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INTANGIBLE HERITAGE IS
NOT JUST OUR DUTY; IT
IS AN INVESTMENT IN
THE CONTINUITY OF
HUMANITY.”
PM SHRI NARENDRA MODI





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Ambaji Prepares for Spiritual Revival

Infrastructure Boost Transforms Sacred Tourism



Photo Credit : INI Design Studio

Pilgrims to Benefit From ‘Shakti Corridor’

Special Correspondent

 **AtulyaVarso News**
Ambaji, Gujarat

A grand spiritual and infrastructure transformation is unfolding in Gujarat’s Banaskantha district as the state government prepares to breathe new life into one of India’s most revered pilgrimage sites. Renowned across Gujarat, Rajasthan, and beyond as a symbol of ultimate faith for millions, the Ambaji Mata Temple precinct is set to become an ideal Temple Town under the newly unveiled Shakti

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The Ambaji Shakti Corridor represents a historic confluence of devotion, heritage, and development. Inspired by the divine blessings of Maa Amba and guided by the vision of Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, this transformational project will redefine the pilgrimage experience while preserving the spiritual essence of Ambaji. It is our collective vision to create a world class spiritual destination that welcomes devotees with greater accessibility, enhanced facilities, and a deeper sense of connection to the sacred. Beyond its spiritual significance, the corridor will serve as a catalyst for socio economic growth, creating opportunities for local communities and strengthening the region’s cultural and tourism ecosystem.

Mihir Patel IAS, Collector, Banaskantha



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Ambaji Set for Grand Spiritual Transformation

Corridor master plan. The ambitious ₹ 1,632.26-crore mega-project, lays out a 50-year vision for growth and urban upgradation. It focuses heavily on environmental sustainability, world-class crowd management, and creating a deeply immersive experience for the millions of devotees who journey here each year. With an average of 1.5 crore devotees currently visiting annually, this future-ready infrastructure is expected to comfortably handle a massive surge to over 3 crore pilgrims once fully operational.

A Walk Through the Sacred Axis

The defining feature of this project is the Shakti Corridor itself-a beautifully designed, linear



Photo Credit : INI Design Studio

experiential spine connecting the main Ambaji Temple to the sacred Gabbar Hill. Devotees will be able to walk along a completely pedestrianized avenue, entirely free from the noise, congestion, and exhaust of heavy traffic. To achieve this, a major traffic underpass will be constructed to divert heavy vehicles away from the temple's main frontage. This allows the existing State Highway stretch leading to the shrine to be reborn as a welcoming walkway shaded by trees, complemented by clean shuttle services, cultural pavilions, and curated mural walls narrating ancient, sacred tales.

World-Class Infrastructure Meets Heritage

The scale of the infrastructure planned ensures that modern comfort and safety are paired seamlessly with deep spirituality:

Smart Mobility Hub: A state-of-the-art multi-level parking facility will accommodate over 1,000 cars. Far from just a parking structure, it will serve as an active community space featuring modern retail outlets, cafés, and food courts.

The 12-Storey Yatri Niwas: To easily support overnight stays, a massive 12-storey accommodation facility will offer a wide array of options-ranging from clean, budget-friendly dormitories to high-end deluxe suites and banquet spaces.

Chanchar Chowk Expansion: To ensure maximum safety and smooth movement during peak festival seasons, the main Ambaji Temple courtyard will be expanded to three times its current size.

Gabbar Foothill Transformation: At the base of Gabbar Hill, a new Arrival Plaza will boast upgraded tourist amenities, an open-air amphitheatre, and dedicated infrastructure for advanced light and projection mapping shows. Simultaneously, the structurally unsafe Gabbar Temple will be completely rebuilt and doubled in size to ensure safety and comfort.

Healing the Landscape: Sati Sarovar and Forest Trail

In a significant win for eco-tourism, the project will restore a central, low-lying natural stream into a vibrant, sacred water body named Sati Sarovar. Along its edge, Sati Ghat will serve as a beautiful ceremonial space for evening aartis and rituals, framed perfectly against the visual axis of Gabbar Hill. A serene forest trail will weave around the sarovar, giving pilgrims a quiet space to connect with nature as they complete their

spiritual journey. Behind the scenes, the entire town will run on smart, invisible infrastructure. This includes advanced water recycling networks, efficient storm-water management, solar power grids, and an integrated ICT surveillance system to monitor safety and security 24/7.



A Catalyst for Interstate Tourism and Prosperity

Beyond the spiritual upliftment, the Shakti Corridor is poised to be an economic game-changer for the entire region. Divided into two strategic phases-with Phase 1 launching its 30-month construction timeline in March 2026-the project is structured to minimize disruption while driving rapid growth.

By creating a beautiful, accessible destination, the expansion will naturally increase how long tourists choose to stay and spend in the area. This will create a powerful economic ecosystem, unlocking thousands of local jobs in hospitality, transportation, retail, and traditional crafts, ultimately ensuring sustainable economic growth for generations to come.

Interestingly, the positive economic impact of this grand corridor will extend far across Banaskantha district. As the region's core spiritual anchor undergoes this massive upgrade, the massive influx of domestic and international tourists is expected to create a highly lucrative tourism loop with nearby religious and scenic attractions throughout Banaskantha. By drawing visitors to explore adjacent local heritage sites, wildlife sanctuaries, and scenic landscapes within the district, the project will encourage longer stays and higher visitor spending. This collective regional draw will unlock thousands of additional local jobs in hospitality, transportation, and traditional retail-ultimately ensuring sustainable economic growth and a better quality of life for communities across the entire local ecosystem.