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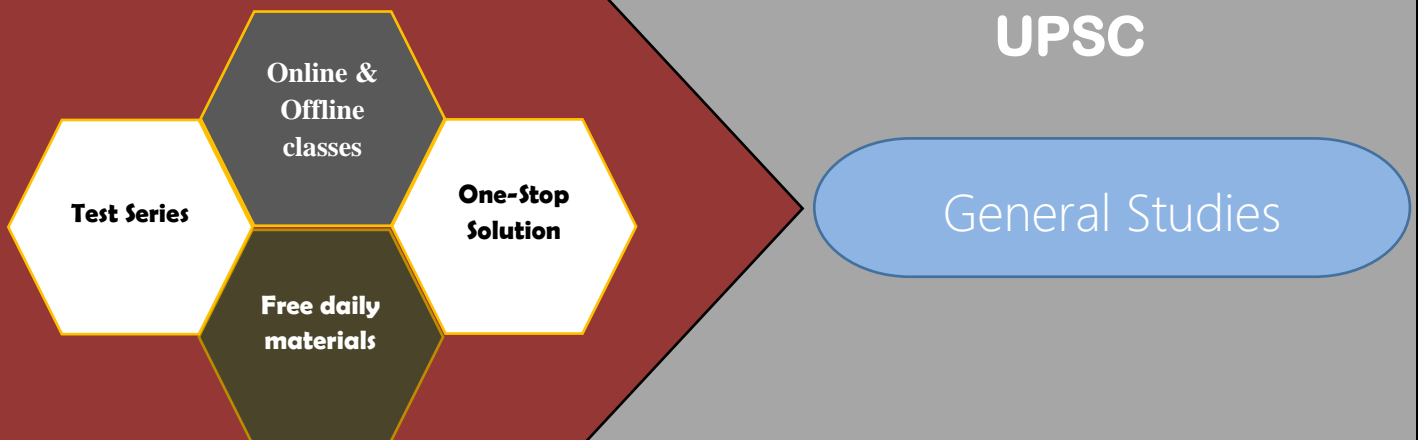
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Kashi Vishwanath Corridor

Notes for civil services preparation



Kashi Vishwanath Corridor

Recently, the Prime Minister has **inaugurated Phase 1 of the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor Project in Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi.**

- 23 buildings – tourist facilitation centre, Vedic Kendra, Mumukshu Bhavan, Bhogshala, city museum, viewing gallery, food court among others — have been inaugurated as part of the project.
- **About:**
 - It is the massive makeover and the **first after the 1780 AD when the Maratha queen Ahilyabai Holkar of Indore renovated the Kashi Vishwanath temple** and the area surrounding it.
 - The foundation was laid in March, 2019. The project was **conceptualised to create an easily accessible pathway for the pilgrims**, who had to meander through congested streets to take a dip in the Ganga and offering the water of the holy river at the temple.
 - More than 40 ancient temples were **rediscovered during the work on the project**. They were restored while ensuring there is no change in the original structure.
- **Significance:**
 - It connects the iconic Kashi Vishwanath temple and the ghats along the river Ganga.
 - Kashi Vishwanath Temple is **one of the most famous Hindu temples dedicated to Lord Shiva.**
 - The temple stands on the western bank of the holy river Ganga, and is **one of the twelve Jyotirlingas, the holiest of Shiva temples.**
 - It will help **boost tourism by providing the pilgrims and travellers with amenities such as wider** and cleaner roads and lanes, better lighting with bright street lights, and clean drinking water.