

Rs 1.25 crore awning for Gurta Gaddi Divas

25 SEPTEMBER 2008



Artisans make a golden canopy with over 11 kg of gold for Guru Granth Sahib's palanquin to be presented to Takht Hazoor Sahib to mark the 300th Gurta Gaddi Divas in Amritsar .

The Sikh devotees of holy city have contributed towards a 11kg pure gold awning valued at around Rs 1.25 crore for hanging above Sri Guru Granth Sahib at Takht Sachkhand Sri Hazur Sahib, Nanded, for the 300th year celebrations of Gurta Gaddi Divas.

The awning, along with five silver mace (choba), has been specially manufactured by expert artisans from Shiromani Sampardya Taksal Shaheed Bhai Mani Singh Ji Dera Sant Amir Singh, head of Dera Baba Makhan Singh told on Thursday.

He said it took more than two months for the artisans to design and engrave the same on the yellow metal .

Baba Makhan said Sikh devotees would assemble at Akal Takht on September 20 before departing for Nanded in a "nagar kirtan" and the awning would put up above Sri Guru Granth Sahib on September 30.

Reluctant to tell the exact gold and silver content of the awning and mace, Baba Makhan Singh said: "The awning is above 11 kg",

Gurta Gaddi Nanded 2008

It's time for the Indians... Sikhs of the World to Reaffirm, Rejoice and Rejuvenate

The year 2008 is slated to go down in the pages of history as a golden year for the Sikhs. More than 4 million devotees are expected to congregate at Nanded to commemorate 300 years of *Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji* as the eternal *Guru (Gurta Gaddi)* on 30th Oct, 2008 and the heavenly journey (*Parlokgaman*) of *Sri Guru Gobind Singhji Maharaj* on 3rd Nov, 2008.

One more step & we create history

Less than a year ago, when the grand celebrations & redevelopment of *Sachkhand Sri Hazur Sahib Complex* & Nanded city were being planned, it seemed like an ambitious, yet distant dream. However, with the overwhelming support & contributions from devotees across boundaries of religions & nations, this distant dream is now just one step away.

Getting ready for the Celebrations

The entire *Sachkhand Sri Hazur Sahib* complex is being redesigned on modern lines to accommodate at least 40,000 devotees in its *parikarma*. Over 350 families have been relocated & allotted permanent houses to expand the periphery of *Sachkhand Sri Hazur Sahib*.



A unique community centre to spread the message of Guru

Close to the *Hazur Sahib*, the *Guru Granth Sahib Bhavan* is being constructed to spread the message of our Guru with the help of various traditional & cultural media. The large *bhavan* will accommodate 4000 devotees, indoors

Close to Nature... Closer to Guru

A unique garden at *Gobind Baug* is being developed about 200 metres from the *Sachkhand* with unique Amphitheatres, dancing musical fountains and laser projections on water screen. A number of waterbed and fountains will enhance this beautiful garden.

The Nanded, you have not yet seen

Even Government has recognized the scale of the event and extended their support in form of infrastructure development. The entire city of Nanded is being upgraded with better roads, railway station and a brand new airport. Godavari river front is being aesthetically developed with bathing areas and wide roads on banks. The work of flyovers, Railway over bridges and River bridges is in progress. The sewerage and drinking water facilities are being improved & a special Power Station is also being raised

Bridging the gap between Sikhs & their history

Imagine being able to connect back to the roots of Sikhism. A world class museum is being set-up. It will showcase a rich tapestry of contents that will generate interest in all segments of the society

Be a part of the celebration

History is waiting for all of us. And a small contribution from you will help us create it. The Gurudwara is spending *Rs. 115 crore* for celebrations and development work at *Sri Hazur Sahib, Nanded*. Every contribution, small or big will go a long way in helping us create the biggest event in Sikh History...

Hi-tech Sikh museum set to come up at Nanded.



NANDED: Perhaps it is time for Sikh museums to spring up in many places, and the development is in keeping with the fervour of religiosity inspired largely by the Diaspora efforts and the celebrations of the Guru'ta Gaddi Diwas. Now it seems a state-of-the-art Sikh museum is set to come up at Nanded at a cost of Rs 20 crore as part of tercentenary celebrations of Gurta Gaddi Diwas

The development has been confirmed by Nanded's Takht Sachkhand Sri Hazur Abchalnagar Sahib Gurdwara Board chairman Dr P.S. Pasricha who said latest technologies will be used in the new museum.

"Visitors will be imparted information about Sikh religion in either of four languages - Punjabi, English, Hindi and Marathi. The touch screen systems, latest gadgets, and many attractions will punctuate the over 30,000 square feet area. The museum will employ graphics and animation

strategies and technology shall be put to use to pass on the message of Sikh gurus to youth, particularly those residing abroad, to save them from ever-increasing western culture influence," Pasricha, the former Maharashtra police chief, said.

The first phase of this museum-cum-art gallery would be made operational in 13,000 square feet area within next two months, while the entire project would be completed by October-end. Pasricha said approximately 11 acres of land surrounding the complex was being developed with landscaping and fountains. Fountain shows are being planned for the night to describe Sikh religion.

Pasricha also said Godavari riverfront is being developed and construction of 100-foot roads on both sides of the river was undertaken by the board. Godavari will form an aquaduct and will provide a feeling of divinity and spirituality to all those who will enjoy the fascinating scenery of the original Godavari. Efforts were on to tap religious tourism with construction of special NRI Yatri Niwas with luxurious rooms and suites of international standards.

Pasricha is also leading efforts to ensure that the new airport at Nanded, likely to operational from May 1, 2008, be named after Guru Gobind Singh.