

# Newsletter

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**Nehru  
Centre**



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## Events At a Glance...

### PLANETARIUM

#### Nehru Planetarium's 43rd Anniversary

To celebrate the 43rd anniversary of the Nehru Planetarium on 3rd March 2020, the planetarium will conduct various competitions for secondary school students from **21st February to 3rd March 2020**.

There will be **Astro-Painting, Astro-Essay, Astro-Elocution, Astro-Poetry, Astro-Quiz and Science Quiz Competitions**.

### ART GALLERY

#### Art Contest for Specially Abled Children

Date: 17th February 2020  
Time: 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.  
Venue: Hall of Knowledge,  
Discovery of India Building

#### Exhibition of Study Camp at Vengurla and Ratnagiri

Date: 18th to 24th February 2020  
Time: 11.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m.  
Venue: AC Gallery & Circular Gallery

### CULTURE WING

**Katha Rutunchi**  
(A dance ballet depicting the six Indian seasons)

Date: 27th February 2020  
Time: 7.00 p.m.  
Venue: Nehru Centre Auditorium

## Nation Building after Independence Establishing Democracy

Framing and adopting the Constitution of India soon after the country attained independence was indeed a great step towards nation building. Implementing it was the natural concomitant.

The Constitution provided for universal adult franchise. There was a background to it. As far back as 1928 the All Parties Conference had appointed a committee under the chairmanship of Motilal Nehru to determine the principles of a constitution for India. The Committee had recommended the adoption of adult suffrage, after a careful consideration of the various arguments for and against the same. Accordingly Article 326 of the Constitution provides that election to the House of the People (Lok Sabha) and to the Legislative Assembly of every state shall be held on the basis of adult suffrage. This was an act of faith – faith in the common man of India and his practical common sense.

On 26<sup>th</sup> January 1950, the day on which the Constitution of India became effective, there was no elected parliament. Therefore, the Constituent Assembly was renamed as the Provisional Parliament of India. For establishing democracy, a parliament comprising of members elected on the basis of adult franchise was essential. With that in view an Election Commission, as provided in Article

324 of the Constitution, was set up on 25<sup>th</sup> January 1950 and The Representation of the People Act, which provides for the conduct of election to the Houses of Parliament and to the Houses of Legislature of each state was also passed soon thereafter.

In order that the Election Commission is independent of the executive Government, it is provided in the Constitution that the Chief Election Commissioner cannot be removed from office before the expiry of his term except on the grounds and in the manner a judge of the Supreme Court can be removed and the conditions of his service cannot be changed to his disadvantage during his term of the office. The entire election machinery has also been placed under the superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission, which alone is entitled to issue directives in matters concerning elections.

India's first general election held in 1952 was an activity of gigantic proportions. The size of the electorate was huge with 176 million Indians aged 21 or more and 85 percent of whom were illiterate. Each one had to be identified, named and registered. There were 4,500 seats, 500 for the Parliament and the rest for the provincial

*contd. on page 2*

assemblies, to be contested. For conducting the election 2,24,000 polling booths were constructed and equipped with 2 million steel ballot boxes, 16,500 clerks were employed to prepare the electoral rolls, 56,000 presiding officers were chosen to supervise the voting and 2,24,000 policemen were put on duty to guard against violence and intimidation.

The election was held in an area of more than a million square miles. The terrain at many places was diverse and difficult. Several bridges had to be constructed over small rivers to reach remote hill villages and in the case of small islands in the Indian ocean, naval vessels were used to transport election officers and election material. Since most of the electorate was illiterate, pictorial symbols were used for the identification of parties like a pair of bullocks for one party and a hut for the second.

With the general election of 1952 began the era of democracy in India for which the "main credit" according to a visiting Turkish journalist, "goes to the nation itself; 1,76,000,000 Indians were left all alone with their conscience in the face of the polling box. It was direct and secret voting. They had their choice between theocracy, chauvinism, communal separation and isolationism on the one side; secularism, national unity, stability, moderation and friendly intercourse with the rest of the world on the other. They showed their maturity in choosing moderation and progress and disapproving of reaction and unrest." Chester Bowles who had assumed the charge of the post of American Ambassador to India in the autumn of 1951 summed up his report on India's first general election to his country by writing: "In Asia, as in America, I know no grander vision than this, government by the consent of the governed."

