

World's 2nd Highest Trek in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit <u>Gangotri</u> **Mukhba** on **27**th **February 2025** to inaugurate the winter yatra to Uttarakhand.

- Mukhba (Mukhwa) is a small village in the town of Harsil, on the banks of river Bhagirathi, on the way to the pilgrimage of Gangotri.
 - It is situated at an altitude of 2620 meters above the sea level.

Key Points

- Foundation Stone for Janaktal Trek: PM Modi will lay the foundation stone for the Janaktal trek, which will be the second-highest trekking route in the world.
- Tourism Initiatives: Several adventure activities have been planned, including, a motorbike rally to <u>ladung</u> will be conducted under the aegis of the <u>Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board</u> (UTDB).
 - A trekking expedition organized by the <u>Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)</u> from Neelapani to <u>Mulling La Base.</u>
 - It is expected to boost tourism and enhance the economic growth of the region through sustainable tourism practices.
- Cultural Significance: PM Modi is expected to offer prayers at the Ganga Temple in Mukhwa.

Janaktal trek

- It is located in **Uttarakhand**, the **Janaktal trek** reaches an impressive **17,716 feet**, making it the **world's second-highest trekking route**.
- Trekkers are treated to breathtaking views of the <u>Garhwal Himalayas</u>, unique flora, serene glacial lakes, and a glimpse into local culture through traditional villages along the way.
- The 12 km Janaktal trek takes adventurers through rugged, high-altitude terrain to a secluded lake surrounded by snow-capped peaks.
- Previously restricted due to military presence, the area is now open to tourists, offering untouched beauty.
- The Uttarakhand government plans to develop this route, along with Jadung,
 Nelong, and Sonam Valley, to attract domestic and international adventure seekers.

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