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K'taka marks Ayodhya event with special pujas & homas

PICS: TOI & PTI

Several MLA And Ministers Joined In Prayers

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

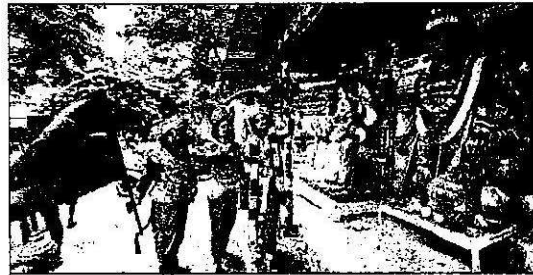
Bengaluru: Special pujas and homas at temples, felicitation of kar sevaks and bursting of crackers amid chants of Jai Shri Ram were a common sight across the state on Wednesday as people celebrated the ground-breaking ceremony for the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya.

Members of BJP, Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Sri Ram Sene and other pro-Hindu outfits, who relentlessly fought for the mandir for decades, celebrated the occasion by offering puja to Lord Ram and bursting crackers.

CM's TWEET

From being a Kar Sevak in the Rama Janma Bhoomi movement to living the moment witnessing foundation being laid for a grand Rama Mandir by our PM, it's a dream come true for me, the CM tweeted.

Chief minister BS Yediyurappa, who is being treated for Covid-19 at a private hospital in the city, described the moment as historic while sharing pictures of his participation in the Ram Janmabhoomi movement in 1992 on Twitter. "From being a Kar Sevak in the Rama Janma Bhoomi movement to living the moment witnessing foundation being laid for a grand Rama Mandir by our PM, it's a



MOMENTOUS DAY: The celebrations in UP reverberated in Karnataka as Lord Ram devotees thronged temples. Many were seen praying in front of temples as there is a restriction on the number of people allowed inside due to the pandemic



CITY CELEBRATES WITH GUSTO

Special pujas were performed at temples and prasadam was distributed to devotees across Bengaluru to mark the occasion.

Nearly 60 activists of Sri Rama Sene conducted a special puja at Sri Ram Mandir in Rajajinagar. The members observed a few minutes of silence to mourn those who laid their lives to make the mandir a reality. MS Harish, state secretary of Sri Ram Sene, said: "If not for the pandemic, we would have made it a bigger celebration with more people and fireworks."

Deputy chief minister CN Ashwath Narayan celebrated the occasion by offering flowers and distributing prasadam to people at the Ram Mandir in Malleswaram. A few other residents of the locality offered sweets and flowers to people and conducted a bhajan at 5pm. M Sreenivas, who has been in the business of making Ganesha idols for over 50 years, made one sitting in front of a recreation of the proposed mandir in Ayodhya.

Meanwhile, rural development and panchayat raj minister KS Eshwarappa said Mathura Sri Krishna and Kashi Vishwanath temples are next on the agenda. "The dream of Hindus has been fulfilled in Ayodhya. One day, it will be fulfilled in Mathura, Kashi..." he said.

dream come true for me (sic)," he tweeted.

Several ministers and BJP MLAs took part in the celebrations. "It is a day when every Indian's dream to see a Ram temple is coming true. It was a struggle of over 500 years and I offer my gratitude to all those who fought for the temple at Ayo-

dhya," said home minister Basavaraj Bommai. At the BJP office in Bengaluru, a special puja was organised to coincide with the bhoomi puja in Ayodhya.

A special navagraha puja was performed by Pejawar mutt seer Vishwaprasanna Teertha Sripad at Neelavara near Udipi. At Anjanadri

betta (hill of Hanuman) near Hampi in Ballari district, which is considered to be the birthplace of Hanuman, a three-hour special homa was performed.

In Kalaburagi, members of Sri Ram Sene offered ksheerabhisheka to a 14-foot Ram statue, made specially for the occasion.