

AYODHYA RAM MANDIR, STRUCTURE, LOCATION, AREA, HEIGHT AND PHOTO



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The Ayodhya Ram Temple, one of the largest temples built in India post-independence, combines modern technological conveniences with ancient Indian traditions. The temple is designed in the Nagara style by chief architect Chandrakant Bhai Sompura, following Vastu Shastra principles. The entrance on the east is in the Gopuram style, reminiscent of southern temples. The walls depict artworks showcasing the life of Lord Ram.

The Consecration Ceremony of Ayodhya Ram Mandir

The Ayodhya Ram Mandir witnessed the **Pran Pratishtha ceremony** on 22nd January 2024. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** conducted the ritual, adhering to prescribed customs. The ceremony, **starting at 12:20 p.m., and concluded at 1 p.m.**, marking a significant moment in the temple's consecration.

Ayodhya Ram Mandir- Location

The temple is situated in **Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, on the 2.77 acres** of disputed land accepted by the Supreme Court as the **birthplace of Lord Ram**. The Ayodhya Airport provides convenient air travel, and the city is well-connected by road and rail.

Ram Mandir of Ayodhya – Area

The Ayodhya Ram Mandir, sprawling over an expansive **54,700 square feet, encompasses nearly 2.7 acres**. Within the extensive **Ram Mandir Complex**, which extends across **almost 70 acres**, the meticulously designed space is capable of accommodating approximately a million devotees simultaneously. This grand and well-planned complex ensures a tranquil and spiritually enriching experience for visitors and worshippers alike.

Ayodhya Ram Mandir – Height

The temple is an impressive **360 ft long, 235 ft wide, and 161 ft high**. It stands three times the height of existing structures in the old city. The structure includes five domes and a tower with a **Garbh Griha (sanctum)** built to allow sunlight to fall on the idol of Ram Lalla.

Construction Details of Ram Mandir of Ayodhya

- **Builders:** Larsen & Toubro for the main structure, Tata Consultancy Engineers Ltd for allied facilities.
- **Building Material:** Carved Rajasthan Bansi Paharpur stone, known for beauty and strength.
- **Interior:** Designed by Chandrakant Bhai Sompura, the temple features an octagonal-shaped sanctum and a circular structure perimeter.

Lifespan

Built to last over **1,000 years**, the temple materials and designs undergo rigorous testing,



including stability tests by **IIT Chennai and Central Research Building Institute**.

Over **50,000** people visit the temple daily, with **expectations to reach 100,000** after the inauguration.

The **Ayodhya Ram Mandir**, a symbol of cultural and religious significance, stands tall in architectural grandeur. The majestic temple reflects a blend of modern technology and ancient Indian traditions.

BUREAU OF POLICE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Recently, the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) has warned users of different scams perpetrated through messaging platform WhatsApp.



About Bureau of Police Research and Development:

- It was set up in 1970 under the **Ministry of Home Affairs** by replacing the Police Research and Advisory Council.
- **Objectives**
 - To **identify the needs and problems of the police** in the country.

- To undertake research projects and studies, and suggest modalities to overcome problems and challenges and meet the needs and requirements of the police.
 - It was also mandated to keep abreast of the latest developments in the fields of science and technology, both in India and abroad, to promote the use of appropriate technology in police work.
 - It is also **assisting the States in the modernization** of the State Police Forces and Correctional Administration.
 - More recently, the BPR&D has also been entrusted with the responsibility of anchoring and coordinating the work of the **National Police Mission**.
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WHAT IS THE INGENUITY MARS HELICOPTER?

NASA has re-established contact with its Ingenuity helicopter on Mars, the US space agency said recently.



About Ingenuity Mars Helicopter:

- It is a small, **autonomous aircraft** that **flew to Mars** aboard NASA's Perseverance rover.
- It was sent to Mars to **perform experimental flight tests** to determine if powered, controlled flight on the Red Planet was possible.
- Ingenuity's mission is experimental in nature and **completely independent of the rover's science mission**.
- Ingenuity was **deployed to the surface on April 4, 2021**.
- On April 19, it became the **first aircraft in history to make a powered, controlled flight on another planet**.
 - It rose to a height of 10 feet, hovered for 30 seconds, and then descended back to the ground.
 - The **flight lasted 39.1 seconds**.
 - It **managed to fly in Mars' thin atmosphere, which isn't conducive for flying**.
- It's **piloted by onboard guidance, navigation, and control systems** running algorithms.

