




Mamallapuram

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Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu is expected to be the venue for the **second India-China informal summit**.

- Besides holding talks, the leaders of both countries are likely to make a visit to the ancient monuments in the area.
 - The monuments in the area have been classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
 - During the **first informal summit in Wuhan (in China) in April 2018**, the leaders had made a visit to the Hubei provincial museum.
- Recently, Mamallapuram had also hosted the **Defence Expo 2018**, an annual event of the Union Defence Ministry.



About Mamallapuram

- **Mamallapuram**, also called **Mahabalipuram** or **Seven Pagodas**, is a town that lies along the Coromandel Coast of the Bay of Bengal, 60 km south of Chennai.
- The town's religious centre was **founded by a 7th-century Hindu Pallava King—Narasimhavarman**, also known as Mamalla—for whom the town was named.
- It contains many surviving 7th- and 8th-century Pallava temples and monuments, chief of which are the sculptured rock relief popularly known as **"Arjuna's Penance,"** or **"Descent of the Ganges,"** a series of sculptured cave temples, and a Shiva temple on

the seashore.

The town's **Five Rathas**, or monolithic temples, are the remnants of seven temples, for which the town was known as Seven Pagodas. The entire assemblage collectively was designated a **UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984**.

Source: TH