

Newsletter

Vol. 26 Issue 9 SEPTEMBER 2025

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Nehru Centre



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Annual Subscription Rs. 100

Events At a Glance...

Library

Meet-The-Authors

of POFFS Collection of Funny
Stories

Wednesday, 17th September, 2025
10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Book Discussion

By Nandita Ghatge

Thursday, 18th September, 2025
4.00 p.m.

Story Telling Session

Kahaniyon Ka Karavaan

Friday, 19th September 2025
10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Venue for all events:
Who Are We Hall
(Details on page 8)

Culture Wing

27th Theatre Festival 2025

A Bouquet of Six Plays in
Marathi, Hindi, Urdu, Gujarati
and English

Time: 7.00 p.m. each day

Nehru Centre Auditorium
(Details on page 5)

Speeches of the Freedom Movement

10. SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL

A True Disciple of Gandhi

Bardoli, 17 March 1928

The Bardoli Satyagraha was a non-violent resistance movement against the increased land revenue taxes in Bardoli which were imposed on the farmers who were already struggling with the aftermath of floods and crop failure. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel stepped in to lead the farmers' protest. He spoke to each of the farmers, explained to them the dire consequences of the tax burden and asked them whether they would be able to withstand it. The British relented and cancelled the tax hike. It cemented Sardar Patel's reputation as a leader and earned him the title of 'Sardar'.

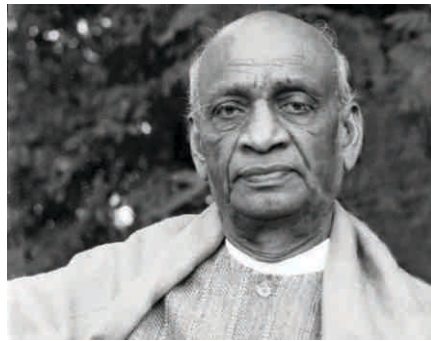
"The citizens of Bardoli have described me as the chief disciple of Gandhiji. I only wish that I deserved this description; I know, however, that I am not worthy of it. I do not know how often I shall have to be reborn in order to achieve that distinction. Truly, you have been so carried away by your affection for me, and have used such exaggerated expressions about me that I can scarcely accept them. You have

all heard of the Bhil disciple of Dronacharya in the Mahabharata. He never had the good fortune of learning directly under Dronacharya, but he used to worship an earthen figure of his guru. It was through his devotion that he acquired all that Dronacharya had to teach. Indeed, he learnt more than what Dronacharya's other disciples ever learnt. He worshipped his guru with a pure heart, devotedly and with complete faith.

Whatever tasks you have taken up, you must complete them. How can you do anything else? Tomorrow morning after locking up your houses, you will have to go around your fields. Everybody – the children, the aged, ladies and menfolk, everybody must understand this situation. Poor or rich, people belonging to all communities, must unite and should return to their homes only after the nightfall. It shall have to be done. The government has to hire the people from the villages or tehsils for the purpose of confiscation. The atmosphere of

the tehsil should be such that the Government should not get even a single person for this purpose. I have not seen even a single officer who can carry the load of utensils over his head. The Government employees are handicapped. The village-head, worker, patwari - none should help the Government in this action and should tell the Government frankly that the honour of his village or tehsil is his own honour. Of what use is his chiefship if the prestige of the tehsil is lost? His interest lies in the interest of the tehsil. If the tehsil is at a loss, he is rendered handicapped. Therefore, let us create such an atmosphere in the tehsil that it should smell of self-rule and not of subjugation, and where people's faces reflect the glow of their struggle against the Government.

I have come to caution you that there is no time to be wasted on leisure or making merry. Everybody must awake. People around the world have praised Bardoli. This afternoon a Muslim member of the conference remarked that if they met a man who belonged to Bardoli, the people of Bengal wanted to touch his feet. We have either to make merry or to end ourselves. The decisive action has been taken. If we fail, the whole nation fails. If we stick to our guns, we shall succeed and shall show a path to the



Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

nation. Your tehsil has assured Gandhiji of becoming a foundation stone for a national struggle. That test could not come off at that juncture although the name of Bardoli was known far and wide. Today the day to take that test has arrived. You were out to get *Swarajya* (self-rule) for the country. But now you will be tested for how you act for this struggle at home. If you fail in it, you alone won't lose your honour, the whole nation will suffer a big loss.