- **Perseverance acts as a relay between the chopper and the earth.**

Key Facts about Perseverance Rover:

- It is a **robotic explorer to land on Mars** as part of NASA's ongoing Mars 2020 Mission.
 - **Main Job: Seek signs of ancient life and collect samples** of rock and regolith (broken rock and soil) **for possible return to Earth.**
 - The rover will collect samples of rock and soil, encase them in tubes, and leave them on the planet's surface to be returned to Earth at a future date.
 - **Launch:** It was **launched on July 30, 2020**, from Cape Canaveral, Florida.
 - **Landing:** Successfully **landed on the surface of Mars's Jezero Crater** on February 18, 2021.
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KEY FACTS ABOUT WULAR LAKE

The Wular Lake has got around four to five lakh migratory birds so far this winter, including seven new species.



About Wular Lake:

- It is the **largest freshwater lake in India.**
- It is located in the Bandipora district of **Jammu and Kashmir.**
- It lies at the north end of the Valley of Kashmir, 20 miles (32 km) north-northwest of Srinagar.
- It is spread over a total area of 200 square km covering almost 24 km in length and 10 km in breadth.
- The lake basin was formed as a **result of tectonic activity and is fed by the Jhelum River.**
- The lake lies at an **altitude of 1,580 m.**
- It is also said to be a **remnant of Satisar Lake**, which existed in ancient times.
- This lake also has a **small island in its centre called the 'Zaina Lank'**. This island was **constructed by King Zainul-Abi-Din.**
- In 1990, it was designated as a **Ramsar Site.**

Key Facts about Jhelum River:

- It is a river that **flows in India and Pakistan.**
- It is a **tributary of the Indus River.**
- It is the **main waterway of the Kashmir valley.**
- **Course:**
 - **Origin:** It originates at the **Verinag Spring at Anantnag**, at the foot of the **Pir Panjal range** in the Kashmir Valley.
 - It then **flows via Srinagar and Wular Lake** before entering Pakistan.
 - The river makes a deep, narrow gorge on its way to Pakistan.
 - It **joins the Chenab River** near Trimmu, Pakistan.
- **Length:** It has a total length of about **725 km (450 mi).**
- **Major Tributaries:** Kishanganga (Neelum) River, Kunhar River, Sandran River, Bringi River, Arapath River, Watlara River, Lidder River, and Veshaw River.

STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS FOR GREEN HYDROGEN TRANSITION (SIGHT) PROGRAMME

Rs 17,490 crore has been set aside for the Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) programme, to bolster domestic electrolyser manufacturing and green hydrogen production.



About Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) Programme:

- It is a **subcomponent of the National Green Hydrogen Mission.**
- **Aim:** To bolster **domestic electrolyser manufacturing and green hydrogen production.**
- In the initial stage, **two distinct financial incentive mechanisms** were proposed with an outlay of ₹ 17,490 crore **up to 2029-30:**
 - Incentive for manufacturing of electrolysers
 - Incentive for the production of green hydrogen.

- Depending on the markets and technology development, **specific incentive schemes** and programmes **will continue to evolve** as the Mission progresses.
- **Implementing agency:** The **Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)** would be the implementing agency responsible for the scheme's execution.

What is the National Green Hydrogen Mission?

- It is implemented by the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** with an outlay of ₹ 19,744 crore **from FY 2023–24 to FY 2029–30**.
- The **overarching objective** of the Mission is to **make India a global hub for the production, usage, and export of Green Hydrogen** and its derivatives.
- The **expected outcomes** of the mission by 2030, are as follows:
 - India's Green Hydrogen production capacity is likely to reach 5 MMT per annum, contributing to a reduction in dependence on the import of fossil fuels. Achievement of Mission targets is **expected to reduce a cumulative ₹ 1 lakh crore worth of fossil fuel imports by 2030**.
 - This is **likely to leverage over ₹8 lakh crore in total investments** and create over 6 lakh jobs.
 - Nearly **50 MMT per annum of CO₂ emissions are expected to be averted** through the production and use of the targeted quantum of Green Hydrogen.
- It has a provision for **supporting pilot projects for low-carbon steel, mobility, shipping, and ports**.
- The Mission provides allocations for **various sub-components** of the Mission such as **SIGHT, Pilot projects, R&D etc.** to fund specific selected projects.
- There is **no State-wise allocation** made under the Mission.
- Green Hydrogen is **produced by the process of electrolysis**, where **water is split into hydrogen and oxygen** using electricity generated from renewable sources like solar, wind, or hydropower.

