



# Maha Kumbh

## Why in News?

In a statement released after an official meeting **the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister** said that the [Maha Kumbh](#), which is being **organised in Prayagraj in 2025**, will have a "big impact" on the state's economy with crores of people attending the event.

- A study should be conducted on **attracting both domestic and foreign tourists**, and a concrete action plan should be developed for this purpose.

## Key Points

- In the official meeting, the Chief Minister discussed the ongoing efforts, current results and future policy towards fulfilling the resolution of making the state a [USD 1 trillion economy](#).
- It is emphasized that all the ministers and senior officials should make special efforts towards ease of living and maximum employment generation.
- The total [Gross Domestic Product \(GDP\)](#) of the state was 16.45 lakh crore in 2021-22. It increased to more than 25.48 lakh crores in 2023-24.
  - Uttar Pradesh is contributing 9.2% to the [national income](#) and is becoming the growth engine of the country's development as the second largest economy of the country.
  - The [unemployment rate of the state](#), which was 6.2% in 2017-18, has come down to 2.4% in 2024.

## Maha Kumbh

- Kumbh Mela comes under [United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization \(UNESCO\)'s Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity](#).
- It 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 [Godavari river in Nashik](#), the [Shipra river in Ujjain](#), the Ganges in Haridwar, and the confluence of the Ganges, Yamuna, and the mythical [Saraswati river in Prayagraj](#). The confluence is referred to as the 'Sangam'.
- As it is held in four different cities in India, it involves different social and cultural activities, making this a **culturally diverse festival**.
- The **over month-long fair** is marked by the construction of a massive tented township, complete with cottages, huts, platforms, civic facilities, administrative and security measures.
  - It is organized immaculately by the government, the local authorities and the police.
- The mela is especially **renowned for the presence of an extraordinary array of religious ascetics** enticed from remote hideaways in forests, mountains and caves

