



## Ratha Saptami

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### Why in News

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This year's Ratha Saptami festival is being celebrated on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

### Key Points

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- Ratha Saptami is an annual Hindu festival that is **dedicated to Surya**, the sun god.
- It is made of two words- '**Ratha**' means Chariot and '**Saptami**' means seventh.
- A one-day *Brahmotsavam* is held in Tirumala (Andhra Pradesh) on this day.
- Ratha Saptami is also called Surya Jayanti as it marks the birth of Surya and referred as Magha Saptami as it falls on the seventh day (Saptami) of the Hindu month *Magha*.
- Ratha Saptami also marks the **change of season** to spring and the start of the harvesting season.

**Source: TH**