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1. PM inaugurated Shri Mahakal Lok temple complex at Mahakaleshwar Temple in Ujjain (Oct. 11, 2022)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated **Shri Mahakal Lok** at **Shri Mahakaleshwar Temple** in **Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh** on 11 October.

Important facts

- Shri Mahakal Lok is a place where all the mythological stories of **Lord Shankar** will be seen at one place.
- It is built in the **Mahakaleshwar temple** of Ujjain, one of the **12 Jyotirlingas** of the country.
- Apart from this, the venue has been declared as a **no fly zone**.
- The estimated cost of Shree Mahakal Corridor, built on the lines of Kashi Vishwanath Corridor, is Rs 800 crore.

About Mahakal corridor

- The construction work of Mahakal Corridor project in Ujjain city of Madhya Pradesh is in progress as per the plan.
- **Mahakal 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 scheme, the Mahakaleshwar **temple complex** of about 2.82 hectares is being increased to 47 hectares, which will be developed by the Ujjain district administration in two phases.
- The project will include a 17-hectare **Rudrasagar lake**.
- This corridor is going to be four times bigger than Varanasi's **Kashi Vishwanath Corridor**.

Mahakaleshwar Temple

- Shri Mahakaleshwar of Ujjain is considered one of the **twelve famous Jyotirlingas** of India.
- According to Hindu mythology, the temple was built by **Lord Brahma** and is currently situated on the banks of the holy **Kshipra River**.
- According to the records, the Mahakal lingam of the temple is believed to be **swayambhu (self-manifested)** and unlike any other Jyotirlinga in the country, the idol of Mahakaleshwar faces south.

- The **bhasma-aarti** is the first ritual conducted at the temple in the morning to wake the
- God.
 - This temple is revered as one of the **18 Maha Shakti Peethas** in India.
 - The present form of the temple was built in **1734 AD** by the Maratha general **Ranoji Shinde**.
 - The temple is **three-storeyed**, with **Mahakaleshwar** at the bottom, **Omkareshwar** in the middle and the linga of **Nagchandreshwar** in the upper part.
 - The collectorate office of Ujjain district now manages the administration of the temple.