

'RAMAYAN CRUISE SERVICE' WILL BE LAUNCHED SOON ON THE RIVER SARYU IN AYODHYA, UTTAR PRADESH

Relevant for: Geography | Topic: Factors responsible for location of Tertiary sector Industries incl. Tourism in world & India and related issues

'Ramayan Cruise Tour' on the Saryu river in Ayodhya will be launched soon. Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways today chaired a review meeting for the implementation of cruise service.

It will be the first-ever luxury Cruise service on the Saryu river (Ghagra/National Waterways-40) in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh. It aims to give mesmerizing experience to devotees with one-of-its-kind spiritual journeys while cruising through the famous ghats of the holy river Saryu.



3D DESIGN (ARTISTIC IMPRESSION) OF PROPOSED CRUISE VESSEL

The cruise will be equipped with all luxury comfort and facilities along with all essential safety and security features at par with the global standard. The interiors of the cruise and the boarding point will be based on the theme of *Ramcharitmanas*. The fully air-conditioned 80-seater cruise will have large glass windows for experiencing the scenic beauty of Ghats. The cruise will be equipped with kitchen and pantry facilities for the comfort of the tourists. The cruise contains bio toilets and hybrid engines system for the 'zero effect' on environment.

Tourists will be taken on the '*Ramcharitmanas* Tour', of 1-1.5 hour duration, featuring an exclusively made video film of 45-60 minutes duration, based on *Ramcharitmanas* by *Goswami Tulsidas*, covering the period from the birth of Lord Ram to his Rajyabhishek. The entire tour will cover the approximately 15-16 Km distance. There will be several activities and selfie points inspired by different episodes of Ramayan. The tour will be followed by Saryu Aarti, in which

every member will be able to actively participate.

Ayodhya is the birthplace of Lord Ram, as mentioned in the great Indian epic Ramayan. It is also the first of the seven most important pilgrimage sites (Mokshdayini Sapt Puris) for the Hindus. Approximately, 2 crore tourists visit Ayodhya every year as per the data of UP tourism, for the year 2019. After completion of the Ram Mandir, it is to be believed that the inflow of the tourists will be increased.

The 'Ramayan Cruise Tour' will not only attract a large number of tourists but it will also generate direct and indirect employment opportunities in the region. Ministry of ports, Shipping and Waterways will provide all necessary infrastructural support for the smooth operation of the cruise service.

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