
























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## Topics Covered



- Summary:
- What is the news?
  - Beyond the Mountains: Unveiling the Night Sky
  - This initiative transcends mere stargazing. Participants can delve into the wonders of the cosmos through:
    - A Perfect Marriage: Uttarakhand's Allure and the Night Sky
    - A Boon for the Economy and a Leap Forward for Tourism
    - A Starry Future for Uttarakhand's Tourism Industry
  - QuizTime:
    - Are you Ready!
- Read the Below Instructions Carefully:
  - Please Rate!
- Mains Questions:
  - Question 1:
  - Model Answer:
  - Question 2:
  - Model Answer:
  - Relevance to the UPSC Prelims and Mains syllabus under the following topics:
    - Prelims:
    - Mains:

## ***Summary:***

- **Astro Tourism Campaign:** Uttarakhand launches “Nakshatra Sabha,” India’s first annual astro-tourism campaign, in collaboration with Starscapes.
- **Immersive Experiences:** The campaign offers expert-led talks, solar observations, astrophotography contests, and camping under the stars.
- **Economic and Tourism Impact:** Nakshatra Sabha aims to boost the local economy, create jobs, and position India in the global astro-tourism market.
- **Sustainable Tourism Model:** The initiative emphasizes minimal light pollution, community participation, and environmental conservation.

## ***What is the news?***

- Uttarakhand, a state renowned for its breathtaking natural beauty and spiritual significance, has embarked on a pioneering venture to attract a new breed of traveler – the astronomy enthusiast. The Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board, in collaboration with Starscapes, an astro-tourism company, has launched “Nakshatra Sabha,” marking India’s first-ever annual campaign dedicated solely to promoting astro-tourism.

# ***Beyond the Mountains: Unveiling the Night Sky***

- Nakshatra Sabha, which translates to “Celestial Assembly,” aims to offer a captivating experience that goes beyond the usual sightseeing tours. Scheduled to commence in early June 2024 at George Everest in Mussoorie, the campaign will extend until mid-2025, encompassing a series of immersive events across various locations throughout Uttarakhand.

***This initiative transcends mere stargazing. Participants can delve into the wonders of the cosmos through:***

- **Expert-Led Talks:** Renowned astronomers and space enthusiasts will conduct insightful talks, shedding light on celestial bodies, constellations, and the fascinating history of astronomy in India.
- **Solar Observations:** Equipped with specialized equipment, participants can witness the sun in a new light, observing sunspots, prominences, and the intricate dance of solar flares.
- **Astrophotography Contests:** Budding astrophotographers can put their skills to the test, capturing the ethereal beauty of the night

sky above Uttarakhand's pristine landscapes.

- **Camping Under the Stars:** Imagine falling asleep under a blanket of stars, the Milky Way stretching majestically across the canvas of the night sky. Nakshatra Sabha offers this unique opportunity, allowing participants to experience the awe-inspiring vastness of the universe in a truly immersive setting.

## ***A Perfect Marriage: Uttarakhand's Allure and the Night Sky***

- Uttarakhand provides the ideal backdrop for this innovative astro-tourism campaign. Renowned for its minimal light pollution, particularly in the remote Himalayan regions, the state offers crystal-clear night skies, allowing for unparalleled celestial observations. This, coupled with Uttarakhand's existing strengths in nature-based tourism, well-established hospitality sector, and diverse landscapes, creates a perfect synergy for attracting astro-tourists.

## ***A Boon for the Economy and a Leap Forward for Tourism***

- Nakshatra Sabha is not merely an exciting new tourism venture; it has the potential to significantly benefit the state's economy. By attracting a new segment of travelers, the campaign can create new employment opportunities,



boost local businesses, and contribute to the overall economic development of the region.

- Furthermore, Nakshatra Sabha signifies a significant leap forward for Indian tourism. It positions India as a serious contender in the burgeoning global astro-tourism market, attracting visitors interested in unique experiences that combine travel with astronomical exploration.

## ***A Starry Future for Uttarakhand's Tourism Industry***

- The launch of Nakshatra Sabha marks a new chapter in Uttarakhand's tourism narrative. By embracing innovation and catering to a niche market, the state is poised to attract a new wave of visitors eager to explore the wonders of the cosmos amidst its breathtaking landscapes. As Nakshatra Sabha unfolds, it will be fascinating to witness how this pioneering campaign shapes the future of astro-tourism in India and elevates Uttarakhand's position as a truly holistic travel destination.



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*Are you Ready!*

*Thank you, Time Out !*

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CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

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- Click on - Start Quiz
  - Attempt all questions (You can attempt or leave)
  - After Attempting Last Question.
  - Enter Name & Email
  - Click on - Check Result
  - Scroll down - Check out Solutions too.
- Thank you.

Loading ...



Category: General Studies

***Nakshatra Sabha can be seen as an example of:***

- The decline of traditional tourism practices in India.
- The increasing focus on religious significance in travel destinations.
- The government's efforts to promote sustainable development practices.
- The diversification of tourism offerings to cater to niche interests.

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Finish

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Category: General Studies

***The primary objective of the Nakshatra Sabha campaign launched by Uttarakhand Tourism is:***

- To promote religious tourism in the state.
- To attract adventure tourists to its Himalayan peaks.
- To establish Uttarakhand as a hub for medical tourism.
- To offer a unique experience focused on celestial observations.

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Category: General Studies

***The success of Nakshatra Sabha can potentially lead to:***

- (i) India's emergence as a major player in the global astro-tourism market.
- (ii) Increased research and development in the field of astronomy in India.
- (iii) A rise in light pollution levels across various regions in

Uttarakhand.