I want to convey this message to all the men and women that they should be cautious and awake and should not become lethargic. The Government shall not spare any tactic. It will try to break you up. It will certainly act to create a fuss. It will sow seeds of mutual quarrels. But you must forget your personal and village squabbles till the struggle lasts. You may fight over them later if you wish. But at present you must forget even the old feuds. You must start talking to

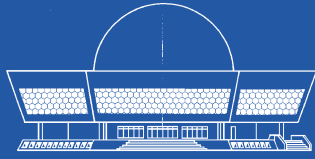
the men with whom you have never been on speaking terms since your birth. The honour of Gujarat is in your hands. Keep it secure and stick to the determination of not paying even a single pie to the government, otherwise your life shall be of no avail and the country shall have to bear a permanent burden. Some people are living in a constant fear of their land being confiscated. What is the meaning of confiscation? Will they confiscate the land or anything else? All these changes will be affected in the official documents only and this is the task of the officials and you have to see that nobody else tills your lands. Shed the fear of your land being confiscated. The day your land is under confiscation, rest assured the whole of Gujarat shall stand in your favour. Your living under the fear of confiscation would be an act of unmanliness and consequently you cannot wage this war. If you can make a proper arrangement in your village, you will not only be able to strengthen your tehsil but will awaken the whole pargana as well.

The struggle has started. Our education is the key to our success. The government only has a patwari or a patel as its representative in each village but we have the whole village with us."

What Nehru said....

The conception of the Buddha, to which innumerable loving hands have given shape in carven stone and marble and bronze, seems to symbolize the whole spirit of Indian thought, or at least one vital aspect of it. Seated on the lotus flower, calm and impassive, above passion and desire, beyond the storm and strife of this world, so far away he seems, out of reach, unattainable.

... from Chapter 4, *The Indus Valley Civilization, The Discovery of India*.



NEHRU PLANETARIUM

Tel: 022-40245413
Mobile : 9892890510

STARS & WONDERS OF THE UNIVERSE

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

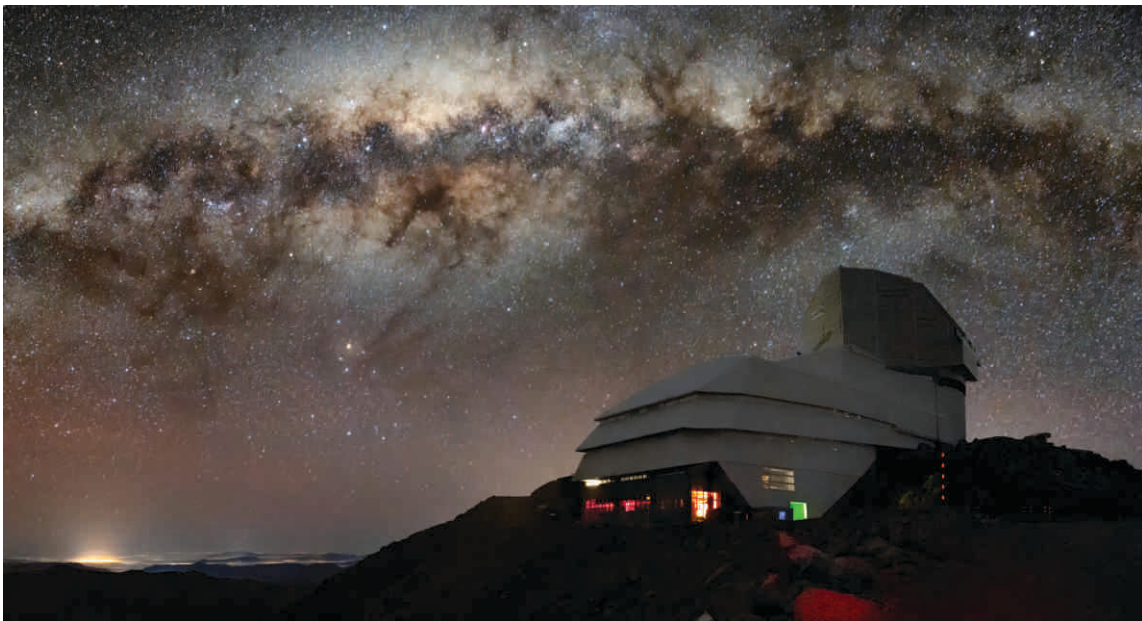
(MONDAY CLOSED)

