



Fire at Ujjain Mahakaleshwar Temple

Why in News?

On 5 May 2025, a fire engulfed the [Mahakal Lok Corridor](#) in the **Mahakaleshwar Temple** campus in **Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh**.



Key Points

- **Mahakaleshwar Temple:**
 - **Religious Significance:**
 - Mahakaleshwar Temple is **dedicated to Lord Shiva** and holds immense religious importance in Hinduism.
 - It is **one of the twelve Jyotirlingas**—the most **sacred abodes of Shiva**.
 - The idol of Mahakaleshwar is unique as it is **Dakshina Mukhi (facing south)**, unlike other Jyotirlingas.
- **Location:**
 - The temple is **situated in Ujjain**, an ancient city in Madhya Pradesh.
 - It lies beside the **Rudra Sagar lake**, enhancing its spiritual ambience.
 - The temple complex spans five levels and draws huge crowds, especially during Maha Shivaratri.
- **Architectural Features:**
 - The temple features a spacious courtyard adorned with intricate sculptures.
 - Its design reflects **Chalukya, Maratha, and Bhumija architectural styles**.
 - The foundation and platform are made of stone, while the upper structures rest on strong pillars and plasters.
 - It houses lingam sculptures of Mahakaleshwar and images of **Ganesh (west), Parvati (north), and Karttikeya (east) within the sanctum**.
 - A **sarvatobhadra-style tank** is also part of the temple complex.

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Shri Mahakal Lok Corridor

- **Mahakal Maharaj Mandir Parisar Vistar Yojna** is a plan for the **expansion, beautification, and decongestion** of the Mahakaleshwar temple and its adjoining area in Ujjain district.
- Under the plan, the Mahakaleshwar temple premises of around **2.82 hectares is being increased to 47 hectares**, which will be **developed in two phases by the Ujjain district administration**.
 - This will include the **17 hectares of Rudrasagar lake**.
- The project is expected to increase annual footfall in the city from the current 1.50 crore to nearly three crores.

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