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# Cabinet Approves Transition of North and South Blocks into 'Yuge Yugeen Bharat National Museum'

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The Union Cabinet approved a proposal to convert the British-era North Block and South Block buildings in New Delhi into part of the proposed '**Yuge Yugeen Bharat National Museum**'. This decision marks a significant shift in the administrative and cultural landscape of the national capital.

## Historic Significance of North and South Blocks

North Block and South Block, located on **Raisina Hill**, are iconic colonial buildings constructed during British rule and have been the centre of Indian administration since Independence in 1947.

South Block housed the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and important ministries, while North Block housed key ministries such as Finance and Home Affairs.

## Shift of Administrative Functions

The Prime Minister's Office was shifted from South Block to a newly inaugurated complex called 'Seva Teerth', marking the end of nearly 95 years of the PMO functioning from South Block.

Government offices previously housed in North and South Blocks are being relocated to modern complexes such as **Seva Teerth**, **Kartavya Bhavans**, and the **Common Central Secretariat (CCS)** buildings constructed under the Central Vista Redevelopment Project.

## Vision of 'Yuge Yugeen Bharat National Museum'

**Kamaraj IAS Academy**

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: **044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477 / Whatsapp : 09710729833**

The Yuge Yugeen Bharat National Museum is envisioned as a cultural institution celebrating India's civilisational heritage and connecting the ancient past with a developed future.

It aims to repurpose the historic governance buildings into a museum space, preserving and showcasing the country's rich history.

According to project plans, it could become one of the world's largest museums, with the first gallery expected to open by end of 2026, covering significant artefacts from Indian history spanning over 5,000 years.

### **Cultural and Historical Importance**

The transformation symbolises a shift from colonial administrative legacy to cultural celebration, reflecting India's journey from colonial subjugation to sovereign identity.

The museum is expected to house tens of thousands of artefacts collected from national, state and regional museums, and ASI-protected site museums, offering visitors a comprehensive view of India's civilisational legacy.

### **Central Vista Redevelopment Context**

The plan to repurpose these buildings is part of the larger Central Vista Redevelopment Project, which includes construction of new government office complexes, a new parliamentary building, and improved public infrastructure connecting key administrative hubs.

The redevelopment aims to modernise administrative facilities, improve workspace efficiency, and enhance tourism potential for the national capital.