

For it was rightly remarked by Carl Sagan, "The cosmos is within us. We are made of star-stuff. We are a way for the universe to know itself." This quote now forms the backbone of all the activities and initiatives taken up by ANTARIKSH, the Astronomy Club of NIT Kurukshetra.

With an aim to inculcate scientific temper and love for astronomy, Antariksh was founded in the year 2016. Dedicated to observing the sky and learning about universe, sharing that understanding and appreciation of astronomy with the students and the general public, the club has come a long way since then. With a commitment to sharing the eyepiece with the public, the club has seen an involvement of huge masses in its activities. Every year the most anticipated events in the college's tech fest, TECHSPARDHA, are organized by Antariksh, namely, Zathura, Astronomy Quiz and Impressum.

#### **OBJECTIVES: -**

- Provide, widen and deepen the knowledge of astronomy among its members.
- Integrating technical skill with astronomical science.
- Establishing ties with other organizations and clubs who have similar visions and goals.
- Assisting other educational or scientific organizations in promoting knowledge of the art and science of astronomy.
- Provide a platform to the students to show case their talent and further implement their innovative ideas in the area of extremely exciting astronomy domain.

#### **ACTIVITIES:-**

- **ASTRONAR-** Lecture series called "Astronar" is organized regularly by the club members to give basic as well as advanced knowledge on various astronomy and physics related topics to all the keen learners of astronomy.
- **NIGHT SKY WATCHING SESSIONS-**Bringing the students closer to the environment through its astronomy based outdoor activities, the night sky watching sessions are organized regularly within the college campus and for the residents of Kurukshetra. This event witnesses a large participation in college as well as outside the campus.
- **MONTHLY QUIZ-** The club organizes general astronomy and physics themed quizzes to encourage and involve its members and college students in astronomy.

#### **CLUB INVENTORY: -**

- 8" Dobsonian Reflector.
- 5" Newtonian Reflector.
- 402x Refractor with 2 eyepieces of 12.5mm and 4mm diameter respectively.

#### **EVENTS DURING TECHSPARDHA: -**

- **ACADEMIC LECTURES:** The club organizes expert lectures as a part of Gusto Talks series during TECHSPARDHA. An expository academic lecture on the Big Bang cosmology and Black Holes was delivered by Dr. Abhas Mitra (former head of the Theoretical Astrophysics section at BARC) during TECHSPARDHA'18 under the event Gusto Talks.

- **ISRO EXHIBITION:** Possibly the most spectacular event of the year. This exhibition was both, the highlight of the year and a test of capabilities and organization skills of the club. Over 5000 students of various public schools and colleges attended the exhibition to witness the technological advancements of ISRO, models of various satellites and launch vehicles were put on display in the exhibition. The team of ISRO and volunteers from the club were present throughout the exhibition to demonstrate the models and assist in the exhibition related work. ISRO exhibition was held as a follow-up to various successful exhibitions in the preceding years. The exhibition was telecasted live on DD NEWS.
- **WATER ROCKET COMPETITION:** A water rocket competition in which participants are judged on the performance parameters of the rockets like the maximum height achieved, hang time etc. Becoming the major highlight of TECHSPARDHA, this event observes participants from various colleges.
- **ASGARD:** It is a presentation event in which participants are required to prepare a presentation on their ideas and solutions to the problems that mankind will face while colonizing solar system. The participants are also required to propose a design of the colony on any chosen planet or moon.
- **ZATHURA:** Based on the science fiction adventure film and giving you a trip round the space is a multi-stage arcade event Zathura wherein the first stage, the teams have to solve theoretical questions related to astronomy followed by solving numericals and riddles in the upcoming stages.
- **ASTRONOMY QUIZ:** An astronomy themed general quiz.
- **IMPRESSUM:** A submission event in which the participants are required to submit a piece of art showcasing the cosmos.

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**PROFESSOR-IN-CHARGE:** -

Prof. Mahesh Pal

**Student Representatives:** -

Ayush Kumar Singh(President)

Shailesh Garg (Vice President)

Ashutosh Sharma (Secretary)