

Nagpur in race to co-host G20 meets in 2023

As India assumes presidency of the G20 for one year starting this December, Nagpur is in the race to host one or more of the almost 200 meetings scheduled to be held across the country in the year. From Maharashtra, Mumbai, Pune and Aurangabad are already on the co-host list, said sources in the state government. These series of meetings will end with the G20 Leaders' Summit at the level of heads of state (prime ministers/presidents), which is scheduled for September 9-10 next year, at New Delhi. So, while Nagpur won't play host to heads of states, it is trying to end up on the G20's year-long Indian itinerary for foreign ministers/bureaucrats.

Sources said the credit for getting Nagpur's name on the list as a potential host goes to deputy chief minister (DCM) Mr. Devendra Fadnavis. "It was the DCM's insistence that Nagpur too should be part of the potential pool of cities from which hosts will be selected by the central government. Else earlier there were only three names from Maharashtra (Mumbai, Pune & Aurangabad)," an official said.

With bureaucrats from G20 countries expected to visit Nagpur, if chosen, the resulting benefit to hospitality and tourism sector is already very appealing.

Mr. Tejinder Singh Renu, president of Nagpur Residential Hotels Association (NRHA), who provided NMC with the list of hotels in city, said, "At that time I did not know the purpose of this list. We have adequate rooms, with star facilities, available to host a big gathering in city. Foreign bureaucrats who come here will also visit wildlife resorts and then share that experience in their country. So both in short and long term, this is fantastic news for Nagpur's hospitality industry."