

Maha Kumbh 2025

The Maha Kumbh is going to be held in Prayagraj for 45 days from 13th January to 26th February.

Various Efforts done by the Government for Mahakumbh 2025

Key Infrastructure Development

- ❖ **Temporary City Setup:** Mahakumbh Nagar is being transformed into a temporary city with thousands of tents and shelters, including super deluxe accommodations like the IRCTC's "Mahakumbh Gram" luxury tent city which offers deluxe tents and villas with modern amenities.
- ❖ **Roads and Bridges:** Renovation of 92 roads and beautification of 17 major roads are nearing completion.
- ❖ **Signage for Navigation:** A total of 800 multi-language signages (Hindi, English, and regional languages) are being installed to guide visitors.
- ❖ **Public Utilities:** Over 2,69,000 checkered plates have been laid for pathways. Mobile toilets and robust waste management systems will ensure hygiene.

Security Arrangements

- ❖ **Advanced Surveillance:** AI-powered crowd density monitoring with over 340 experts at key locations. Thousands of CCTV cameras and drones for aerial surveillance. Facial recognition technology at entry points for enhanced safety.
- ❖ **Fire Safety:** Over ₹131 crores have been allocated for fire safety measures. The AWTs are equipped with advanced technologies, including video and thermal imaging systems, to prevent fire incidents and enhance safety.

- ❖ **Underwater Drones:** For the first time, underwater drones capable of diving up to 100 meters will provide round-the-clock surveillance at the Sangam area.
- ❖ **Cybersecurity:** A team of 56 cyber warriors will monitor online threats. Cyber help desks are being set up in all police stations.
- ❖ **Deployed State-of-the-art Multi-Disaster Response vehicle** to enhance safety and disaster readiness. Capable of handling situations ranging from natural disasters to road accidents. Includes a lifting bag with a capacity of 10 to 20 tons, enabling the rescue of individuals buried under debris, and specialized machines to lift and move heavy objects weighing up to 1.5 tons.



Health Services

- ❖ **Medical Infrastructure:** Temporary hospitals equipped with surgical and diagnostic facilities. Deployment of "Bhishma Cube," capable of treating up to 200 people simultaneously.
- ❖ **Eye Care Initiative:** A "Netra Kumbh" camp aims to conduct eye tests for over 5 lakh pilgrims and distribute more than 3 lakh eyeglasses, towards setting a Guinness World Record.
- ❖ **Special Care for Vulnerable Groups:** Dedicated health camps for elderly pilgrims and children will focus on mobility assistance, hydration support, and emergency care.

Environmental Sustainability

- ❖ **River Protection:** 3 temporary sewage treatment plants (STPs) are being installed to ensure clean water in the Ganga and Yamuna rivers.

- ❖ **Eco-Friendly Measures:** Use of solar power for lighting, promotion of reusable materials, and a ban on single-use plastics.

Digital Innovations

- ❖ **Mobile App & Online Services:** A dedicated app provides real-time updates on crowd density, emergency alerts, directions, and accommodation details. Online registration and ticketing streamline visitor management.
- ❖ Temporary Wi-Fi zones will ensure connectivity for visitors.
- ❖ Integration with Google Maps for navigation within Mahakumbh Nagar.

Tourism and Cultural Promotion

- ❖ **Uttar Pradesh Pavilion:** Spanning 5 acres near Nagavasuki Temple, it showcases UP's tourism circuits (e.g., Ramayana Circuit, Krishna-Braj Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Bundelkhand Circuit) and features a handicrafts market along with cultural programs.
- ❖ **New Corridors & Temple Renovation:** Development of new corridors like Akshayavat Corridor, Saraswati Koop Corridor and Patalpuri Corridor.
 - Renovation of Nagvasuki Temple and Hanuman Temple Corridor.

Short News- Uttar Pradesh

A big jump has been seen in Uttar Pradesh in terms of digital payments. **Currently, UP ranks third in the country in terms of per capita digital transactions.**



- In just three months, the number of digital payments has increased from 411.55 crores to 707.64 crores. **If the increase continues like this, then by March 2025, the number of digital payments in UP will cross 1400 crores.** The special thing is that in UP, every person makes an average of 7.731 digital transactions in a year.

