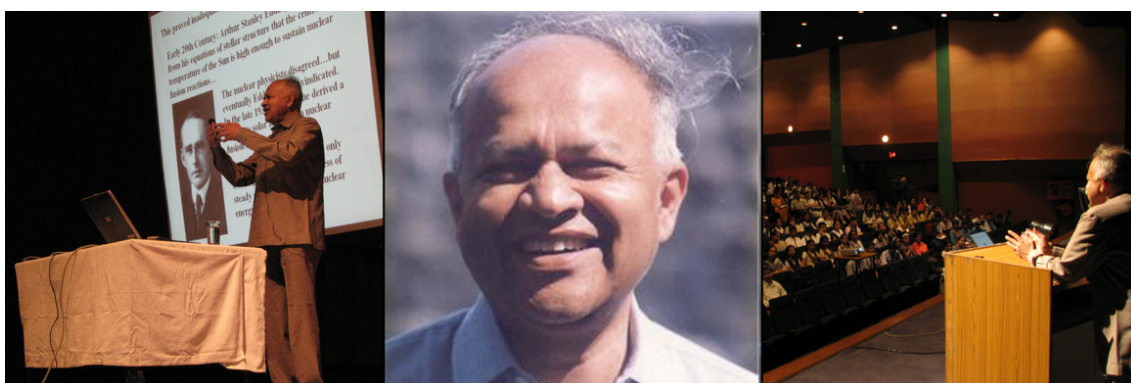


First Newsletter of 2025

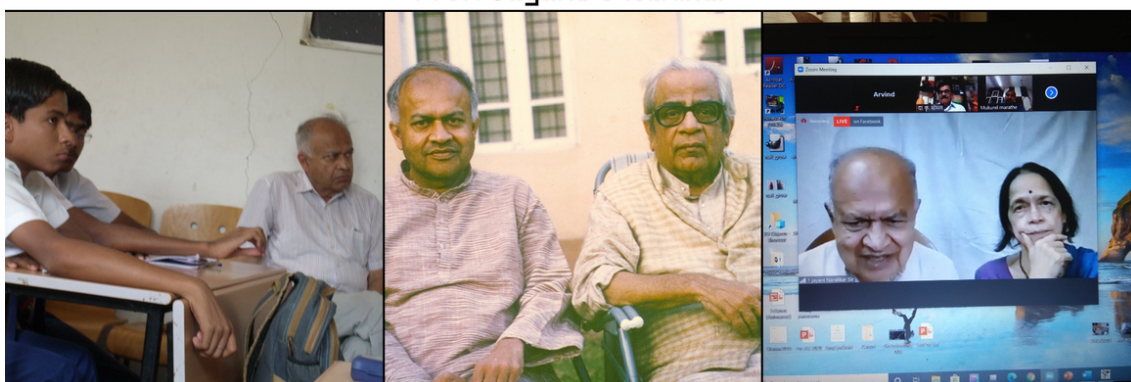
January–May, 2025

Smt. Indrani Balan Science Activity Centre

IISER Pune

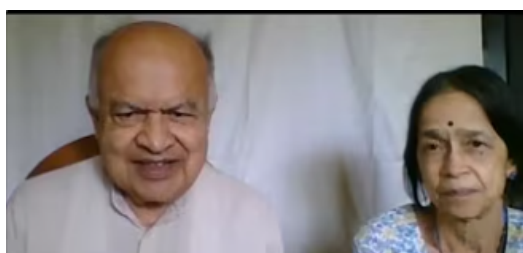


Prof. Jayant V Narlikar



The people's scientist - Dr. Jayant Narlikar
(Special Online Talk by Dr. Arvind Paranjpye,
Director Planetarium, Nehru Centre)
Today, June 20, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

Watch here



**Science fiction stories that attracted
Prof. Jayant V. Narlikar...**

*A playlist of some wonderful talks and
interactions by or including Prof.
Jayant V Narlikar released by IUCAA
Pune in 2020 can be viewed [here](#)*

In This Edition:

A Celebration of STEM and Community Impact

Join us as we look back on an exciting quarter filled with inspiring STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) outreach and engagement! This issue highlights our major outreach events and the impactful capacity-building workshops for teachers from Chhattisgarh. We celebrated significant occasions such as International Women's Day, International Day of Human Space Flight, National Technology Day, Zero Shadow Day, and International Museum Day at the Science Activity Centre and at Kalpakghar (satellite centre of SAC) at Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park, our live online sessions on YouTube, and discovered the latest hands-on STEM activities happening at SAC.

We also extend our sincere thanks to each one of you for your continued support and enthusiasm. You are an integral part of this inspiring journey!

