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### Theme :-

- In October 2018, Statue of unity was launched in Gujarat making it the world's tallest statue. Rs. 3000 crores were spent to build this statue.
- More statues in several states of India are in the plans causing debates across India about the use of public money on building statues instead of using them for useful purposes.
- Statues that are in the plans - Statue of Chatrapathi Shivaji in Maharashtra (Project cost - Rs. 2800 crores), Ram statue in Ayodhya, UP (Project cost - Rs. 330 crores), Mother Cauvery statue near Cauvery river in Karnataka, Buddha statue in Gujarat.

### In Favor :-

- With statues, we can make future generations understand about the contributions made by the leaders and the importance of historical places.
- India's tourism sector needs to be improved a lot. These statues will help in achieving it.
- In the long run, these statues can become revenue generating sources.
- It will also help in creating employment opportunities.
- If we go for a Public Private partnership (PPP) model, private companies will take care of the investment and will put effort to get returns on the investment.

### Against :-

- India has a lot of issues to deal with such as poverty, farmer suicides, lack of infrastructure etc. We need to prioritise well when we spend public money. As a developing country, it will be a wise choice to spend the money to solve the issues rather than spending them on making statues.

- India is taking huge loans from World Bank. So, it will be very foolish to spend crores of rupees on building statues when we have loan on our heads.
- Even the developed countries are not building these kind of money draining statues.
- There is no guarantee that the tall statues will attract tourists. Natural things should be improved to attract tourists. It's better to go for eco-friendly and cheap options to improve tourism. Moreover, tourism constitutes only 9% of the GDP (Gross Domestic Product). So, it's not wise to spend crores of rupees for tourism.
- Public opinion wasn't taken before starting these projects, and hence the move is undemocratic.
- There are several issues with the proposed statues such as - Chatrapathi Shivaji statue will disturb the ecosystem of the Arabian sea, Cauvery statue will effect the brundhavan gardens, which is one of the biggest tourist spots of Karnataka & Ram statue in Ayodhya will make minorities insecure - India is a secular country and so the government should stay away from religious sentiments.
- The true intentions behind these statues are politically motivated rather than carrying forward the legacy of the leaders.
- We need to use our land judiciously considering the population of India.

### Conclusion :-

Building the giant statues is just a wastage of money. It's much better to go for cheap and efficient alternatives to carry forward the legacy of leaders and historical places.

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### Your Turn...

Do you think India need more big statues? Express your thoughts in the comment section below. Subscribe to our blog to receive updates whenever a new post is published.

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### **New Topic suggestions**

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