

## Maa Kamakhya Temple

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## Maa Kamakhya Temple

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the foundation stone laying ceremony of Maa Kamakhya Divyalok Pariyojana, also known as Maa Kamakhya Access Corridor.



[ref- kamakhyadevi.org]

### **About Maa Kamakhya Access Corridor:**

- It is an initiative aimed at **enhancing the pilgrimage** experience and **boosting tourism in Assam**.
- It is part of the **Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North Eastern Region (PM-DevINE)** scheme, this corridor draws inspiration from the **Kashi-Vishwanath Temple Corridor in Varanasi**.
- **Six major temples within the Kamakhya complex**, currently hidden, will be restored and unveiled for public view.

### **About Maa Kamakhya Temple:**

- Maa Kamakhya Temple, located at Nilachal Hills in Guwahati, is a revered center of **Tantric practices**.
- It is dedicated to the goddess Kamakhya, one of the **51 shaktipeethas**.
- According to legend, when Lord Shiva performed the **Tandava** (cosmic dance) with the body of his wife, **Sati**, her **yonis (genitalia)** fell at the spot where the Kamakhya Temple is now located.
- Kamakhya is considered the **goddess of fertility**, and the temple is associated with the creative and destructive aspects of feminine energy.

### **Architecture:**

- The temple's architectural shape is a combination of the traditional **nagara and saracenic styles**.
- This hybrid architecture is sometimes called the **Nilachal type**, named after the hill where it's located.
- The temple has a distinctive **beehive-like shikhara** (dome) adorned with sculptured panels and images of various Hindu deities.
- Original temple destroyed by **Kala Pahar**, it was reconstructed in 1565 by **Chilarai of the Koch dynasty**.

### **Ambubachi Mela:**

- Kamakhya Temple hosts the **Ambubachi Mela**, an annual festival celebrating the menstruation of the goddess.
  - **During mid-June**, a **natural spring** flows through the yoni, considered auspicious.
- The festival **marks the menstruation** of the goddess, and during this time, the temple remains closed for three days.
- It is believed that the **Earth becomes impure during these days**, and the goddess is said to undergo a period of rest and purification.