

# Hundreds watch as two high-rises razed in Kochi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOCHI, JANUARY 11

A SHORT, shrill siren pierced the air at Maradu, an urban hub near Kochi, at 11.15 am on Saturday. As the siren died, the 19-storeyed Holy Faith H2O apartment complex was demolished, with authorities using the controlled implosion method to pull the structure down.

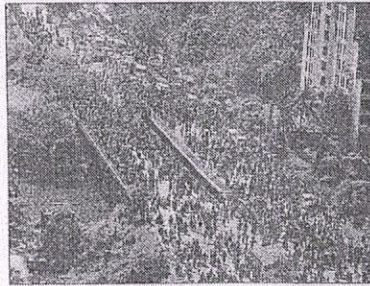
Minutes later, the 16-storeyed twin towers of Alfa Serene too were demolished.

The waterfront properties, built in violation of CRZ norms, were pulled down to comply with a Supreme Court order of last May. Two more apartment complexes — the 17-storeyed Golden Kayalarom and Jain Coral Cove — are scheduled to be demolished on Sunday.

The four apartment complexes had 325 units together. Of them, 54 were sold. In 2005-06, the then CPMA-controlled Maradu panchayat (which would become a municipality in 2010) had issued the permits for the apartment complexes. However, no mandatory clearance was taken from the Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority, trapping the projects in legal hurdles from the outset of their launch.

As Holy Faith H2O and Alfa Serene were demolished on Saturday, hundreds of people stood at nearby roads, buildings and even at a special 'implosion viewing gallery', cheering as the structures were reduced to dust. However, the evicted flat owners, who had visited the buildings in the days leading up to the demolition, were nowhere to be seen.

Dr R Venugopal, Deputy Chief



People witness the demolition of the apartment complexes at Maradu near Kochi on Saturday. (PTI)

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Controller of Explosives under the Petroleum and Explosive Safety Organisation (PESO), who is overseeing the operations, said "This is the first time in the country that such a huge building with 60 metres of height (referring to Holy Faith H2O) is being demolished. Also, for the first time, we have used non-electric detonators for the implosion to reduce the shattering of debris and the use of explosives. Both flats were pulled

**E** How authorities prepared

**PROHIBITORY ORDERS** under Sec 144 was enforced by police at 8 am to prevent public movement on land, air and water within the 200-m zone. Special care was taken not to suspend traffic for too long on NH-66 bypass, which connects Kochi with Kanyakumari. A control room was set up, where top police officers, district and municipality officials assembled to get a clear view of the demolition.

down as we had planned."

# No protests now, those involved in vandalism apologising: Adityanath

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
GWALIOR (MP), JANUARY 11

UTTAR PRADESH Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday said that his government decided to seize the properties of those who indulged in vandalism during demonstrations against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), after which the protests died down.

The BJP leader was addressing a rally in support of the CAA at CVMC Ground here.

The UP CM said there was no violence in his state after the Supreme Court delivered its verdict in the Ayodhya case, paving the way for construction of Ram temple.

"Congress created an atmosphere of violence on the issue of CAA, but we decided to seize the properties of those who were indulging in violence. There is no vandalism, there are no protests now, instead the accused are seeking apology," he said.

The "reality of such people" should be revealed, Adityanath said, adding that his government put up posters with photographs of those accused of vandalism in various cities. Accusing the Congress and other opposition parties of misleading people on



'Congress created an atmosphere of violence'

**Congress created an atmosphere of violence on the issue of CAA, but we decided to seize the properties of those who were indulging in violence'**

—YOGI ADITYANATH  
UP CHIEF MINISTER

the CAA and inciting violence, he said. "This is a law to give citizenship and not to snatch away anyone's rights. The Congress, which once trampled on the Constitution by imposing the Emergency, is now talking about saving the Constitution. The states ruled by Congress and its allies are talking about not implementing the CAA. Is this not a defiance of the Constitution?" he asked.

**POC Punjab Alkalies & Chemicals Limited**  
Nangal-134 Road, Nangal, District, Bhiwani, Punjab-151017

**NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE BY ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE (MOEF&CC), GOVT. OF INDIA, NEW DELHI**

As per the condition of Environmental Clearance granted by MOEF&CC, New Delhi is hereby given to all interested parties at large, the Environmental Clearance is accorded by MOEF&CC, Govt. of India to the proposed project of Capacity Expansion of Chak, Akal plant from 65,000 TPA to 2,34,000 TPA of Caustic soda and establishment of new Caustic Potash Plant (75 MM) within Existing Premises at Nangal-134 Road, Nangal, District, Punjab, Punjab-151017.

Copies of Clearance are available with Punjab Pollution Control Board and may also be seen at the office of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at New Delhi (www.mefcc.nic.in)

**DIRECTOR**

**इलाहाबाद बैंक** **ALLAHABAD BANK**  
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BRANCH OFFICE: BAGDAOI GATE, FERIZEPUR CITY, PIN: 01632-220210.  
E-MAIL: br.frozpur@allahabadbank.in

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Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Allahabad Bank, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notice as stated under existing clause in

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