Mysuru gets India's first tilted 8K LED dome planetarium

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Mysuru: The city is now home to India's first tilted 8K LED dome planetarium, with PM Narendra Modi inaugurating the Rs 115 crore COSMOS facility at the foothills of Chamundi Hill in Mysuru Friday. The 160-seater planetarium, jointly developed by Indian Institute of Astrophysics and University of Mysore, is one of its kind in the world in terms of its massive active pixel array and real-time data integration.

Unlike conventional planetariums that rely on projectors, COSMOS uses individually controlled LED panels to produce high-resolution visuals. The dome's 6,150 individually controlled LED panels carry 4.2 crore pixels, higher than the standard 8K benchmark, producing ultra high-contrast images seamlessly across 15-metre diameter curved surface.



ANI

Modi and Shivakumar attended a special screening at Sky Theatre of COSMOS planetarium on Friday

Addressing the inaugural ceremony, Modi stressed the need to prioritise scientific research, innovation and opportunities for young people. He said opening up the space sector to private players had enabled companies and start-ups to develop and launch rockets and satellites. "Our satellites help fishermen, track trains real time, and provide data for crop insurance," the PM added.

The sky theatre at the planetarium will also screen an in-house film exploring the links between Mysuru's history and astronomy, with shows in Kannada, English and Hindi.

Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman described the facility as an important addition to Mysuru's tradition of learning and scholarship. "India's first LED dome planetarium brings many important benefits. COSMOS makes astronomy accessible through an immersive learning experience. It helps children understand stars and planets and encourages them to ask questions," she said.

CM D K Shivakumar announced Karnataka govt's support for a proposed COSMOS centre at Hampi, stressing the need to decentralise scientific infrastructure.

Times of India_Bengaluru_Saturday_November 14_2026_pp.1