## SOME ELECTION SYMBOLS OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN 1952



Indian National Congress  
(Two bulls with yoke on)



Socialist Party  
(Tree)



Forward Bloc (Ruikar Group)  
(Human hand)



Communist Party of India  
(Ears of corn and a sickle)



Revolutionary Socialist Party  
(Spade and stoker)



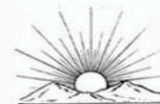
Krishikar Lok Party  
(A cultivator winnowing grain)



Forward Bloc (Marxist Group)  
(Standing lion)



Akhil Bharatiya Hindu Mahasabha  
(Horse and rider)



Akhil Bharatiya  
Ram Rajya Parishad  
(Rising sun)



Revolutionary  
Communist Party of India  
(Flaming torch)



Bolshevik Party of India  
(Star)



Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party  
(Hut)



All India Bhartiya Jan Sangh  
(Lamp)



All India  
Scheduled Caste Federation  
(Elephant)

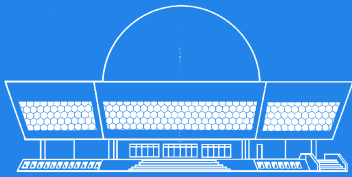


STEEL BALLOT BOXES

### What Nehru said....

In Nehru's understanding, democracy was necessary for keeping India united as a nation. He said, "This is too large a country with too many legitimate diversities to permit any so-called 'strong man' to trample over people and their ideas.

*quoted by Mridula Mukherjee on the occasion of Nehru's 55th death anniversary*



NEHRU PLANETARIUM

## SKY SHOW : 'Cosmic Life'

### Timings

12 noon (Hindi) 1:30 p.m. (Marathi)  
3:00 p.m. (English) 4:30 p.m. (Hindi)

(MONDAY CLOSED)

## Leap Year

From time immemorial, different regions of the world have developed calendars to keep track of days.

The calendar which is currently followed internationally for all practical purposes is the Gregorian calendar. The precursor of the Gregorian calendar was the Julian calendar which was introduced by Julius Caesar (100 – 44 BC) which came into being in 45 BC. In those days the duration of one year was estimated to be about 365 days and 6 hours or 365.25 days. This calendar had 365 days and to make up for the extra 6 hours a year, a day was added every fourth year to the month of February. That year came to be known as the leap year.

One year is the duration that the Earth takes to complete one orbit around the Sun which is also the time that passes between two vernal equinoxes, taking place close to March 21<sup>st</sup> every year. On this day the solar rays are perpendicular to the axis of the Earth.

The Earth actually takes 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 45 seconds or 365.242187 days to complete one orbit around the Sun. This is 11 minutes and 15 seconds less than 365.25 days as estimated by the makers of the Julian calendar.

Though 11 minutes and 15 seconds is an insignificant period of time in one year, in reality it totals to 45 minutes over 128 years. This flaw in the Julian calendar impacted the date of the vernal equinox. Over a period of 14 centuries, the vernal equinox was actually taking place 10 days earlier than the date contemplated in the Julian calendar. With a view to removing this discrepancy Pope Gregory XIII (1572 – 1585) removed 10 days from the calendar and issued a *papal bull Inter gravissimas* (meaning 'an edict of the gravest concern issued by the Pope') on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1582, and instituted a new calendar which was prepared by Aloysius Lilius, an Italian astronomer. The new calendar, known as Gregorian calendar, came into being on Friday, the 15<sup>th</sup> October 1582.



Statue of Pope Gregory XIII, St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City



Bas-relief carving showing Aloysius Lilius's brother Antonio presenting the manuscript to the Pope.



A leap year in Gregorian calendar is calculated as follows:

If the year is completely divisible by 4, for example the year 2020 is completely divisible by 4, then it is a leap year. However, this formula does not apply to a century year like the year 2000, which would be a leap year if divisible by 400.

Thus the year 2020 is a leap year with 29 days in February. But 1900 was not.

