



Balalatha's
CSB IAS ACADEMY
The Road Map to Mussoorie...

PRELIMS EDGE 2025

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PLACES IN NEWS

Ramappa Temple



- It is also known as the **Rudreshwara temple**, is a **Kakatiya style Hindu temple** dedicated to the god Shiva, located in Telangana.
- **Patronage:** The medieval Deccan Ramappa Temple which dates back to 1213 AD, was built by the patronage of the Kakatiya ruler Kakati Ganapathi Deva under the authority of his Chief Commander Rudra Samani.
- The temple got its name Ramappa because of its chief sculptor Ramappa. **Ramappa Temple is probably the only temple in India that is named after the architect.**

Architectural features:

- **Earthquake-proof:** Made out of clay mixed with acacia wood, chaff and myrobalan fruit (a family of amla), the bricks used in building the

gopuram of the temple are light enough to float on water. Using this technique has made the temple light, meaning, in case of a natural event like an earthquake, the probability of it collapsing would be very low.

- **Sandbox technique:** The temple construction was done using the sandbox technique. This is a technique where the foundation pit is filled with a mixture of sand-lime, jaggery and black myrobalan fruit. This mix acts as a cushion in case of earthquakes.
- The temple's many carved pillars are positioned in such a way that when the sunlight hits these pillars. One of the pillars has a Lord Krishna carved into it. When gently hit, the pillar produces musical notes.
- In 2021, the temple was inscribed as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** as Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple, Telangana.

Miyako Strait



- The Miyako Strait is a 250 km-wide maritime passage of international waters and airspace between **Miyako Island and Okinawa Island in Japan's Ryukyu archipelago**.
- It is also known as the **Kerama Gap**.
- It is the widest strait in the Ryukyu Islands.
- It is connecting the **East China Sea with the Pacific** (Philippine Sea).
- It is vital for freedom of navigation, maritime security, and monitoring naval movements in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Geopolitical significance**
 - It provides a deep, navigable route from the East China Sea to the open Pacific.
 - It is one of the few international waterways for China's People's Liberation Army Navy to access the Pacific Ocean from the East China Sea.
 - It has been in news in relation to **recent standoff between Japan and China**.

Gulf of Oman

- The Gulf of Oman, also called the **Gulf of Makran**, is the western extension of the Arabian Sea in the Middle East, forming the **only entrance to the Persian Gulf from the Indian Ocean**.
- It **connects the Arabian Sea to the Strait of Hormuz, which leads into the Persian Gulf**.
- It borders Iran and Pakistan on the north, Oman on the south, and the United Arab Emirates on the west.
- The small ports along the gulf include Şuḥār, al-Khābūrah, Muscat, and Şūr, in Oman, and Jāsk and Chāh Bahār, in Iran.
- Some of the significant islands that are located in the Gulf of Oman include Sheytan Island, Al Fahal Island, Dimaniyat Islands, and the Sawadi Islands.
- Some fishing is carried on, but the Gulf's main importance is as a shipping route for the oil-producing area around the Persian Gulf.
- The Gulf of Oman offers the **only entrance from the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean into the Persian Gulf**.
- The world's major oil exporters and importers have a joint interest in its security.
- **Roughly one-third of the world's oil is exported via the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman.**



- **Major Rivers:** The Mano and Morro Rivers in the northwest and the Cavalla in the east and southeast are major rivers and form sections of Liberia’s boundaries.
- **Natural resources:** It has natural resources like Iron diamonds, gold, lead, manganese, graphite, cyanite

TERMS IN NEWS

Sujalam Bharat App

Liberia



- It is located along the coast of **western Africa**.
- It is the only state in Africa which was **never subjected to colonial rule** and is Africa’s **oldest republic**.
- It is bounded by **Sierra Leone to the northwest, Guinea to the north, Côte d'Ivoire to the east**, and the Atlantic Ocean to the south and west.
- The Atlantic Ocean borders Liberia to the south-southwest.
- It has Cape Mount (about 1,000 feet in elevation) in the northwest, Cape Mesurado in Monrovia, and Cape Palmas in the southeast.

- It is a key digital initiative designed to transform **rural drinking water governance**.
- It has been developed with the support of **Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N)**

Features the App

- It enables advanced geo-referencing, monitoring and management of rural water supply infrastructure under Jal Jeevan Mission.
- It integrates critical data including water sources, asset inventories, scheme designs, operational records, water quality reports, supply metrics, and community feedback into a single platform.
- With the introduction of the Sujal Gaon ID, every habitation will have a clear digital profile showing:

- Its source of drinking water (local or bulk supply)
 - The nature and condition of its infrastructure
 - Supply reliability
 - Water quality status
 - O&M arrangements
 - It is integrated with PM Gati Shakti GIS which provides up-to-date geospatial mapping of rural water networks, supporting future planning, repair, and expansion with greater precision.
 - **Significance:** It will ensure transparency in the performance of Gram Panchayats, Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) and service providers, thereby promoting community participation and oversight.
1. It is a key digital initiative designed to transform rural drinking water governance.
 2. It is integrated with PM Gati Shakti GIS which provides up-to-date geospatial mapping of rural water networks, supporting future planning, repair, and expansion with greater precision.
 3. It will ensure transparency in the performance of Gram Panchayats, Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) and service providers, thereby promoting community participation and oversight.

How many of the above statements are incorrect

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All of the Above
- D. None of the Above

Q5; The Gulf of Oman connects the Arabian Sea to which of the following water bodies

- A. Persian Gulf
- B. Red Sea
- C. Gulf of Aden
- D. Gulf of Aqaba

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Q1; The Ramappa Temple, also known as the Rudreshwara temple, is a Hindu temple dedicated to the god Shiva, located in Telangana. It was constructed under the patronage of which of the following.

- A. Bahmani Sultanate
- B. Vijayanagara Empire
- C. Kakathiya Dynasty
- D. Vakataka Dynasty

Q2; This is a 250 km-wide maritime passage of international waters and airspace in the South China Sea that witnessed a naval standoff between China and Japan recently. Identify the strait from the following options

- A. Miyako Strait
- B. Taiwan Strait
- C. Luzon Strait
- D. Hainan Strait

Q3; Which among the following do not share land boundary with Liberia

- A. Sierra Leone
- B. Guinea
- C. Côte d'Ivoire
- D. Ghana

Q4; Consider the following statements regarding Sujalam Bharat App

Answers

1. C
2. A
3. D
4. D
5. A