Email: managnpmumbai@gmail.com

The Vera Rubin Observatory: A New Eye on the Universe

On 23 June 2025, the largest observatory dedicated to sky surveillance, equipped with the largest digital camera in the world, was declared open. The observatory was originally named Legacy Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST). Subsequently, it was rechristened Vera Rubin Observatory, in honour of American astronomer Dr. Vera C. Rubin, who in 1970 provided convincing evidence for the existence of unseen 'dark matter' in the universe. Prior to her work, dark matter was only a concept and was not taken seriously (see box). The Vera Rubin observatory is located on the El Peñón peak of Cerro Pachón, a 2,682-meter-high (8,799 ft) mountain in the Coquimbo Region in northern Chile. It houses the Simonyi Survey Telescope, which has an 8.4-meter concave mirror as its primary optics.

The telescope has a 3.2-gigapixel (1 giga is 1 billion) digital camera, the largest digital camera ever constructed, to photograph sky images. The camera is expected to take 200,000 pictures in one year, allowing downtime for maintenance, bad weather and other contingencies.



Vera Rubin Observatory in Chile

Once an image is taken, it is sent to an undisclosed facility, where sensitive information (like US spy satellites) is removed and analysed using high-speed computers and software algorithms. This happens in about 60 seconds. Images are then released to the 'world', that is, they are available to anyone who logs into the website of the observatory. After 3 days, the entire data is released, by which time it is less sensitive.

Images are processed under three different time scales as products, which are, in this case, software, data etc. The three categories of products are prompts, daily and annual.

Prompts are alerts or observations of change in brightness and positions of an astronomical object compared to the archived observations. About 10 million alerts are generated per night. These prompts are classified under various categories called 'event broker'. Each alert is given a unique database ID and sent to astronomers worldwide. For example, if an astronomer or a group of astronomers is interested in, say, a supernova or an exploding star, then with this information, they can proceed further with their observations.

The **daily** products like software, data etc. which are made available to users are those released within 24 hours of the observations. These images come with a lot of technical data that will help the user in his or her academic work. The information could be related to the parameters of a planet, asteroid, or comet.

The **annual** product reprocesses the entire science data set. The National Centre for Supercomputing Applications in the USA and the National Institute of Nuclear and Particle Physics (IN2P3) in France will compute these partially.

The Rubin Observatory has reserved about 10% of its computing power and disk space for user-generated data products. These will be produced by running a custom algorithm. Such a facility will save the time needed to download or upload huge quantities of data. Moreover, LSST software is also available as an Open Source software.

During its main survey, the observatory will cover (that is, take images) over 18,000 square degrees of the southern sky. Each spot in the sky will be imaged 825 times. About 90% of the time will be utilised for the main survey, and the remaining 10% will be reserved for repair and maintenance, upgrading the hardware and software and to add new equipment.

Among the various scientific goals of the observatory are to study dark matter and dark energy (see the box), measure weak gravitational lensing, map small objects (a few meters across) in the solar system, look for near-Earth asteroids and those potentially hazardous to life on Earth, and help in the search for the possible existence of a ninth planet.

As the Rubin Observatory generates an enormous volume of data—trillions of measurements and observations—it's not something that can be downloaded to a single computer. Instead, all this information is stored at global data centres and made accessible online through the Rubin Science Platform. Designed with openness in mind, this platform isn't just for professional astronomers—it's also available to educators, students, and curious members of the public. With its intuitive interface and powerful tools, anyone can explore the cosmos—filtering stars, tracking asteroids, or even discovering something entirely new. Rubin's mission isn't only to observe the universe, but to invite the world to explore it together.



Life-size model of the Rubin Observatory's CCD array

Dark matter is an invisible hypothetical matter. Unlike ordinary matter, dark matter does not emit, absorb, or reflect light, making it impossible to see it directly. Its existence is inferred to exist due to gravitational effects on visible objects like galaxies and galaxy clusters.

Astronomers and scientists have observed that the Universe is not only expanding but accelerating, that is, expanding faster and faster. They do not know what kind of energy is making the universe accelerate. Presently, they use the term 'dark energy' as a cause for this expanding universe.

