

MLA stresses need for tourism infrastructure

Staff Correspondent

Rs. 40 lakh sought for construction of arches

12 acres identified near temple for facilities

HASSAN: Y.N. Rudresh Gowda, MLA, has advised the district administration to provide basic civic amenities to tourists visiting the Chennakeshava temple in Belur.

Inaugurating World Tourism Day celebrations at the Chennakeshava Kalyana Mantap in Belur on Saturday, Mr. Gowda said the Chief Minister had promised to help develop the main road which leads to the temple. The estimated cost of the project was Rs. 1.65 crore. For the development of the temple, a 12-acre plot of land had been identified for various facilities such as car parking and boarding and lodging. He also wanted the temple to provide food to tourists. The programme was organised by the district administration and the Tourism Department. S.M. Anand, MLC, regretted that the number of tourists visiting the district was on the wane owing to lack of infrastructure. He urged the Tourism Department to focus on infrastructure creation. Belur Municipality president B.C. Manjunatha, who spoke on the occasion, said the municipality had set aside Rs. 1 crore for the development of roads in Belur. He also appealed to the Deputy Commissioner to release Rs. 40 lakh to build welcome arches in Belur town. Researcher Vatsa Vate said man alone was responsible for climate change and that nature was being overexploited. This should be prevented. UNESCO representative Jyothi Hosagrahar was present on the occasion.