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The **Inaugural Stone of ICSP Stratospheric Balloon Facility (ISBF)** at Chandrapur (near Suri) was laid on November 25, 2024 by Prof. Sandip K. Chakrabarti, Director in the august presence of Shri Bidhan Chandra Ray, WBCS (Exe), District Magistrate, Birbhum; Block President, some Governing Body Members and some staff members of ICSP.

ICSP introduced Pre-PhD Diploma in Astrophysics and Space Science. It is designed for all aspiring scientists ready to dive into research. This pre-PhD diploma provides aspiring scientists the necessary hands-on research experience in astrophysics, astronomy, and space science. Under the mentorship of scientists with global expertise, students will gain skills to carry out actual research work to further their ambition and achieve their goal and hopefully publish their valuable research in recognized International Journals (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BuHiCF7Rjrg>).



Consular Chief of USA at Kolkata office **Mr. Karl Mercer** visited the *iMASS: ICSP Museum of Astronomy and Space Science* on November 13, 2024 and appreciated its exhibits.

Two Component Advective Flows (TCAF): Fitting procedure and Results for Stellar and Supermassive Black holes took place on September 25, 2024 at JNC Hall with numerous national and international participants (both online and offline).



Students of Diploma Course (Session 1) visited **IERCOO** campus on October 19, 2024 (Left). Banwarilal Bhalotia College, Asansol visited **IERCOO** on November 20, 2024 (Right).

ICSP organized a seminar on ‘**Understanding Planet-Forming Disks with ALMA**’ by Dr. Trisha Bhowmik, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile on November 14, 2024 at Dikpati Hall.

Research and Developmental Activities: Papers published in Refereed Journals

- i. Investigating Changing-Look Active Galactic Nuclei with Long-term Optical and X-Ray Observations** by A. Jana, C. Ricci, M.J. Temple, H.K. Chang, E. Shablovinskaya, B. Trakhtenbrot, Y. Diaz, D. Ilic, **P. Nandi** and M. Koss, (accepted in A&A) (2024)
- ii. Modeling of the Variability of D-region Ionospheric Electron Density During Solar Cycle-24** by **S. Chakraborty**, **S. Palit**, S. Deb and **T. Basak**, JGR-SP, 129, 10 (2024)
- iii. Viscous Transonic Accretion Flows in Kerr Black Hole Geometry** by **A. Bhattacharjee** and **S. K. Chakrabarti**, ApJ, 977, 54 (2024)
- iv. Effective potential approach to study hydrodynamics and particle dynamics in Kerr geometry** by **A. Bhattacharjee** and **S. K. Chakrabarti**, IJMPD, in press (2024)
- v. Probing the Possible Causes of the Transit Timing Variation for TrES-2b in the TESS Era** by **S. Biswas**, **D. Bisht**, I-G Jiang, D. Sariya, K. Parthasarathy, AJ, 168, 176B (2024)
- vi. The dusty aftermath of a rapid nova: V5579 Sgr** by **A. Raj**, **M. Bisht**, **D. Bisht**, **K. Belwal**, et al. PASA, 41, 51R (2024)
- vii. Unraveling the Asphericities in the Explosion and Multifaceted Circumstellar Matter of SN 2023ixf** by A. Singh, **A. Raj**, **D. Bisht**, **M. Bisht**, **K. Belwal**, **S.K. Chakrabarti** et al. ApJ, 975, 132S (2024)

A few media coverages on ICSP:

- ✓ <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1038656211383863&set=gm.1721805628630581&id&orvanity=459290274882129>
- ✓ https://www.educationtimes.com/webstories/top-10-colleges-in-india-for-astrophysics-specialization?fbclid=IwY2xjawHKU-RleHRuA2FbQIxMAABHfDz_6suuv_d6waUdE-G12boGgfK410xqYKDqllTYqROrGtTvG7G4nbIOg_aem_0JfYDjRtQG8t34OcjC7IkW
- ✓ https://www.youtube.com/live/ckYgjWgMH_I
- ✓ https://x.com/Bohras_India/status/1833717362698179018?t=VdpkyIRxuF6mcGdDwynyIw&s=08&fbclid=IwY2xjawHKT0hleHRuA2FbQIxMAABHYdtD9bpPhzn3yTt0FCA8km9aHqqTF5H3Eb9JRnp7AEe5ErLiPlgGklDHA_aem_5SdRr3hd8gAqPrzN7XA-9w
- ✓ <https://www.facebook.com/eisamay.com/videos/931288835525924>
- ✓ https://eisamay.com/west-bengal-news/birbhum-nadia-murshidabad-news/india-second-balloon-facility-centre-to-be-set-up-at-chandrapur-in-birbhum/200323862.cms?fbclid=IwY2xjawHKWLpleHRuA2FbQIxMAABHT2cLwo-JqhLQ5yhGL_LjTytZiJor8XH6c_sppWsdVcTj0OfCLS_VuGm-rA_aem_i4NW1NSsbyea8Za7sGILQw
- ✓ https://bengali.news18.com/news/south-bengal/birbhum-in-space-research-after-hydrabad-118-rmj-1962390.html?fbclid=IwY2xjawHKWNlleHRuA2FbQIxMAABHS8FwPLQZ47fJ6l6rfsgj7E0QVYwKrH2FL2Lj31KE9yMs02ZguDp2edimA_aem_4AmAqNjogzyUKiMiqpzu
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- ✓ https://www.etvbharat.com/bn!/state/2nd-balloon-research-centre-of-india-build-in-birbhum-after-63-years-west-bengal-news-wbs24112602267?fbclid=IwY2xjawHKWRBleHRuA2FbQIxMQABHXKOyLj_XzuHEg3fub58sQuTGanguOpI2xOpeZcM9HX_5N-X6D1VA1jqdw_aem_Q3CqnG6-YKstZiiQ2aCatg
- ✓ https://www.etvbharat.com/en!/state/birbhum-in-bengal-chosen-as-launchpad-for-indias-second-high-altitude-balloon-enn24112605912?fbclid=IwY2xjawHKWSlleHRuA2FbQIxMQABHW-wxFUkhQTpJC2rcT2EPm7aNzbX19zccQFhc6BbjoIzSA2jT7pLwN8Efg_aem_QRITZgMVeUrxby82z9NxdA
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- ✓ <https://www.thestatesman.com/bengal/high-altitude-balloon-launching-centre-opened-in-birbhum-1503369671.html>



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