

# **UP Cabinet Approves Key Projects at Maha Kumbh**

## Why in News?

The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet, led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, held a significant meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2025, at the Maha Kumbh Mela site in Prayagraj.

■ The State government reiterated its focus on creating a safe, prosperous, and well-connected Uttar Pradesh, blending **economic development** with **cultural pride**.

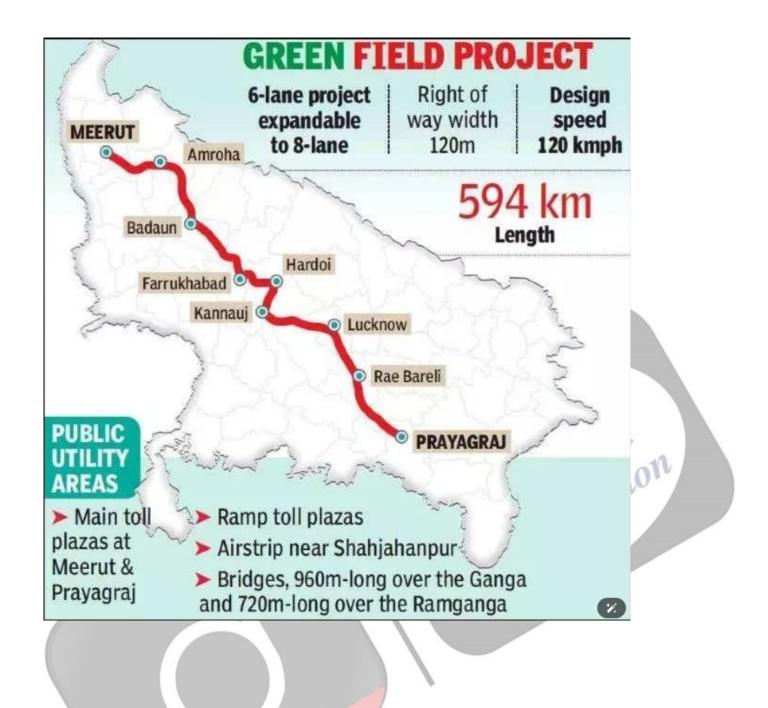
# **Key Points**

#### **Key Highlights of the Meeting:**

- Major Decisions and Announcements:
  - The Cabinet approved a revamp of the State's aerospace and defence policies.
  - New incentives were introduced to attract substantial investments in these sectors, aligning with Uttar Pradesh's vision for economic growth and industrial development.
  - Two significant expressway projects received in-principle approval:
    - **Vindhya Expressway:** A 320-kilometre-long project connecting Prayagraj, Mirzapur, Varanasi, Chandauli, and Sonbhadra.
    - **Vindhya-Purvanchal Link Expressway:** A 100-kilometre-long expressway aimed at further improving regional connectivity.
  - Significance:
    - The Vindhya Expressway will link Prayagraj and Sonbhadra, starting from the Ganga Expressway and ending at National Highway (NH 39).
    - The expressway will strengthen Uttar Pradesh's infrastructure and improve access to neighboring States like **Jharkhand**, **Madhya Pradesh**, and **Chhattisgarh**.
    - These projects are expected to boost social and economic development, particularly in the Vindhya and Purvanchal regions, while complementing the State's existing network of expressways.

## **Ganga Expressway**

- This expressway, connecting the state from east to west, will traverse 518 villages across 12 districts, significantly reducing travel time between Meerut and Prayagraj.
- It is designed to accommodate six lanes initially, expandable to eight lanes, boasting a maximum speed of 120 kilometers per hour.
- Another important feature includes two long bridges spanning the Ganga and Ramganga rivers, allowing even big planes to land. A 3.50-kilometer airstrip near Jalalabad tehsil in Shahjahanpur adds to the project's versatility.
- To enhance public convenience, nine public amenities complexes are planned along the expressway, with main toll plazas at Meerut and Prayagraj, and ramp toll plazas at 15 locations.
- The Ganga Expressway is not merely a transportation link but a testament to Uttar Pradesh's commitment to modernising its connectivity landscape.



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