HAVISURE VACCINE

Recently, the Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) a wholly owned subsidiary of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) launched India's first indigenously developed Hepatitis A vaccine 'Havisure' in Hyderabad.



About Havisure vaccine:

- It is a two-dose vaccine — the **first dose** administered at **above 12 months** of age and the second at least six months after the first dose.
- The vaccine is **recommended** for children as part of **the routine immunisation** as well as for individuals at risk of exposure or travel to the regions with high hepatitis A prevalence.
- In addition to this people with occupational risk of infection and suffering from chronic liver diseases also require Hepatitis A vaccination.

Key facts about Hepatitis A

- It is an **inflammation of the liver** caused by the **hepatitis A virus (HAV)**.
- The virus is primarily spread when an uninfected (and unvaccinated) person ingests food or water that is contaminated with the faeces of an infected person.
- Hepatitis can be **an acute** (short-term) infection or **a chronic** (long-term) infection.

Symptoms: Some people with hepatitis do not have symptoms and do not know they are infected.

Common symptoms include fever, malaise, loss of appetite, diarrhoea, nausea, abdominal discomfort, dark-coloured urine and jaundice.

Treatment: There is no specific treatment for hepatitis A. Recovery from symptoms following infection may be slow and can take several weeks or months.

DAVOS MEETING 2024

Why in news?

- This year's edition of the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual meeting was held from January 15 to January 19.
- The overarching theme for WEF 2024 was '**Rebuilding Trust**'.

World Economic Forum

- It is the international non-governmental organization for Public-Private Cooperation.
 - It was founded in January 1971 by German engineer and economist Klaus Schwab.
- The Forum engages the foremost political, business, cultural and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.
 - It has no independent decision-making power.
- **HQ:** Cologny-Geneva, Switzerland.

Davos meet

- Annually, the WEF organizes a meeting at the end of January in Davos, a mountain resort in Graubünden, in the eastern Alps region of Switzerland.
- The Annual Meeting, also known as the Davos Agenda, has the objective of orienting global leaders on the imperatives of the year ahead.

Different reports published by WEF

- WEF also produces a series of annual reports such as –
 - Global Competitiveness Report,
 - Global Information Technology Report,
 - Global Gender Gap Report,
 - Global Risks Report,
 - Global Travel and Tourism Report,
 - Global Enabling Trade Report.
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GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD

The Supreme Court recently directed the Centre to come clean on its plans to save the critically endangered Great Indian Bustard.



About Great Indian Bustard:

- It is a bustard found on the **Indian subcontinent**.
- **Scientific Name: Ardeotis nigriceps**
- It is **among the heaviest of the flying birds**.
- **Distribution:** The species has a current viable population of **100- 150 individuals** in India and **mainly survives in the Thar Desert of Rajasthan** which holds about 100 individuals.
- **Habitat:** It inhabits **dry grasslands and scrublands**.

Features:

- It is a **large bird** with a **horizontal body** and **long, bare legs**, giving it an ostrich-like appearance.
- The **sexes are roughly the same size**, with the largest individuals weighing 15 kg (33 pounds).
- It can easily be **distinguished by its black crown on the forehead**, contrasting with the pale neck and head.
- The **body is brownish**, and the wings are marked with black, brown, and grey.
- They **breed mostly during the monsoon season** when females lay a single egg on open ground.
- **Lifespan: 12-15 years**
- These birds are **opportunistic eaters**. Their diet ranges widely depending on the seasonal availability of food. They feed on **grass seeds, insects like grasshoppers** and beetles, and sometimes even small rodents and reptiles.
- **Conservation Status:**
 - **IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered**