

Institute Colloquium

Public Lecture: National Space Science Exhibition



S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences (An Autonomous Research Institute established under DST, GOI)





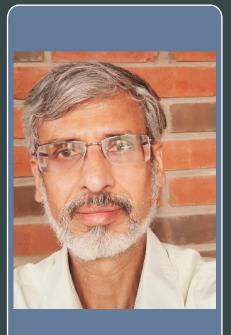




Title: Exploring the Universe with AstroSat

Abstract:

AstroSat is India's first spee based, multi-wavelength astronomical observatory, launched and managed by ISRO. It has been operating successfully for seven years. The mission carries five scientific instruments covering wavelengths ranging from optical/UV to hard X-rays/gamma rays. A wealth of data have been gathered by AstroSat, resulting in several important discoveries. In this talk I will introduce the mission and its instruments and highlight some of the important results. The latter include the discovery of a new range of Lyman-alpha emitting galaxies and the detection of polarized gamma rays from the brightest explosions, Gamma Ray Bursts.



Speaker:

Professor Dipankar Bhattacharya

Head of the Department, Physics; Sunanda and Santimay Basu Professor of Astrophysics, Ashoka University

Short biography of the Speaker

Dipankar Bhattacharya is the Sunanda and Santimay Basu Chair Professor of Astrophysics and the Head, Department of Physics at Ashoka University. Prior to this, he has been a member of faculty at the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics and the Raman Research Institute.

Prof. Bhattacharya obtained his Masters' degree in Physics from Jadavpur University and his PhD from the Indian Institute of Science. He carried out his postdoctoral research at the University of Amsterdam and the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is a fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences, and is a member of the Divisional Steering Committee of Commission D of the International Astronomical Union. His research is focussed on High Energy Astrophysics, including Compact Stars and Cosmic Explosions. He has been associated with the Indian space astronomy mission AstroSat for over two decades and is currently the Chair of its Science Working Group.