

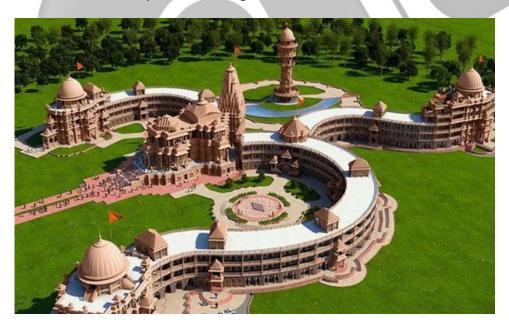
World's First Om Shaped Temple in Rajasthan | Rajasthan | 27 Mar 2024

Why in News?

In **Pali district** of Rajasthan, a beautiful temple shaped like the sacred symbol '**Om'** is currently under construction. This temple is **poised to become the world's first temple designed in this iconic form.**

Key Points

- Known as the 'Om Aakar' temple, this monumental structure spans across a vast expanse of 250 acres in Nagara Style in Jadan village of Pali district.
- According to the sources, the monumental task commenced with the laying of the temple's foundation stone in 1995, with expectations set for its completion by the years 2023-24.
 - It will be able to accommodate 1,008 idols of Lord Mahadev and 12 Jyotirlingas within its sacred precincts.
 - Towering at a height of 135 ft, the temple stands supported by 2,000 pillars, with provisions made for 108 rooms on its premises.
 - · The central feature of the temple complex is the tomb of Guru Madhavanand ji.
 - The uppermost segment of the temple houses a sanctum adorned with a shivling crafted from a rhinestone sourced from the Bansi hill of Dholpur.
- The visionary behind this grand project is Vishwa Guru Maha Mandleshwar Paramahansa
 Swami Maheswara Nanda Puriji Maharaj, the founder of the Om Ashram.
- In Hinduism, the Om mantra holds profound significance as the Mahamantra, recited daily by adherents upon awakening.



Nagara Style Temple

In North India it is common for an entire temple to be built on a stone platform with steps

leading up to it.

- Further, unlike in South India it does not usually have elaborate boundary walls or gateways.
- While the earliest temples had just one tower, or shikhara, later temples had several.
- The garbhagriha is always located directly under the tallest tower.
- There are many subdivisions of nagara temples depending on the shape of the shikhara.
- There are different names for the various parts of the temple in different parts of India; however, the most common name for the simple shikhara which is square at the base and whose walls curve or slope inward to a point on top is called the 'latina' or the rekha-prasada type of shikara.
- The second major type of architectural form in the nagara order is the **phamsana**, which tends to be broader and shorter than latina ones.
- Their roofs are composed of several slabs that gently rise to a single point over the centre of the building, unlike the latina ones which look like sharply rising tall towers.
- The third main sub-type of the nagara building is generally called the valabhi type.
- These are rectangular buildings with a roof that rises into a vaulted chamber.