- ❖ Scientists of **Uttar Pradesh Council of Science and Technology (UPCST)** have achieved a major breakthrough in the **treatment of cancer**. Scientists Dr. Sumit Srivastava and Dr. Rajesh Gangwar has prepared 20 nanometer-sized silver nanoparticles from the extract of Phalsa (Grewia Asiatica).
 - This can **prove to be a safe and effective alternative to chemical nanoparticles used in chemotherapy**. Researchers claim that silver nanoparticles prepared from phalsa are not only safe but also effective in treating cancer. The smaller the size of the nanoparticle, the greater its effectiveness. These nanoparticles of 20 nanometer size have proved effective on uterine cancer cells.

Person In News- Achievements

Kaamya Karthikeyan


- ❖ She is a **17 year old female who etched her name in history as the youngest female to conquer the highest peak on each of the seven continents**. Accompanied by her father, Cdr S Karthikeyan, the young adventurer reached the summit of Mount Vincent in Antarctica on December 24, completing the prestigious Seven Summits Challenge.

- ❖ She had previously conquered Mt Kilimanjaro in Africa, Mt Elbrus in Europe, Mt Kosciuszko in Australia, Mt Aconcagua in South America, Mt Denali in North America, and Mt Everest in Asia.



Sports

FIDE World Rapid Championship 2024

- ❖ **Koneru Humpy won the FIDE World Rapid Championship in New York.** She is India's top women's chess player and it was her second world rapid title.
- ❖ She secured the title by defeating Indonesia's Irene Sukandar.
- ❖ She became **only the second player to win multiple women's world rapid titles after China's Ju Wenjun.** Humpy had previously won this title in 2019, apart from finishing third in 2012, and second in 2023.
- ❖ In the **open section**, **18-year-old Russian Volodar Murzin** became the winner.  He became the second youngest player to win the world rapid title in the open section, after Nodirbek Abdusattorov, who won the title aged 17.

King Cup International Badminton Open 2024

- ❖ The **2024 King Cup International Badminton Open** was a men's singles badminton tournament held from December 27 to 29, 2024, in Shenzhen, China.
- ❖ It was founded and hosted by Chinese badminton legend **Lin Dan**, the event aimed to promote the men's singles discipline and provide top players with substantial rewards.

- ❖ Danish badminton star **Anders Antonsen** claimed the championship title after a nail-biting three-game battle against China's Hu Zhe'an.
- ❖ **Indian player Lakshya Sen** showcased an outstanding performance, beating Alex Lanier to secure third place at the King Cup International Badminton Open.

Important News- Other States

Goa

- ❖ The Manohar International Airport (GOX) at Mopa clinched the prestigious **"Best Domestic Airport" at Travel Leisure India's Best Awards 2024.**
- ❖ The award was given in a ceremony held at New Delhi.
- ❖ Participants across the globe were asked to rate their travel experiences and share their opinions on the top airports in India. Over 1.86 lakh participants completed the 2024 survey.

Maharashtra

- ❖ The **first commercial aircraft successfully landed** on the runway of **Navi Mumbai International Airport.**
- ❖ The IndiGo A320, which took off from Mumbai Airport, made a direct landing at Navi Mumbai International Airport.

Important News- Worldwide

China

- ❖ China launched its **first Type 076 new-generation amphibious assault ship** named the **Sichuan**, in Shanghai. It has been named after **southwest China's Sichuan Province.** It is an independently-developed new vessel that was put into the water at a launch and naming ceremony. It was given the hull number 51.

Miscellaneous

- ❖ In an exciting development for the **2025 edition of Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards**, Punjab National Bank (PNB) has **officially joined as the 'Special Partner'** for this prestigious ceremony. This collaboration marks a significant moment in the intersection of finance and cinema. Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2025, scheduled for February 20, 2025, in Mumbai, will bring together the best of the film and entertainment industry to honour extraordinary achievements in Indian cinema.
- ❖ **India's young fast bowler Arshdeep Singh has been nominated for the Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year** award as the International Cricket Council announced the list of nominations on December 29.

- Arshdeep ended the year as the joint-highest wicket-taker of the T20 World Cup 2024, picking up 17 wickets from eight matches at an average of 12.64 with an economy of 7.16. He is competing for the prestigious honour alongside Pakistan's Babar Azam, Australia's Travis Head, and Zimbabwe's Sikandar Raza, all of whom are among the standout performers this year.
- **Indian opener Smriti Mandhana too will be vying for an ICC award after being nominated for ICC Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year** for her standout performance in international cricket. Laura Wolvaardt (South Africa), Chamari Atapattu (Sri Lanka) and Annabel Sutherland (Australia) are the other experienced cricketers competing for the award.

