



Kashi Vishwanath Corridor

Why in News

Recently, the Prime Minister has **inaugurated Phase 1 of the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor Project in Uttar Pradesh's [Varanasi](#).**

- 23 buildings – tourist facilitation centre, Vedic Kendra, Mumukshu Bhavan, Bhogshala, city museum, viewing gallery, food court among others — have been inaugurated as part of the project.



Key Points

▪ About:

- It is the massive makeover and the **first after the 1780 AD when the Maratha queen Ahilyabai Holkar of Indore renovated the Kashi Vishwanath temple** and the area surrounding it.
- The foundation was laid in March, 2019. The project was **conceptualised to create an easily accessible pathway for the pilgrims**, who had to meander through congested streets to take a dip in the Ganga and offering the water of the holy river at the temple.
- More than 40 ancient temples were **rediscovered during the work on the project**. They were restored while ensuring there is no change in the original structure.

▪ Significance:

- It **connects the iconic Kashi Vishwanath temple and the ghats** along the river Ganga.
 - Kashi Vishwanath Temple is **one of the most famous Hindu temples dedicated to Lord Shiva**.
 - The temple stands on the western bank of the holy river Ganga, and is **one of the twelve Jyotirlingas, the holiest of Shiva temples**.

- It will help **boost tourism by providing the pilgrims and travellers with amenities such as wider** and cleaner roads and lanes, better lighting with bright street lights, and clean drinking water.

Source: IE

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