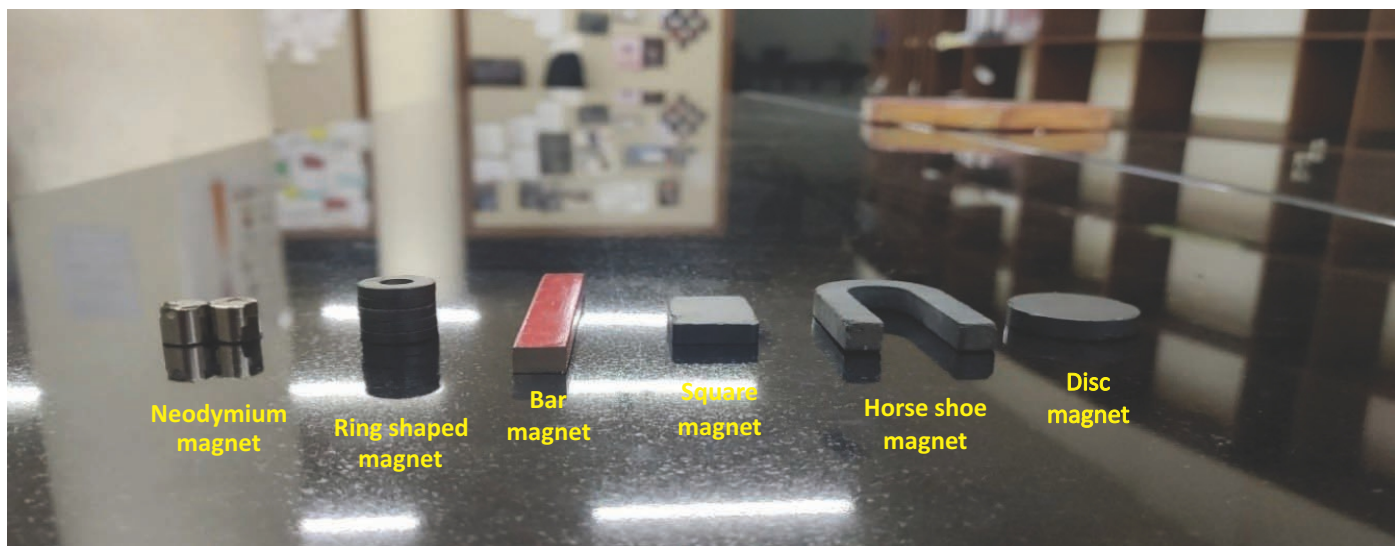
Non-leap year is called common year and has 52 weeks of 7 days each plus one more day (total 365 days). It may be noted as an interesting fact that the common year begins and ends with the same day of the week. For example, in the year 2019 January 1 and December 31 fell on Tuesdays and this year January 1 was on a Wednesday and December 31 will fall on a Thursday.

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## What is a Magnetic Field

A magnet produces an invisible field within which it attracts or gets attracted towards materials like iron, aluminium, nickel or cobalt and alloys of each one. This invisible field is termed as the magnetic field and the materials are called ferromagnetic materials. In the laboratories, we find magnets in various shapes like bar, ring, horse shoe and square. Most of these magnets are made from a combination of Aluminium (Al), Nickel (Ni) and Cobalt (Co). These magnets are called Alnico (from AlNiCo) magnets. Magnets are also made from Neodymium (Nd), Iron (Fe) and Boron (B). These magnets are called Neodymium or Rare-Earth magnets. These magnets have a stronger magnetic field than other magnets.

The strength of a magnetic field is measured with the help of a device called "Gauss meter", named after Carl Friederich Gauss (1777-1855) who pioneered the study of magnetic fields.



TYPES OF MAGNETS

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For further details contact us on **24920510**

Nehru Centre Presents

## Katha Rutunchi कथा ऋतुंची

Nehru Centre will be presenting a dance ballet "Katha Rutunchi" based on Kalidasa's 'Rtusamhara'. Rtusamhāra, is a long poem or mini-epic in Sanskrit by Kalidasa. The poem has six cantos for the six Indian seasons - grīṣma, varṣa, śarat, hemanta, śiśira and vasanta.

The ballet is dedicated to the memory of Guruvarya Acharya Parvatikumar to celebrate the beginning of his birth centenary year.

The script of the ballet is written by Poet Sadand Dabir.

Music composition by Smt. Asha Khadilkar  
Choreography by Dr. Sandhya Purecha  
Music Coordination by Shri Amit Padhye

The music has been recorded at Buss-In-Studio, Vile Parle (East).

