

- There are several shrines added to the temple by most of the following rulers such as the Pandyas, the Vijayanagara rulers and the Marathas, too.

## HAMPI

### WHY IN NEWS?

SC backs move of Karnataka government to demolish restaurants near Hampi site. The court concluded that the constructions were in violation of the Mysore Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act of 1961.

### ABOUT HAMPI

- It is a **UNESCO world heritage site**.
- It was a **part of the Mauryan Empire back in the third century BC**.
- Hampi was the **capital city** during the four different dynasties altogether in the Vijayanagar city that came into existence in the year 1336 AD.
- The Vijayanagara Empire reached unfathomable heights under the guidance of **King Krishnadeva Raya of the Tuluva Dynasty**.
- '**Kishkindha Kaand**' in Ramayana has special significance concerning Hampi.
- It is located near the Tungabhadra river.
- By 1500 CE, Hampi-Vijayanagara was the world's second-largest medieval-era city after Beijing, and probably India's richest at that time, attracting traders from Persia and Portugal.
- It has been described by UNESCO as an "**austere, grandiose site**" of more than 1,600 surviving remains of the last great Hindu kingdom in South India.

## VITTALA TEMPLE IN HAMPI

- Its construction began during the time of **Krishnadevaraya** in 1513 CE.
- Krishnadevaraya (ruled 1509-29) of the Tuluva dynasty was the most famous ruler of Vijayanagar.
- Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is about to install a wooden barricade around the stone chariot inside Vittala Temple complex at the **UNESCO World Heritage site of Hampi** to protect it from damage.

## HAMPI CHARIOT

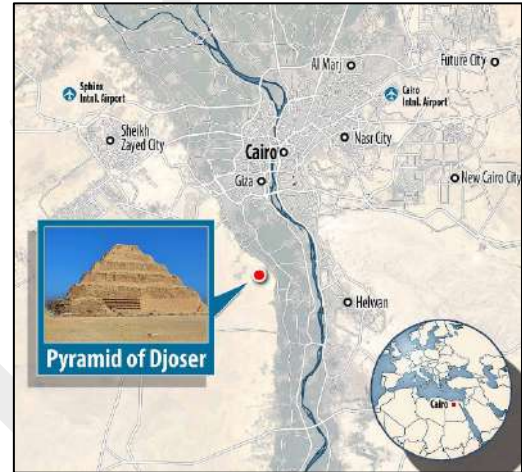
- In Vijaya Vittala Temple, Karnataka.
- Shrine dedicated to **Garuda**, but the sculpture of Garuda is now missing.
- Built by Vijayanagara Ruler in their capital. It is **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.

- Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has put up a chain barricade to prevent people from touching or climbing it.

## PYRAMID OF DJOSER

### WHY IN NEWS?

Last week, Egypt reopened the Pyramid of Djoser, the first pyramid ever built, after a 14-year restoration. The structure is believed to be designed by Imhotep, described by some as the first architect of the world.



### ABOUT

- The **4,700-year-old pyramid** is 60 metres tall, and consists of six stacked steps over a burial shaft tomb 28 metres deep and seven metres wide.
- It is located at the **Saqqara archaeological site**, 24 km southwest of Cairo, outside the royal capital of Memphis. A **complex of halls and courts** is located around the pyramid.
- It is the **world's oldest monumental stone building**.
- Today a **UNESCO world heritage site**, the pyramid was constructed during the era of Pharaoh Djoser, the second king of Ancient Egypt's Third Dynasty (2650 BC– 2575 BC).
- The Pharaoh's 19-year reign saw **significant technical innovations** in stone architecture.
- The pyramid's architect, Imhotep, was also a physician and **astrologer**, and **served as Djoser's minister**.

## KONARK SUN TEMPLE

### WHY IN NEWS?

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has taken up the Complete Solarisation of Konark sun temple and Konark town in Odisha.

### ABOUT