



Badrinath Temple in Uttarakhand Opens for Devotees | Uttarakhand | 13 May 2024

Why in News?

The doors of the **Badrinath temple** in the Garhwal Himalayas in Uttarakhand opened for devotees on 12th May 2024 after remaining closed during the winter season.

Key points

- The [Chardham Yatra to Badrinath, Kedarnath, Yamunotri, and Gangotri](#) began with the opening of the shrine.
 - Following six months of closure, the doors of the Badrinath temple were unlocked while vedic mantras were chanted, rituals were performed, and drums were played.
 - The doors of the Kedarnath, Yamyunotri and the Gangotri temples opened for devotees on the occasion of [Akshaya Tritiya](#).



Badrinath Temple

- The temple is also one of the **108 Divya Desams dedicated to Vishnu holy shrines** for Vaishnavas who is worshipped as Badrinath.
 - It is situated along the **banks of Alaknanda river**, in **Chamoli district** of Uttarakhand.
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Government to Spend Money on Roads Along China Border | Uttarakhand | 13 May 2024

Why in News?

According to the sources, The government is likely to spend over **Rs. 2 crore on each kilometre of road to be constructed along the China border in Uttarakhand and Sikkim** under the [Vibrant Village Programme \(VVP\)](#).

Key Points

- The **Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** has sanctioned 113 roads under the VVP in **Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim, to improve connectivity in areas along the China border.**
 - While 105 roads have been sanctioned in Arunachal Pradesh, **five roads in Uttarakhand** and three roads in Sikkim have also been approved.
- According to the MHA's sanction letter, 43.96 km of roads are to be built at a cost of Rs. 119 crore at **Pithoragarh district in Uttarakhand.**
 - Each kilometre of road is expected to cost Rs. 2.7 crore. Once constructed, the "asset" will have to be maintained by the State government.
 - In **Sikkim**, around 18.73 km of roads and 350 metres of steel bridges have been sanctioned under the VVP at the **Chungthang and Mangan block** in north Sikkim at a cost of Rs. 96 crore.
 - Each kilometre of road construction will cost Rs. 2.4 crore.

Vibrant Villages Programme

- It is a **Centrally sponsored scheme**, announced in the **Union Budget 2022-23 (to 2025-26)** for development of villages on the northern border, thus improving the quality of life of people living in identified border villages.
- It will cover the border areas of **Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh.**
- It will cover 2,963 villages with 663 of them to be covered in the first phase.
- Vibrant Village Action Plans will be created by the district administration with the help of Gram Panchayats.
- There will **not be overlap with the Border Area Development Programme.**

Uttarakhand High Court Asks Government for Relocation | Uttarakhand | 13 May 2024

Why in News?

The **Uttarakhand High Court** has directed the Uttarakhand State Government to locate a **new site for moving its operations out of Nainital** within a month, stating that this move is in the best interest of the public.

Key Points

- The court also **directed the Registrar General to create a portal to take suggestions** from

advocates and the general public on the issue.

- On the **state government's earlier proposal** for shifting the **High Court to Gaulapar in Haldwani**, the high court observed that the land earmarked for the purpose had 75% forest cover and construction in the area would lead to deforestation.
 - The high court also made a few recommendations for the kind of land required for its relocation and facilities, including proper **accommodation for judges, judicial officers, staff and court rooms.**
 - The high court's **decision to shift its premises** has drawn a lot of resistance by the bar association.

Bar Council of India

- **About:**
 - The Bar Council of India is a **statutory body** created by Parliament under the **Advocates Act, 1961** to regulate and represent the Indian bar.
- **Regulatory Functions:**
 - Prescribing **standards of professional conduct** and etiquette for advocates.
 - Establishing procedures for disciplinary actions.
 - Setting standards for legal education in India and recognizing qualifying law degrees.
- **Other Responsibilities:**
 - Protecting the **rights, privileges, and interests of advocates.**
 - Organising legal aid for the underprivileged.
 - Conducting elections for Bar Council members.
 - To deal with and dispose of any matter which may be referred to it by a State Bar Council.

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