Culture Wing



27th theatre festival festival (in Marathi, Hindi, Urdu, Gujarati, English) 2025

चाणक्य (MARATHI)

Monday
15th September 2025



Duration: 2 hrs. 30 min
with interval

Written by Mihir Bhuta
Directed by Pranav Joshi
Produced by Abhijaat Creations, Mumbai

GAMTA MANGAMTA (GUJARATI)

Thursday
18th September 2025



Duration: 2 hrs. 30 min
with interval

Written by Dilip Rawal
Directed by Firoz Bhagat
Produced by Taronish Arts, Mumbai

मटियाबुर्ज (HINDI)

Tuesday
16th September 2025



Duration: 1 hr. 30 min
without interval

Adaptation by
Dr. Rameshchandra Shah
Directed by Jayant Deshmukh
Produced by Ekrang Natya Sanstha, Mumbai

SALAAM, NONI APPA (ENGLISH)

Friday
19th September 2025

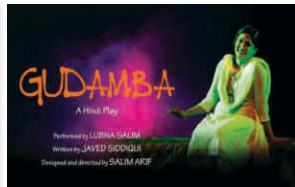


Duration: 1 hr. 30 min
without interval

Written by Twinkle Khanna
Directed by Lillette Dubey
Produced by Prime Time Theatre Co., Mumbai

GUDAMBA (URDU)

Wednesday
17th September 2025



Duration: 1 hr. 20 min
without interval

Written by Javed Siddiqi
Directed by Salim Arif
Produced by Essay Ensemble, Mumbai

संगीत आनंदमठ (MARATHI)

Saturday
20th September 2025



Duration: 2 hrs. 30 min
with interval

Written by Vinita Telang
Directed by Ravindra Satpute
Produced by Kollage Creations, Pune

Monday, 15th September
to Saturday, 20th September
7.00 p.m. each day

Entry: Free Entrance Cards will be available on 10th September 2025
from 10.30 a.m. until availability from the booking counter of the
Nehru Centre Auditorium

SNEHAL EKBOTE



Snehal who has completed Masters in Visual Art Education will display works in abstract forms.

**Tuesday 2nd September 2025
to Monday 8th September 2025
(AC Gallery)**

**NIVITA PAVITHRAN
MALLIKA BULUSU**



Mallika Bulusu

Nivita and Mallika will depict their artistic skills through acrylic medium on canvas.

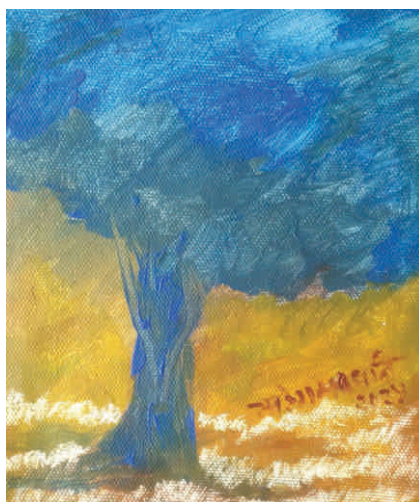
**Tuesday 2nd September 2025
to Monday 8th September 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

**DEVNAS BHANDARE
RANJEET BEDI**

These two artists will display paintings based on their individual skills.

**Tuesday 9th September 2025
to Monday 15th September 2025
(AC Gallery)**

JITENDRA MAKODE



Jitendra has completed his Master's in Fine Arts and will exhibit paintings in water colour and acrylic.

**Tuesday 9th September 2025
to Monday 15th September 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

**C. UMEKAR
GAJANAN BOBADE
MIRNAYEE BOBADE
DEEPAK PURNYE**

This group of four artists will display paintings in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 16th September 2025
to Monday 22nd September 2025
(AC Gallery)**

VIDYA PATIL

Vidya has completed her Master's in Arts from Mumbai University and her works are minute creations on paper.

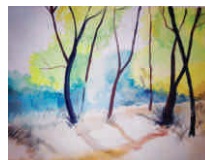
**Tuesday 16th September 2025
to Monday 22nd September 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

BOUQUET OF ART GALLERY

Vibrant Visions is an exhibition of paintings and sculptures by BOA Gallery and Hyderabad Art Society.

**Tuesday 23rd September 2025
to Monday 29th September 2025
(AC Gallery)**

**NIKHIL PATHRE
AMRUTA PATHRE**



Nikhil Pathre



Amruta Pathre

Nikhil is a self taught artist and has a deep passion for creativity.

