Padmanabhaswamy Temple

Prelims: *Current events of National and International Importance | History*

Why in News?

Padmanabhaswamy Temple performs rare 'Maha Kumbhabhishekam' after 270 years.

- The Padmanabhaswamy Temple, dedicated to Lord Vishnu, is a significant Hindu temple in ***Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.***
- **Built in -** The 8th-century, one of the 108 temples in India dedicated to Lord Vishnu.
- King Marthanda Varma that this temple saw a major renovation.
- This was followed by the tradition of *Thripadidanam,* the donation to the temple and its deity.
- **Architecture** - It is renowned for its ***Dravidian architecture***
- Lord Vishnu is in a reclining posture on the serpent God Anantha.
- The interiors of the temple are adorned by exquisite paintings and murals.
- The temple features a 7-tier gopuram adorned with intricate carvings and designs, showcasing remarkable craftsmanship.
- Inside, the temple is embellished with stunning paintings and murals.
- Primarily depicting life-sized images of deities such as Lord Vishnu in a reclining position, Lord Ganapati, Gaja Lakshmi, and Narasimha Swamy.
- The dhwaja stamba, or flag post, stands at approximately 80 feet tall and is covered in gold-plated copper sheets, while the temple houses around 3 million palm leaf manuscripts from the 14th century.
    - It details the administrative and financial history of the temple town and the Travancore kingdom.
- **Hymns** - Nammalwar, a 9th-century poet and one among the 12 Vaishnavite saints of the Alvar tradition, has composed ten hymns in praise of Lord Padmanabha.

Reference

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