

UP Chief Minister Announces 4 New Highways

Why in News?

Recently, **Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister** Yogi Aditiyanath **announced to introduce four new link expressways** after a detailed study and action plan.

Key Points

- As per reports, the new expressways include the <u>Purvanchal Expressway</u>, which will be connected to the **Agra-Lucknow Expressway**, and Ganga Expressway- which connects Farrukhabad and <u>Jewar Airport</u> via two link expressways.
- The Ganga Expressway, from Meerut to Prayagraj, is planned to be completed and open to the public by December 2024 to enable devotees to utilize the expressway for <u>Prayagraj Kumbh in</u> 2025.
- Gorakhpur Link Expressway. will provide excellent connectivity for the districts of Gorakhpur,
 Sant Kabir Nagar, Azamgarh, and Ambedkar Nagar.
 - These new expressways will significantly boost the state's infrastructure and connectivity.
 - To promote <u>environmental sustainability</u> and enhance the aesthetics of these new routes, saplings should be planted along both sides of all expressways.

Prayagraj Kumbh

- Kumbh Mela comes under <u>UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.</u>
- Kumbh Mela is the largest peaceful congregation of pilgrims on earth, during which participants bathe or take a dip in a sacred river.
 - It takes place on the banks of the <u>Godavari river</u> in Nashik, the <u>Shipra river</u> in Ujjain, the **Ganges in Haridwar**, and the confluence of the <u>Ganges</u>, <u>Yamuna</u>, and the mythical <u>Saraswati river</u> in Prayagraj. The confluence is referred to as the '<u>Sangam</u>'.

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