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27th February 2020, 7.00 p.m.  
Nehru Centre Auditorium

Nehru Centre Newsletter - January 2020

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Entry Cards will be available at Nehru Centre's ticket counter on Thursday, 20th February 2020 from 10.30 a.m. onwards

Online booking facility of [bookmyshow.com](http://bookmyshow.com) is also available.

### Mausiqaar-e-Aazam Naushad programme (Glimpses)





### SADIQ H. SAYED



Sadiq has taught photography at M.S. University, Vadodara, NID, Ahmedabad and many other prestigious institutions. His selected photographs will be on display.

**Tuesday 4th February to  
Monday 10th February 2020  
(Circular Gallery)**

### GAYATRI MEHTA DR. VARSHA PRABHU AASAVARI DHURANDHAR



Painting by Gayatri Mehta

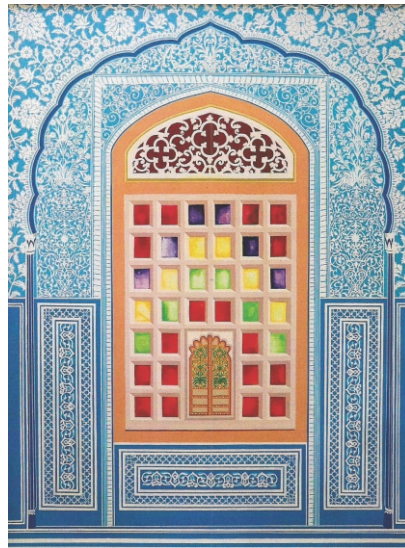
Gayatri has a post graduate degree in Visual Arts from SNTD University. She is presently a Co-ordinator at Jindal Art Centre, Ahmedabad. Her paintings are in oil.

Varsha is a practising doctor and self-taught artist. She has had many shows to her credit. Her paintings on various subjects in oils and water colours will be on display.

Aasavari is a self taught artist. Later joined Nutan Kala Mandir. Her paintings are landscapes and portraits in oils and water colours.

**Tuesday 11th February to  
Monday 17th February 2020  
(AC Gallery)**

### MANISHA SAINI



Manisha completed M.A. in Painting from University of Arts, London. Her paintings are in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 11th February to  
Monday 17th February 2020  
(Circular Gallery)**

### STUDY CAMP AT VENGURLA AND RATNAGIRI

The 27th Study Camp for art students organised by Nehru Centre Art Gallery was held in Vengurla and Ratnagiri. Students from art colleges of Mumbai, Pune, Sangli, Devrukh and Sawarde participated in the camp.

The paintings were done on the spot at various locations. Jitendra Gaikwad, a well-known painter was the guide. The water colour paintings done there will be on display.

**Tuesday 18th February to  
Monday 24th February 2020  
(AC & Circular Gallery)**

### PRABHU JOSHI



Prabhu Joshi's paintings will be on display. He has had many shows and won awards in India and abroad. His art works are landscapes and compositions in water colours and oils on canvas.

**Tuesday 25th February to  
Monday 2nd March 2020  
(AC Gallery)**

### NEHRU CENTRE PLANETARIUM

Exhibition of photographs of astronomical objects and events taken by amateur astronomers.

**Tuesday 25th February to  
Monday 2nd March 2020  
(Circular Gallery)**

## UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India

### 7. Great Living Chola Temples

The Great Living Chola Temples in Tamil Nadu stand testimony to the achievements of the royal Chola dynasty. Splendid in architecture, sculpture, painting and bronze casting, the magnificent temples are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Dating back to the 11th and 12th century, these structures have withstood the ravages of time. The Cholas were one of the longest ruling dynasty in Southern India. The patrons of Lord Shiva dedicated magnificent architectural splendors to their beloved God. The Chola style involves use of granite to create design consisting of deities, warriors, kings and dancers.

#### Three famous Chola Temples

The temples are grouped into three categories depending on their orientation. The western group of temples comprises of the Lakshmana Temple, Kandariya Mahadeo Temple, Devi Jagadambi Temple, Chausath Yogini Temple, Chitragupta Temple, Matangeshwara Temple, Varaha Temple and Vishwanath Temple. The eastern group of temples include the Parasvanath Temple, Ghantai Temple, Adinath Temple, Hanuman Temple, Brahma Temple, Vamana Temple and Javari Temple. The southern temples group includes the Dulhadev Temple, Beejamandal Temple and Chaturbhuj or Jatkari Temple.