[Know more](#)

STEM Tinkering Workshop for Teachers



In FY 2024-25, STEM Ready project engaged 688 teachers and 2,987 students through in-person workshops and tinkering lab-based sessions. Additionally, 42,898 online viewers benefited from a series of digital sessions, and nearly 9,000 visitors engaged with STEM exhibits during the National Science Day celebration at IISER Pune

STEM Ready Project is Supported by Tata Technologies Ltd. under its CSR India initiative

[Project Journey - Watch here](#)



Hands-on Tinkering Hackathon for Teachers/Educators/ATL Mentors/Students at Kalpakghar, Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park
[Read More](#)

Kalpakghar now also acts as a nodal center for schools to participate in the National project like INSPIRE-MANAK. Project idea “Oil Spoon with Marking” have been selected for Inspire Manak 2025 under the mentorship of Kalpakghar team. (Name of Selected Teacher: Aarti Chouhan, Kalpakghar Teacher’s workshop participant)

Kalpakghar - Community Tinkering Centre is Supported by Tata Technologies Ltd. under its CSR India initiative

[Book a Visit](#)



‘**STEM for Teachers**’ is a collaborative initiative undertaken by IISER Pune in partnership with the MVP Alumni Ex-Staff and Well Wishers Association (MAEWA). A total of 177 teachers from Marathi-medium rural schools, along with a few from English-medium schools have been part of this project.

[Project Feedback - Watch here](#)



“**Hands-on STEM Education in Schools**” project is a collaborative initiative between IISER Pune and TM Automotive Seating Systems Pvt. Ltd. The project directly benefited 2,214 students and 192 teachers. Over the course of 52 visits in 18 schools, the team conducted hands-on science and mathematics sessions aligned with school curriculum and NEP 2020 goals.

[Project Activities - Watch here](#)

Three-day National-level capacity-building workshop



In collaboration with the PM SHRI State Project and Samagra Shiksha, Chhattisgarh, Raipur, SAC conducted a three-day National-level capacity-building training program for primary teachers from January 7-9, 2025.

The workshop equipped teachers with hands-on activities, STEM teaching, resources, and interaction with our faculties. Teachers also visited Kalpakghar—Pimpri Chichwad Science Park as a part of the program.

[Watch here](#)

Five-day capacity building of teachers in institution having National reputations



From April 26 to 30, 2025, we had the pleasure of welcoming 140 enthusiastic participants to a 5-day STEM Teacher Training Workshop focused on capacity building for educators from institutions of national repute on our campus. Organized under the Samagra Shiksha initiative, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, was a remarkable step toward strengthening STEM education and fostering a culture of innovation in the classroom.

Watch the success of the programme.

[Watch here](#)

National Science Day Celebration



IISER Pune Campus

On campus, we celebrated National Science Day (NSD) with a variety of engaging public events throughout the day. We have featured a special talk on quantum technology by Prof. Umakant Rapol. The event also covered interactive sessions with our scientists, a talk by Padma Shri awardee Arvind Gupta, live demonstrations of student and teacher projects and models, daytime astronomy observations, an interactive puzzle zone, a science quiz, and other community engagement programs. Around ~5000 people have visited the campus.

Read More [here](#)

Watch event highlights & talks



Kalpakghar - Community Tinkering Centre

The NSD event featured various competitions, a hands-on tinkering hackathon, a comic strip presentation, Meet the Scientists (STEM Talks by IISER Pune faculty), a toy drone hands-on workshop and exhibitions promoting STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and the importance of science in day-to-day lives. The event received a great response from different schools and more than ~5000 visitors around the PCMC and Pune regions. Kalpakghar is a satellite centre of SAC at pimpri Chinchwad Science Park.

Read More [here](#)

School visits to Our campus



From Jan - May 2025, a total 10 schools visited our campus. Total 638 school students and 55 school teachers from various schools and colleges in Maharashtra visited the SAC and STEM Ready tinkering lab.

[Know our schedule](#) to participate in school visits to our campus

View more on our [social page](#)

Visit IISER Pune

Friday STEM series on Youtube



STEM FOR ALL : Demystifying Arduino
By SAC Team
Streamed live on Jan 31, 2025

[View here](#)



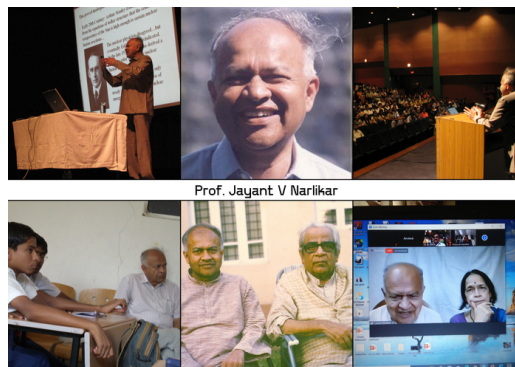
National Science Day 2025 Quiz || Mysteries of the Universe
By SAC Team with support from Dr Ashish Arora lab team
Streamed live on Feb 28, 2025

