

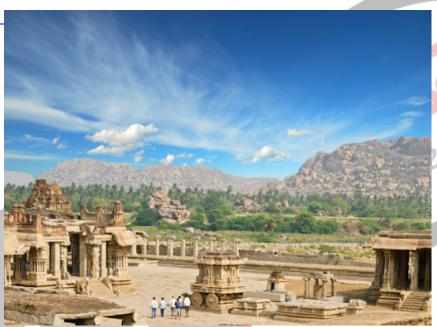
Hampi

Why in News

Recently, the Vice-president of India visited monuments at the **UNESCO World Heritage Site** of **Hampi** in Vijayanagara district, Karnataka.

Key Points

About: //



- The site of Hampi comprises mainly the remnants of the capital city of the Vijayanagara Empire (14th-16th century CE), the last great Hindu Kingdom.
- It **encompasses an area of 4187, 24 hectares**, located in the Tungabhadra basin in Bellary District, Central Karnataka.
- Hampi's spectacular setting is dominated by <u>river Tungabhadra</u>, craggy hill ranges and open plains with widespread physical remains.
- One of the unique features of temples at Hampi is the wide chariot streets flanked by the row of pillared mandapas.
- Its Famous places include Krishna temple complex, Narasimha, Ganesa, Hemakuta group of temples, Achyutaraya temple complex, <u>Vitthala temple complex</u>, Pattabhirama temple complex, Lotus Mahal complex, etc.

Background:

- Hampi was the capital of the <u>Vijayanagara Empire</u> in the 14th century. The old city of Hampi was a prosperous, wealthy and grand city near the **Tungabhadra River**, with numerous temples, farms and trading markets.
- By 1500 CE, Hampi-Vijayanagara was the world's second-largest medieval-era city after Beijing, and probably India's richest at that time, attracting traders from Persia and

- Portugal.
- The Vijayanagara Empire was defeated by a coalition of sultanates; its capital was conquered, pillaged and destroyed by sultanate armies in 1565 (Battle of Talikota), after which Hampi remained in ruins.

Vijaynagar Empire

- Vijayanagara or "city of victory" was the name of both a city and an empire.
- The empire was founded in the fourteenth century (1336 AD) by Harihara and Bukka of Sangama dynasty.
 - They made Hampi as the capital city.
- It stretched from the river Krishna in the north to the extreme south of the peninsula.
- Vijayanagar Empire was ruled by four important dynasties and they are:
 - Sangama
 - Saluva
 - Tuluva
 - Aravidu
- Krishnadevaraya (ruled 1509-29) of the Tuluva dynasty was the most famous ruler of Vijayanagar.
- He is credited with building some fine temples and adding impressive gopurams to many important south Indian temples.
- He composed a work on statecraft in Telugu known as the Amuktamalyada. the Vision

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