

Surajkund Fair 2025

Why in News?

The <u>Surajkund International Craft Fair</u> is scheduled **between 7th to 23rd February 2025 in Faridabad.** The authorities are likely to spend around Rs. 1.50 crore on repair work.

Key Points

- About the Fair:
 - It is an effective platform to connect our craftsmen with art lovers. This fair is both an art exhibition and a business centre.
 - The fair showcases the richness and diversity of the <u>handicrafts</u>, <u>handlooms</u> and the <u>cultural heritage</u> of India.
 - The department is focusing on expanding the fair area in 2025, with an emphasis on increasing huts for <u>artisans</u> and participants.
 - The number of additional huts is yet to be finalized and depends on the availability of open space.
 - Additional huts, designed to be weather-proof, are expected to meet the growing demand due to the fair's increasing popularity and participation.
 - In 2024, authorities provided around 1,150 huts, accommodating over 1,500 indigenous and 250 foreign craftspeople.
 - Authorities have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the <u>Delhi Metro</u> <u>Rail Corporation (DMRC)</u> for ticketing and parking facilities.
 - Partner Nations and Theme:
 - <u>BIMSTEC countries</u> (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Thailand, Nepal, and Sri Lanka) remain **partner nations** for the event.
 - The **theme state for the upcoming fair is yet to be announced**, though Northeastern states like Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, and Mizoram will be given special focus for showcasing art and craft.

BIMSTEC

- BIMSTEC is a regional organisation comprising 7 member states Bangladesh, Bhutan,
 India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.
- It was formed in 1997 with the aim of promoting multifaceted technical and economic cooperation among the countries of the <u>Bay of Bengal</u> region.
- The region covered by BIMSTEC is home to around 1.5 billion people, with a combined GDP of over USD 3.8 trillion.