

**YOGI ADITYANATH’S FIRST VISIT TO THE DISPUTED AYODHYA SITE AFTER TAKING CHARGE AS UP CM**

31st May 2017, ANI

Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath stirred sentiments when he paid obeisance to the Ram Lalla (infant Ram) at the disputed site of Ram Janmbhoomi-Babri Masjid in Ayodhya today.

Chants of “Jai Shri Ram” and “mandir wahin banayenge” (we will build the temple at the site) reverberated in the air as Adityanath, who is also a “mahant” (temple chief priest of Gorakhnath Temple), offered prayers amidst priests and security personnel and allegedly some members of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad.

Adityanath’s visit — the first in 15 years by a UP CM — has given an impetus to the Ram temple issue as it comes a day after senior BJP leaders were summoned by a CBI court for framing charges for allegedly conspiring to demolish the 16th century Babri Masjid (mosque).

Earlier in the morning, Adityanath also visited the Hanuman Garhi, the oldest temple of Lord Hanuman. Clad in his customary saffron robe, the CM offered prayers at the temple as per the Vedic rituals.

Supporters’ chants grew louder as Adityanath came out of the temple after offering prayers chanting the slogan “*Ramlala hum ayenge Mandir wahin banayenge* (Ramlala we will come and build the temple there)”. Breaking the police cordon, people tried to reach out to the CM to touch his feet and seek blessings. As he left Hanuman Garhi, local youths followed the cavalcade on motorcycles.

After offering prayer at Ram Janmbhoomi, Yogi visited Ram ki Paidhi ghat and offered prayers on the banks of river Sarayu, which holds religious importance for Hindus.

Notably, the Supreme Court had earlier suggested all the concerned parties to settle the dispute amicably with Chief Justice JS Khehar’s mediation, if required. Sunni Waqf Board and All India Muslim Personal Law Board have agreed to the suggestion but are asking for some time. No official statements have been presented by the BJP, however, Yogi Adityanath has affirmed “Take my word that Ramjanambhoomi issue would be resolved amicably." Moreover, BJP Rajya Sabha MP Subramanian Swamy has continuously denied for any negotiations with the other parties and has declared “**Talks won’t work, Ram Mandir will be built by 2024 through legislation”**

**After today’s meeting with the Hon’ble President Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon’ble Speaker has convened an All India Political Parties Meet to take place on 1st June 2017 i.e. tomorrow at 8:30AM at a location disclosed in letters dispatched to respective leaders and special invitees today. It is hoped that these representatives would actively participate in the discussion over the sensitive issue.**