

Night sky astro tourism

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In news- Rajasthan became the first state in India to introduce 'night sky astro tourism' in all 33 districts recently.

About night sky astro tourism-

- **The Night Sky Tourism project was launched by the State Department of Art and Culture.**
- The decision was made to encourage tourists to use the telescopes placed up at Jaipur's Jawahar Kala Kendra and Jantar Mantar to look at the sky at night.
- The most unique aspect of this revolutionary product is that **it will be monitored by sky calendars.**
- In order to promote night sky Astro tourism, the government has decided **to set up high-quality telescopes in each district, including at four prominent tourist spots in Jaipur.**
- Jaipur is in the class 5 category on a scale of 9, making it one among the prime locations for stargazing in India.
- The two impediments to stargazing are clouds and "light pollution". The latter is caused entirely by artificial lights.
- Jaipur is also known for its astronomical marvel like **Jantar Mantar, which was built in 1734 by Sawai Jai Singh II.** It is also a UNESCO world heritage site.
- A similar telescope will also be fixed at Bikaner House in the national capital.
- In January 2022 Starscapes, a chain of observatories, had set up a Mobile Stargazing Observatory in Jaipur. The mobile observatory went live opposite Amity International near The Tree House Resort .