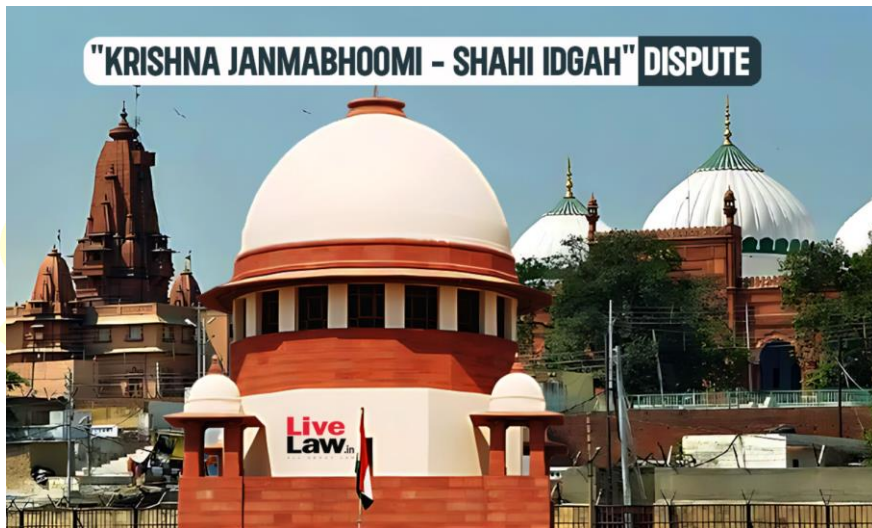


# Allahabad HC Allows Survey Of Mathura Idgah

## Why In News

- The **Supreme Court declined to stay the Allahabad High Court** order allowing an application for an inspection of the **Shahi Idgah mosque complex** in Mathura by a court-appointed commissioner. The Hindu side had filed a petition in a Mathura court **demanding full ownership** of the contested 13.37 acres of land, claiming the mosque had been built by demolishing the **Katra Keshav Dev temple** that stood on the same ground.



## Historical Reference

- The Hindu petitioners believe the mosque, built on the **orders of Emperor Aurangzeb in 1670**, was constructed atop the birthplace of Lord Krishna in Mathura.
- Today, it lies adjacent to the Krishna Janmasthan Temple, visited by millions of Hindu devotees each year. The Hindu side claims, as evidence, the **existence of carvings of lotuses** on some walls of the mosque, as well shapes supposedly resembling of 'sheshnag' - the snake demigod in Hindu mythology.

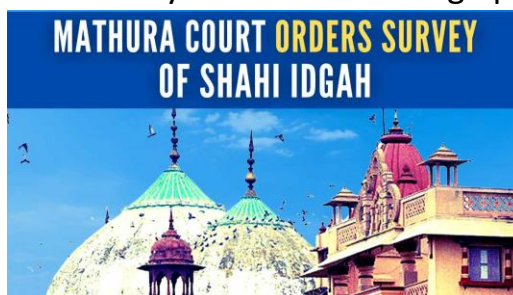


## All Details

- The latest application, filed under **Order 26 Rule 9 CPC**, is part of a petition (353/2023) filed **by eight people** including “next friend” of Bhagwan Shree Krishna Virajman.
- It seeks a **survey of the Shahi Idgah mosque** — which was allowed by a Bench of **Justice Mayank Kumar Jain**.



- Moreover, the petition pleads that the High Court passes an order **directing the UP Sunni Central Waqf Board** and the Shahi Idgah mosque committee “to **remove the construction** raised by them encroaching upon the land” in dispute.



- The petition further asks the court to direct the two opposing parties to hand over the **land to the Shree Krishna Janmbhoomi Trust** within the time provided by the court.
- Putting the focus back on the Sri Krishna Janmabhoomi-Shahi Idgah Masjid dispute, the Allahabad High Court allowed an application seeking the **appointment of a commission to inspect the mosque complex**.
- The high court agreed to **appoint an advocate-commissioner** to oversee the survey of the mosque, which Hindu petitioners say holds signs proving that it was a once a Hindu temple.



- Muslim groups reject the contention, saying that the **1991 Places of Worship Act** which locks the religious character of holy sites as they existed on the day of independence, with the exception of the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid site — bars any such petitions.