

Meteor shower on Sunday midnight

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Pune: The residents of Pune will get to witness the bright Perseids meteor shower in the north-eastern part of the sky on the midnight of August 11 and 12, provided there is a clear sky.

The Perseids meteor shower, visible to the naked eye, appears to originate from a point in the sky known as "Radiant Point" which lies between the constellations Perseus and Cassiopeia. It is a result of debris shed by Comet 109P/Swift-Tuttle. This meteor shower is one of the most prominent in the year and

begins roughly around mid-July and lasts till August 15-16. On the midnight of Aug 11 and 12, the Zenithal Hourly Rate (ZHR) of Perseids Meteor Shower is about 100-120 meteors, when maximum number of meteors can be seen. According to Amit Purandare, president of Pune-based Aastronomica Club, the Perseid meteor shower peaks this year when there's almost no moon. "This event is for the unaided eyes, and enthusiasts will be able to see the meteor shower in the north-eastern part of the sky. The view will be even better with a pair of binoculars," he said.