Brihadisvara Temple at Thanjavur is one of the famous Chola dynasty temples. It was built during the reign of Chola king Raja Raja and designed by the famous architect Sama Varma. The Brihadisvara Temple houses a 3.7 meter tall linga of Lord Shiva and the tallest vimanam (sanctum tower) in the world. The great designs of the gopurams in the temple are decorated with sculptural depictions of various Hindu gods and goddesses.

Brihadisvara Temple at Gangaikondacholapuram was built by the Chola Emperor Rajendra I. The temple houses a 4 meter high Shiva lingam and is the tallest among the Chola temples. It is dedicated to Shiva and based on a square plan, but the temple reverentially displays Vaishnavism, Shaktism and syncretic equivalence themes of Hinduism with statues of Vishnu, Durga, Surya, Harihara, Ardhanishvara and Nandi.

Airavatesvara Temple at Darasuram is dedicated to Lord Shiva that acts as the epitome of Chola temple architecture. It was built by Rajaraja II and the vimana (sanctum tower) of the temple is 24-metres high. According to the legends, the heavenly elephant Airavat worshipped the deity here.



Brihadisvara Temple, Thanjavur



Airavatesvara Temple, Darasuram



Brihadisvara Temple, Gangaikondacholapuram

*Further reading at Nehru Centre Library:*

- Vibrant at 1000: Big temple Thanjavur India by Iqbal, Anuradha, Productivity & Quality Publishing Pvt. Ltd., 2010. Call No. R726.1(54)/Iqb, Barcode-14674
- The great temple at Thanjavur: One thousand years, 1010-2010 by Michell George and Vishwanathan Peterson, Indira, Marg Foundation, 2010. Call No. R 726.1(54)/Mic/Vis, Barcode-15236



**NEHRU CENTRE PUBLICATIONS**

**Books for Sale**

- NEHRU REVISITED
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- SCIENCE IN INDIA
- EXPLORING THE UNIVERSE

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- (21) GOVIND M. SOLEGAONKAR (2019)

**ART FUSION catalogues**

2007 / 2008 / 2009 / 2010 / 2011 / 2012 / 2013 / 2014

**Set of five assorted gift cards**

Designed by differently abled children

SANSKRUTI - CD ROM : An aesthetics of Indian culture

**DISCOVERY OF INDIA (VCD)**

**Set of ten greeting cards**

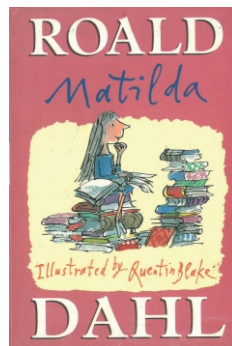
Based on Discovery of India Exposition

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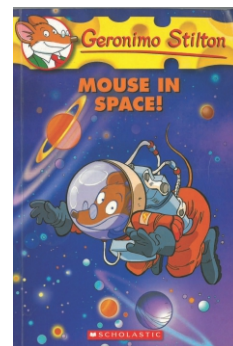
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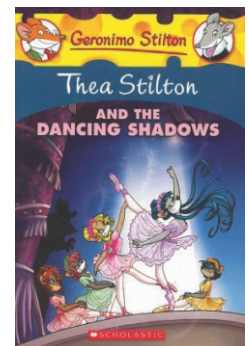
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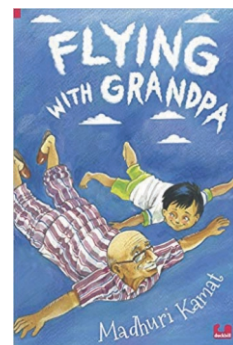
Mouse in Space  
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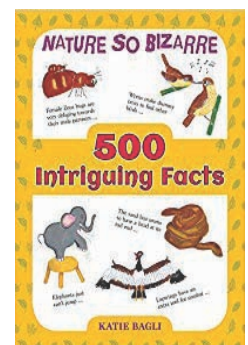
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