kushinagar for more tourist footfall.

Also present during the presentation were minister of union minister of state for tourism (Independent Charge) Mr. Alphons Kannanthanam, UP's tourism minister Mrs. Rita Bahuguna Joshi, MoS (Information) Dr. Neelkanth Tiwari, additional Chief Secretary (Information and Tourism) Mr. Awanish Kumar Awasthi and senior officers of the district and the state.
