

Kedarnath Temple Gates to Open on 2nd May

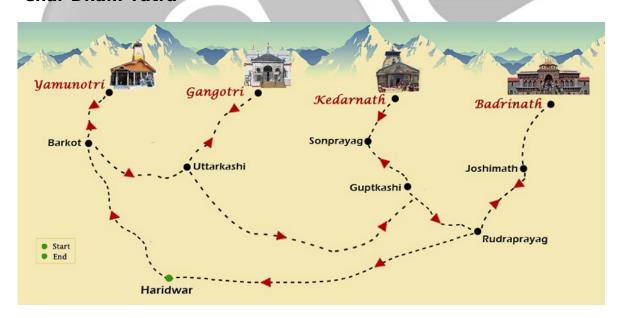
Why in News?

On 26th February 2025, **the Shri Badrinath-Kedarnath Temple Committee** announced that the temple gates will open on 2nd May, 2025.

Key Points

- Finalized Dates for Pilgrimage Sites:
 - With the announcement of **Kedarnath temple**'s opening, the dates for all four sacred sites in the Garhwal Himalayas have been fixed.
 - Badrinath Dham will open on 4th May 2025.
 - Gangotri and Yamunotri Dhams will open on 30th April 2025, coinciding with Akshaya Tritiya.
 - These **four sites together form the Chota <u>Char Dham</u>**, an important Hindu pilgrimage circuit.
- Decision on Kedarnath Temple Opening:
 - Religious gurus and Vedpathis determined the auspicious hour and date for Kedarnath's opening on Mahashivratri.
 - The decision was made after offering prayers at the Omkareshwar temple in Ukhimath, the winter abode of Baba Kedar.

Char Dham Yatra



- Yamunotri Dham:
 - Location: Uttarkashi district.
 - Dedicated to: Goddess Yamuna.
 - River Yamuna is the second-most sacred river in India after River Ganga.

Gangotri Dham:

- Location: Uttarkashi district.
- **Dedicated to:** Goddess Ganga.
- Considered the most sacred of all Indian rivers.

Kedarnath Dham:

- **Location:** Rudraprayag district.
- Dedicated to: Lord Shiva.
- Situated on the bank of the Mandakini River.
- One of the **12 Jyotirlingas** (divine representations of Lord Shiva) in India.

Badrinath Dham:

- Location: Chamoli district.
- Home to the sacred Badrinarayan Temple.
- **Dedicated to:** Lord Vishnu.
- One of the holy shrines for Vaishnavites

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