

# The National Academy of Sciences, India

5, Lajpatrai Road, Prayagraj-211002, India

## Summary of the Activities, held in the month of August 2024

### 1. Celebration of Independence Day (15<sup>th</sup> Aug, 2024)

The National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI), successfully celebrated the 78<sup>th</sup> Independence Day in the Academy HQ as well as many of the NASI-Local Chapters. The staff of the Academy also participated in the 'HAR GHAR TIRANGA' campaign to proudly hoist the Tiranga at their home/office in celebration of our nation's independence. Some photographs of the celebration is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-1**.

### 2. Celebration of National Space Day (23<sup>rd</sup> Aug, 2024)

The National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) celebrated *National Space Day* on **August 23, 2024**, with great enthusiasm. The event was graced by distinguished guests and leading scholars in the field of environmental and atmospheric sciences. The Academy organized several engaging activities to celebrate the occasion, including an Essay Writing Competition on the topic "India's Space Saga" and an Orientation session on "Indian Space Scientists." These activities aimed to educate and inspire the younger generation about India's remarkable journey in space science. The event was a remarkable success, with active participation with more than 200 students, making the celebration both educational and memorable. The celebration highlighted NASI's ongoing commitment to promoting space science and inspiring future generations. The local Chapters of the Academy also celebrated the NSD by organizing the various activities. A brief report with relevant photographs of the programme is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-2 & 2a**.

3. Preparations are underway for the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the NASI and Symposium on and Symposium on “**Accelerated R & D towards a Developed India**” dedicated to the Past President of the Academy Bharat Ratna Dr. M.S.Swaminathan scheduled to be held on **December 01-03, 2024** hosted by Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal.

4. The Local Chapters of the NASI also organized several programmes in the different parts of the Country. The detailed report is to be received and would be incorporated in the Annual Report.

5. The publication of the NASI-Journals also achieved their time-lines.





# राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान अकादमी, भारत

## The National Academy of Sciences, India

5, Lajpatrai Road, Prayagraj - 211002



# राष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष दिवस समारोह

## National Space Day Celebration

Theme: "Touching Lives while touching the moon: India's Space Saga".

"चंद्र के स्पर्श से जीवन का स्पर्श : भारतीय अंतरिक्ष गाथा"

Date: August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Time: 10:00 am to 01:30 pm

### -- Programme--

- ❖ **Welcome & Introductory Remarks :** Dr. Pavitra Tondon  
(10:00- 10:15 am) Assistant Executive Secretary, NASI
- ❖ **Address by the Guest of Honour :** Dr. Prashant Kumar Srivastava  
(10:15-11:00 am) Institute of Environment & Sustainable Development  
BHU, Varanasi
- ❖ **Chief Guest Address :** Shri Pramod K. Pande  
(11:00-11:20 am) Former Director, Jawahar Planetarium,  
Anand Bhawan, Prayagraj
- ❖ **Address by the Guest of Honour :** Prof. Shailendra Rai  
(11:20-12:10 pm) K. Banerjee Centre of Atmospheric and Ocean Studies  
University of Allahabad, Prayagraj
- ❖ **Interactive Session (Between Experts and Students)**  
(12:10-12:30 pm)
- ❖ **Vote of thanks & Concluding Remarks :** Dr. Santosh Shukla  
Acting Executive Secretary, NASI
- ❖ **Visit to Ganga Gallery**  
(12:30-01:30 pm)

\*\*\*\*\*Lunch\*\*\*\*\*

### Next Day: 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2024 Programme

- ❖ Essay Writing Competition between students
- ❖ Debate Competition between students



# The National Academy of Sciences, India

5, Lajpatrai Road, Prayagraj - 211002

## **Report on the Celebration of National Space Day - August 23, 2024**

The National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) celebrated *National Space Day* on **August 23, 2024**, with great enthusiasm. The event was graced by distinguished guests and leading scholars in the field of environmental and atmospheric sciences.

Dr. Prashant Kumar Srivastava, a prominent scientist from the Institute of Environment & Sustainable Development, Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi, delivered an insightful Keynote Address on the critical role of space technology in environmental monitoring and sustainable development. Dr. Srivastava emphasized the importance of remote sensing and satellite data in addressing climate change challenges and advancing environmental conservation efforts.

Prof. Shailendra Rai from the K. Banerjee Centre of Atmospheric and Ocean Studies, University of Allahabad, Prayagraj, (Guest of Honour) provided an in-depth discussion on the advancements in atmospheric and oceanic studies facilitated by space technology. His lecture highlighted the significant contributions of satellite-based observations to understanding weather patterns, monsoon predictability, and the broader implications of climate change.

Shri Pramod K. Pande, Former Director of Jawahar Planetarium, Anand Bhawan, Prayagraj, as the Chief Guest of the programme, discussed the advancements in India's space programs, emphasizing the importance of scientific research and innovation in shaping the future of space exploration. His address inspired the audience, particularly the students, to explore careers in space science and contribute to India's growing achievements in this field.

The program featured presentations and discussions on recent developments in space science and technology, with a focus on their applications in environmental and atmospheric research. The event also included interactive sessions where students engaged with the experts, gaining valuable insights into the future of space exploration and its impact on global environmental sustainability.