[View here](#)



Story of the Calendar
By Dr. Hamsa Padmanabhan
Streamed live on Mar 28, 2025

[View here](#)



Prof. Jayant V Narlikar

The people's scientist—Dr. Jayant Narlikar

By Dr. Arvind Paranjpye, Director
Planetarium, Nehru Centre
Scheduled For June 20, 2025

[View here](#)

New and Noteworthy at SAC

On January 2, we had the pleasure of interacting with ~30 participants from MS-DEED. The sessions were highly engaging, featuring hands-on activities, curriculum-linked explorations, and discussions on adopting sustainable and experiential approaches to classroom teaching.

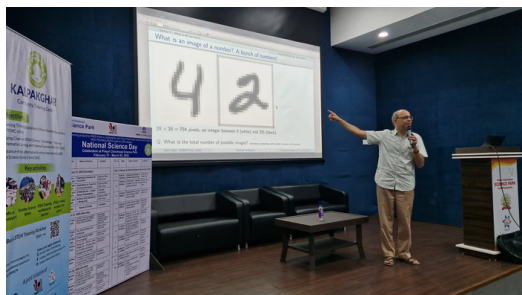


On January 14, SAC conducted an engaging Arduino workshop for BS-MS and PhD students at IISER Pune, as part of the iPlug Club initiative by the Department of Physics.

Jan 18 -19, we showcased Kalpakghar activities at the Curiosity Conference hosted by IITGN, highlighting efforts to integrate active learning spaces at the Regional Science Centre in Maharashtra.



On Feb 28, Prof. Amit Apte, Department of Data Science, visited Kalpakghar at Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park. He conducted an interactive session on Artificial Intelligence and its awareness.



On March 5, 50 students & 4 teachers from the KAVERI INSPIRE CAMP visited our campus. We engaged in hands-on activities, insightful discussions with our PhD scholars, and exploration of opportunities in the basic sciences.



March 8, On the special occasion of International Women's Day, we honored the women staff members of Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park for their dedication, hard work, and invaluable contributions to the centre.

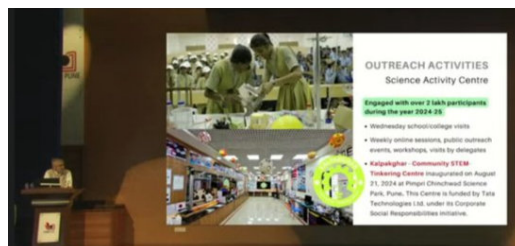


On March 28, we had the honor of welcoming our director, along with his mentor, Prof. M M Sharma. (He is also the PhD supervisor Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar.) Additionally, we interacted with foreign delegates who visited the campus on the same day.



On March 25, SAC along with iRISE team conducted a hands-on session for 100+ teachers from 14 PM Shri schools who visited our campus under the Higher Education Institute visit Initiative

On April 7, SAC outreach initiatives, with a special highlight on Kalpakghar, were mentioned in the Director's Report during the Foundation Day talk 2025.



On April 20, we hosted our student-led outreach club, Disha with 20 school students at Kalpakghar for an engaging hands-on STEM with planetarium and 3D shows.

On May 15, we celebrated Zero Shadow Day at our campus. School students and teachers engaged in hands-on activities and experienced how the sun appears directly overhead.



On May 19, Shri. Hemant Tukaram Godse, Former Member of Parliament, visited SAC.



On May 28, Hon. Dr. Jhillu Singh Yadav, former Director of CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) Hyderabad & esteemed member of the IISER Pune BoG Committee, visited SAC.

Upcoming Events at SAC

- June 20: Online session—The people's scientist: Dr. Jayant Narlikar
- June 23: Visit of Science Talent Search Examination students
- June 25: School visit to campus
- July 02: School visit to campus
- July 23-25: Teacher Training Workshop - Nashik
- Aug 06: School visit to campus

Already a member of the SAC community? Share these resources with teachers or STEM activists who may be interested in exploring it. Attend the regular Live session on our Youtube channel or join our Telegram group if you have questions about new features and to get one-on-one support on how you can interact with the SAC Outreach community

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Follow us on



Check out our site →

Join us on SAC community group to stay updated and keep in touch.

 https://t.me/+bR7ghheG_MYzNWRl

