

Ambubachi Mela

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in News?

Recently, the annual ambubachi mela festival has been inaugurated.

- **Ambubachi Mela** - It marks the annual menstruation period of Goddess Kamakhya.
- It is regarded as a powerful symbol of fertility, creation, and womanhood in the Shakti tradition.
- **Celebrated in** - **Kamakhya Temple**, Guwahati, Assam.
- **Temple Closure** - The temple doors remain strictly closed for 3 days as the goddess is believed to be in her period of purification and divine energy replenishment.
- **Reopening** - On the fourth day, the temple reopens to thousands of waiting pilgrims.
- **Unique Prasad** - Consisting of small, moist pieces of red cloth that are believed to be soaked in the goddess's menstrual fluid

Kamakhya Temple

- **Situated on** - **Nilachala (Blue Hill)**.
- **Constructed period** - The present structure was rebuilt in 1565 CE using the remains of an earlier stone temple dating to the 11th-12th centuries CE.
- **Temple style** - Blend of the Nagara (North Indian) style and the Saracenic (Mughal) style.
- This fusion gave rise to a distinct architectural form known as the Nilachala Style, which later became a prominent temple-building tradition in Assam through royal patronage.



- **Layout of the Temple** - It consists of 5 main chambers:
 - **Garbhagriha** (Sanctuary)
 - **Antarala** (Vestibule)
 - **Jagamohan** (Main Hall)
 - **Bhogmandir** (Ritual Hall)
 - **Natmandir** (Dance and Music Hall)

Reference

[NDTV| Ambubachi mela](#)