



# Maha Kumbh 2025

## Why in News?

The upcoming [Maha Kumbh Mela](#) in **Prayagraj**, scheduled from **13<sup>th</sup> January to 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2025**, is set to transcend its **traditional spiritual significance** by incorporating extensive **health, educational, and environmental initiatives**.

## Key Points

### ▪ Initiatives Taken For Maha Kumbh 2025

- **Netra Kumbh (Eye Camp):**
  - '**Netra Kumbh**' has been inaugurated, spanning nine acres.
  - Over **500 doctors** from more than **150 hospitals** aim to treat **five lakh (500,000) eye patients**.
  - The camp plans to distribute **three lakh (300,000) free spectacles** and perform **50,000 cataract surgeries**.
  - During the **2019 Kumbh**, the initiative earned a place in the [Limca Book of World Records](#) by distributing **1.5 lakh (150,000) spectacles** and **screening three lakh (300,000) individuals**.
  - Patients requiring further treatment will receive referral cards for surgeries at hospitals near their residences.
- **Dant Kumbh (Dental Camp):**
  - For the first time, a '**Dant Kumbh**' will be organized by the **Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP)**.
  - Running from 10<sup>th</sup> January to 26<sup>th</sup> February, the camp will feature **five dental chairs**.
    - Each chair is expected to handle 500 dental examinations per day, providing free treatments and distributing complimentary oral care products to devotees.
- **Gyan Kumbh (Knowledge Confluence):**
  - The **Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas** is organizing the '**Gyan Mahakumbh**' in bringing together over a thousand prominent **educators, university vice-chancellors, education ministers, and secretaries** from both central and state governments.
  - The event will focus on the implementation of the [National Education Policy, 2020](#) with sessions scheduled from **7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> February**.
  - Discussions will cover topics such as the **role of private educational institutions, women's education, student engagement, traditional Indian knowledge systems, and the significance of Indian languages**.
- **Green Kumbh Initiative:**
  - In a bid to promote environmental consciousness, volunteers associated with the **Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas** and the [Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's \(RSS\)](#) **environmental activities** have launched the '**Ek Thaila, Ek Thali**' (**One Bag, One Plate**) initiative.
    - The campaign aims to distribute **1.5 million steel plates** and **two million cloth bags** to pilgrims, reducing the use of disposable items and encouraging sustainable practices.

- As of the third week of December, over 150,000 steel plates have been distributed to organizations operating food services within the mela area.
- Additionally, a '**Harit Mahakumbh**' (**Green Kumbh**) event is scheduled for 31st January at the **Gyan Mahakumbh**.
- **Vidya Kumbh:**
  - Children from **laborer families**, along with their families, will have the opportunity to participate in **Vidya Kumbh**, enabling them to experience the **cultural and educational** aspects of the **Maha Kumbh**.
  - **Free books, pens**, and other **educational materials** will be distributed to children to help them progress in their studies.
  - **Awareness sessions** will be held for the parents of laborer families to help them understand the importance of education and encourage them to support their children's learning.
- **Outreach to Underprivileged Children:**
  - Volunteers from **Vidya Bharati**, an organization linked to the **RSS**, plan to facilitate visits to the **Maha Kumbh** for children living in **slums**, along with their families, ensuring inclusivity and broader participation in the **cultural and spiritual festivities**.
  - These multifaceted initiatives reflect a holistic approach to the Maha Kumbh Mela 2025, intertwining spirituality with **health, education, and environmental stewardship**, thereby enriching the experience for millions of participants.

## 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**'.

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