

## **Badrinath Temple**

## Why in News?

The Badrinath temple in **Uttarakhand's Chamoli district** will open its sacred portals for devotees on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

## **Key Points**

- Decision on Badrinath Temple Opening:
  - On the occasion of <u>Basant Panchami</u>, priests decided the auspicious time for opening the Badrinath temple after performing special prayers.
- Annual Closing and Reopening of Char Dhams:
  - After Diwali, authorities close the <u>Char Dhams</u>—<u>Badrinath</u>, <u>Kedarnath</u>, <u>Gangotri</u>, and <u>Yamunotri</u>—for devotees.
    - The portals reopen in April-May the following year.



## **Char Dham Yatra**

- Yamunotri Dham:
  - Location: Uttarkashi district.
  - Dedicated to: Goddess Yamuna.
  - River Yamuna is the second-most sacred river in India after River Ganga.
- Gangotri Dham:
  - Location: Uttarkashi district.
  - Dedicated to: Goddess Ganga.
  - Considered the most sacred of all Indian rivers.
- Kedarnath Dham:
  - Location: Rudraprayag district.

- Dedicated to: Lord Shiva.
- Situated on the bank of the Mandakini River.
- One of the **12 Jyotirlingas** (divine representations of Lord Shiva) in India.
- Badrinath Dham:
  - Location: Chamoli district.
  - Home to the sacred Badrinarayan Temple.
  - Dedicated to: Lord Vishnu.
  - One of the holy shrines for Vaishnavites.