The Academy organized several engaging activities to celebrate the occasion, including an Essay Writing Competition on the topic "India's Space Saga" and an Orientation session on "Indian Space Scientists." These activities aimed to educate and inspire the younger generation about India's remarkable journey in space science.

The event was a remarkable success, with active participation with more than 200 students, making the celebration both educational and memorable. The celebration highlighted NASI's ongoing commitment to promoting space science and inspiring future generations.



## Glimpse of the National Space Day celebrations



*Interactive Session with the students*



*Winner of the competition's*



*Shri Pramod K Pande delivering lecture*



*Dr. Prashant K Srivastava interacting with the students*

## **NASI Chapter's also celebrated the NSD 2024, naming a few as:**

### **NASI-Lucknow Chapter:**

On August 23, 2024, the National Academy of Sciences India, Lucknow Chapter, in association with the Regional Science City, Lucknow, organized a series of educational activities to celebrate National Space Day. The goal of this celebration was to inspire students, teachers, and the general public about space technology and its applications.

The event featured a variety of activities, including a Poster Design Contest on the theme “India in Space,” a Space Science Quiz, an Astronomy Demonstration, a Popular Science Lecture titled “Indian Space Programme: From Humble Beginnings to Stellar Heights,” a Water Rocket Demonstration, an Exhibition of Photographs captured by Chandrayaan-3 from the lunar surface, a Display and Demonstration of a Miniature Model of Chandrayaan-3, and a Workshop on Telescope Making.

Chief Guest Prof. Promod Tandon highlighted the importance of National Space Day. On August 23, 2023, India achieved a historic milestone in space exploration with the successful landing of its Chandrayaan-3 mission on the Moon. This event marked India as the first country to achieve a soft landing near the lunar south pole, a region that had been challenging for previous missions. He emphasized that Indian satellites support crucial sectors such as agriculture, disaster management, education, and telemedicine, contributing to socio-economic growth. Prof. Tandon also noted that ISRO's global collaborations and successful missions enhance India's soft power and strategic defence capabilities, inspire youth to pursue STEM careers, and stimulate economic growth by encouraging space startups and commercial ventures.

The Popular Science Lecture on “Indian Space Programme: From Humble Beginnings to Stellar Heights” was delivered by Shri S. N. Sahoo, Senior Scientist at ISTRAC-ISRO, Lucknow. India's space program, which began with modest ambitions and limited resources, has evolved into a globally recognized force in space exploration. From its early days with the launch of Aryabhata in 1975 to achieving groundbreaking milestones like the Chandrayaan-3 lunar landing in 2023, India's journey exemplifies remarkable technological progress and international collaboration.

The event saw participation from 1,105 students (667 boys and 438 girls) from 24 different schools, including CMS Sector-B Aliganj, CMS Sector-O Aliganj, GD Goenka Public School, Sushant Golf City Lucknow, St. Joseph Inter College, Thakurganj, R.S. International School, Delhi Public School ELDECO, Delhi Public School Indira Nagar, Hoerner College, Dr. Shyam Singh Inter College, Brightland Inter College, St. Clare Convent Inter College, and Govt. Jubilee Inter College, among others.

Prof. R. Sharma from NEHU and Dr. R. D. Tripathi, Advisors of the NASI Local Chapter, also participated in the programme.







## NASI-NER Chapter

The National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) NER Chapter celebrated the First Ever National Space Day on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2024 by organizing a popular programme for school children at Jail Road Boys` Higher Secondary School, Meghalaya.

There were about 200 students from four different schools namely, Rooprekha High School, Laban Presbyterian Higher Secondary Girls School, Balika Hindi Vidhyalaya and Jail Road Boys` Higher Secondary School, Shillong who attended the event.

The programme started with a short briefing on NASI and its activities and the significance of celebrating the National Space Day by Prof SR Joshi, Secretary, NASI Local Chapter. It was then followed by a popular lecture on “**Aditya L1 and Solar Dynamics**” and India`s Space Mission by Mr. Rahul Chatterjee. He presented a mesmerizing talk on Solar activity, CME and Solar Cycles and the effect of magnetic emission from the Sun. With the background on the effect of the solar emission on earth and its components, technology, gadgets and devices, he linked the importance of Chandrayan and the soft landing on moon with special reference to Aditya L1 and its landing at L1.

The real videos of the sun`s activity and the animations on sun, Chandrayan and Aditya L1 captured the attentions of students and teachers as well. The lecture attracted intense discussion and queries which were responded by the experts.

The programme ended with gratitude expressed to the coordinating School and participating school by the Secretary ,NER Chapter for making the programme a grand success.





स्वामी राम हिमालयन विश्वविद्यालय  
Swami Rama Himalayan University



National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) Uttarakhand Chapter, Dehradun  
& Swami Rama Himalayan University

# NATIONAL SPACE DAY

POSTER & RANGOLI COMPETITION

THEME: TOUCHING LIVES WHILE TOUCHING  
THE MOON: INDIA'S SPACE SAGA



**AUGUST 23, 2024**

**Venue: Himalayan School of  
Biosciences**

**Time: 9 AM - 1 PM**