

Refuge in Uttarakhand to Escape Diwali Pollution

Why in News?

• Recently, worsening air quality in the **NCR (National Capital Region)** region has driven residents to Uttarakhand for cleaner air and a healthier Diwali celebration.

Key Points

- Surge in Tourist Bookings:
 - NCR residents are increasingly booking hotels and homestays in Uttarakhand, especially in areas like Dehradun, Nainital, and Mussoorie, to escape pollution.
 - Uttarakhand's relatively low pollution levels during Diwali make it an appealing refuge amid NCR's smoggy skies.
 - Families, especially with elderly and children, prioritize escaping the health risks associated with high pollution levels in urban areas.
 - The influx benefits Uttarakhand's tourism economy, with higher demands for accommodations and local services.