- (i) and (ii) only
- (i) and (iii) only
- (ii) and (iii) only
- (i) only

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Category: General Studies

**Which of the following statements is/are TRUE about the Nakshatra Sabha campaign? (Select the most appropriate option)**

- (i) It is a one-time event held in Mussoorie.
- (ii) It involves competitions for astrophotography enthusiasts.
- (iii) Participants can experience camping under a clear night sky.

- (i) and (ii) only
- (ii) and (iii) only
- (i) and (iii) only
- (i), (ii), and (iii)

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Finish

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Category: General Studies

**Considering the potential impact of Nakshatra Sabha, which of the following is the MOST LIKELY outcome?**

- A significant decline in traditional pilgrimage tourism in Uttarakhand.
- Increased light pollution due to the use of specialized astronomy equipment.

○ A boost to the local economy through new job opportunities and business growth.

○ A decrease in the number of visitors interested in Uttarakhand's natural beauty.

Prev

Finish

***Check Rank, Result Now and enter correct email as you will get Solutions in the email as well for future use!***

Check the Result

Your score is

0%

Restart quiz

***Please Rate!***

Send feedback

***Mains Questions:***

**Below Mains  
Question**

Write in Comment Section



## **Question 1:**

***Nakshatra Sabha, an initiative launched by Uttarakhand Tourism, marks India's foray into astro-tourism. Discuss the potential benefits and challenges associated with this new venture. How can Nakshatra Sabha be a model for sustainable tourism development in the state? (250 Words)***

## **Model Answer:**

### Potential Benefits:

- **Economic Growth:** Attract new tourists, create jobs in hospitality, equipment rentals, and local guiding services.
- **Promoting Science and Education:** Generate interest in astronomy, potentially inspiring future generations and fostering scientific curiosity.
- **Community Development:** Benefit local communities through increased revenue and infrastructure development in remote areas with minimal light pollution.
- **Environmental Benefits:** Promote responsible tourism practices with a focus on minimizing light pollution and environmental impact.

### Challenges:

- **Infrastructure Development:** Requires investment in specialized equipment, astronomy-focused

facilities, and trained personnel.

Accessibility: Ensuring accessibility for enthusiasts with varying physical abilities and catering to diverse interests within astro-tourism.

- Light Pollution Management: Balancing the needs of astro-tourism with existing settlements and preventing light pollution from spreading.

Seasonality: Monsoons and cloud cover might restrict visibility during specific periods, requiring alternate activities or seasonal variations in the campaign.

#### Nakshatra Sabha as a Model for Sustainable Tourism:

- Focus on Conservation: The campaign's dependence on minimal light pollution necessitates preserving the natural environment and promoting responsible tourism practices.
- Community Participation: Local communities can be involved in hospitality services, cultural presentations, and responsible waste management within the framework of astro-tourism.
- Minimal Infrastructure Footprint: Astro-tourism requires minimal permanent infrastructure compared to traditional resorts, minimizing environmental impact.
- Education and Awareness: The campaign can raise awareness about environmental conservation and the importance of a dark night sky.

By addressing the challenges and emphasizing sustainable practices, Nakshatra Sabha can become a model for responsible tourism development in Uttarakhand, promoting economic growth while preserving the state's natural beauty and pristine night sky.

## **Question 2:**

**Critically evaluate the statement: "Nakshatra Sabha signifies a significant leap forward for Indian tourism." Analyze how this initiative can position India as a competitor in the global astro-tourism market. (250 Words)**

## **Model Answer:**

Nakshatra Sabha is a significant step towards diversifying Indian tourism offerings and catering to niche interests. Here's why it can be a leap forward:

- **Unexplored Potential:** India possesses a vast and diverse landscape with numerous locations ideal for stargazing due to minimal light pollution.
- **Cultural Significance:** India's rich astronomical heritage and ancient knowledge systems can be integrated with the campaign, offering a unique experience.
- **Skilled Workforce:** India has a strong pool of astronomers and space enthusiasts who can contribute to the campaign's success.

However, challenges remain:

- **Competition:** Established players like Chile and Namibia have a head start in infrastructure and expertise.
- **Marketing and Branding:** Effective marketing strategies are needed to attract international



astro-tourists to India.

- **Policy Framework:** Government policies need to support responsible astro-tourism practices and infrastructure development.

By overcoming these challenges and leveraging its unique strengths, Nakshatra Sabha can pave the way for India to become a serious contender in the global astro-tourism market.

*Remember: These are just sample answers. It's important to further research and refine your responses based on your own understanding and perspective. Read entire UPSC Current Affairs.*

**Relevance to the UPSC Prelims and Mains syllabus under the following topics:**



**Prelims:**

- **General Studies Paper I : Science and Technology:** This section could include a question on:  
Space Exploration: Briefly touch upon the

growing interest in space tourism and India's potential role in this sector.

## ***Mains:***

- **Indian Economy:** This section could include questions on:
  - Tourism Industry: Analyze the potential of niche tourism segments like astro-tourism to contribute to India's economic growth.
  - Sustainable Development: Discuss ways to promote responsible tourism practices that minimize environmental impact.
  - Geography of India: Understanding the geographical factors that contribute to minimal light pollution in certain regions of India could be relevant for answering questions on:
- **Climate and Weather Patterns:** Briefly mention how factors like cloud cover and rainfall patterns might impact astro-tourism initiatives.
- Optional Subjects (if applicable): The topic could be more directly relevant to optional subjects like:
  - **Geography:** Questions on sustainable tourism practices and their impact on the environment.
  - **Science and Technology:** Questions on the development of the space sector and its potential for tourism.

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Hindi.*

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# Quiz Time

The profit triples with a doubling of the selling price. Determine the profit percentage.

- Option 1
- Option 2
- Option 3



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