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ISKCON Temple of Unity – Construction Update Entering the Finishing Phase - Crafting Divine Splendour

Construction of the ISKCON Temple of Unity in Phoenix continues to progress steadily. Conceived as a sacred offering for the pleasure of Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha Golokananda, the Temple now stands in its full structural form—an important milestone in a journey inspired by devotion and the vision of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. The project now enters in its most intricate stage: the finishings works which will transform this edifice into a sanctuary truly for the pleasure of Their Lordships and the devotees who will gather to worship Them.

A Temple Like No Other – The Artistic Phase Begins

This next phase marks a pivotal transition in the construction of the Temple. Set to start as from the last quarter of this year onsite, the focus shifts to bringing the original artistic vision to life - a temple of unparalleled beauty and detail in this part of the world.

Work will soon begin on the installation of GRC (Glass-fibre Reinforced Concrete) mouldings. These intricate architectural elements will embody the Rajasthani and Vedic inspirations of the Temple - adorning columns, balustrades, domes, and interior and exterior window surrounds. Jharokha balconies, ceiling motifs, and ornamental finishes around the interior domes and the main Temple Hall will showcase traditional craftsmanship of exceptional calibre.

A contract worth around MUR 20 million has been signed with a highly respected Indian firm boasting over four generations of expertise in temple finishing. This company will manufacture and install the GRC and decorative components. While the payment plan spans 30 months, the work is expected to be completed within 20 months, starting during the fourth quarter of this year. Funding for this specific stage has been secured through temple funds and generous contributions from well-wishers.

Aluminium Openings Near Completion – Entrance Dome Completed

Installation of aluminium doors and windows is nearing completion, with over 90% already in place. This milestone brings the structure closer to being fully sealed and ready for interior works to be started.

The entrance dome has also been completed, establishing a striking visual reference for the refinement and devotion that will define the final decorative elements—especially the interior domes of the main Temple Hall.

Construction of the Temple Reception, Boutique, Multimedia Room, Restaurant, Guesthouse Facilities, Prasadam Hall & Devotee Quarters.

With a total cost now exceeding MUR 400 million for the overall project, careful financial stewardship is more than ever critical for the effective completion of essential components of the Temple of Unity. Under the blessing of the co-GBCs, the Strategic Project Development Committee (SPDC), along with its financial, technical, fundraising, and communications subcommittees, continues to develop and execute different strategies aimed at the completion of the project in the most responsible manner and in the shortest delay possible.

To help fund the above components of project, original and innovative financing models have been and are being developed. The different strategies will allow the selected operators of the Restaurant and the Guest house to fully fund and build the said facilities directly in the name of ISKCON while operating the Restaurant and the Guest house respectively under a lease agreement on mutually agreed terms for a defined period.

Following the recent EOI and RFP exercises, a successful bidder has been selected for the development of the Reception, Boutique, Multimedia Room and Restaurant phase within the above framework and guidelines. The agreement for this important aspect of the Temple of Unity project is expected to be signed by the end of August 2025 and construction works are expected to start as from the last quarter of this year.

A similar EOI and RFP exercise for the Guesthouse, Prasadam Hall & Devotee quarters is planned to be launched during the month of August 2025. The RFP and the evaluation process for the selection of a suitable bidder for this phase is expected to be concluded by the end of November 2025.

Next Fundraising Focus: Tiles and Marble Finishes

Looking ahead and in parallel to the above developments, an important phase will involve tiling and marble finishes for both the interior and the exterior flooring of the temple complex. For that purpose, a targeted fundraising campaign is being devised to raise MUR 50 million to complete this critical phase.

As the ISKCON Temple of Unity continues to take shape, each milestone brings us closer to a sacred space dedicated to devotion, culture, and community. We would like to offer our heartfelt gratitude again to all those who have supported this divine mission and those who continues to do so. We invite the continued generosity of the devotee community and well-wishers, as we enter this defining phase of sacred artistry and spiritual preparation for the glory of Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha Golokananda.

Hare Krishna.