Amruta is a talented textile designer and an exceptional artist with a unique flair for Indian folk art and nature-inspired creations.

**Tuesday 23rd September 2025
to Monday 29th September 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

Our Instagram link:
[nehru_centre_artgallery](https://www.instagram.com/nehru_centre_artgallery)

UNEP - Champions of the Earth Awards

2. David Attenborough – United Kingdom – 2021



Sir David Attenborough, a renowned natural history broadcaster, has dedicated his life to educating viewers about environmental issues and inspiring global action for a sustainable future.

When he was a child, the young David often explored abandoned quarries in the English countryside, searching for fossilized ammonites. To him, these fossils were treasures, and he was captivated by the idea of discovering something unseen for millions of years. This love for the natural world has lasted his entire life.

Attenborough graduated from Cambridge University in 1947 with a degree in natural sciences but chose a career in broadcasting at the BBC. His first television show, *Zoo Quest*, aired in 1954, introducing viewers to exotic animals. He advanced at the BBC, leading to the creation of popular series like *Monty Python's Flying Circus*, but ultimately returned to filmmaking. His 1979 series, *Life on Earth*, showcased the history of life on the planet and redefined natural history documentaries, reaching 500 million viewers. Throughout his career, he observed the decline of the natural world due to human impact, noting that humanity has altered much of the Earth's surface and endangered many species. At the UN Climate Change Conference, he warned of the dangers of prioritizing short-term goals over the planet's health but remained optimistic about humanity's ability to rectify past mistakes.

At 95 years of age, Attenborough is famous for his natural history broadcasting. Starting with the early days of television, he has created influential documentaries about the planet, including the nine-part *Life* series. Known for his powerful narration and curiosity, he has spent 70 years showcasing nature's beauty and the threats it faces, inspiring a vision for a sustainable future.

The United Nations honoured Attenborough with the UNEP Champions of the Earth Award for his significant impact on environmental issues. He has actively participated in global efforts like the 2015 Paris Climate Change Conference and has worked with UNEP for decades, advocating that no single country can solve the planet's environmental problems alone.

In 2015, he visited the White House for a conversation with United States President Barack Obama. Obama asked Attenborough what sparked his "deep fascination" with the natural world. "I've never met a child who's not interested in natural history," he replied, perhaps recalling his fossil-hunting days in the English countryside. "So, the question is, how does anyone lose it?"

Further Reading at Nehru Centre Library:

The Living Planet: A Portrait of the Earth by David Attenborough, Readers Digest, New York, 1985,
Call # R 591/ATT, Barcode: 6674

NEHRU CENTRE PUBLICATIONS

Books for Sale

- Nehru Revisited
- India's Defence Preparedness
- Nehru and Indian Constitutionalism
- Internal Security in India
- Constitutionalism and Democracy in South Asia
- मुंबई: काल आणि आज
- Mumbai: Past and Present
- India and Central Asia
- Witness to History
- India-Russia Relations
- India-China Relations
- Remembering Einstein
- Challenges to Democracy in India
- Rule of Law in a Free Society
- Science in India
- Exploring The Universe

Colourful art catalogues for sale

- (1) GOPALRAO DEUSKAR (1995)
 - (2) VINAYAKRAO KARMARKAR (1996)
 - (3) MITTER BEDI (1997)
 - (4) S. L. & G. S. HALDANKAR (1998)
 - (5) BALAJI & HARISH TALIM (1999)
 - (6) D. G. KULKARNI (DIZI) (2001)
 - (7) NARAYAN L. SONAFADEKAR (2003)
 - (8) NAGESH B. SABANAVAR (2004)
 - (9) SAMAKALEEN (2005)
 - (10) VINAYAK S. MASOJI (2006)
- and many more...

ART FUSION catalogues

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

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Nehru Centre Library
for all things literary



Meet-the-Authors



POFFS Collection Of Funny Stories

Written by
Bijal Vachharajani, Cyrus Broacha,
Sanjana Kapur, Sadaf Siddique and
Lavanya Karthik

Five favourite themes! Five popular authors! Five funny stories!

Wednesday, 17th September 2025

Storytelling Session



Kahaniyon Ka Karavaan
Celebrating Hindi Divas with a Fun Storytelling Session

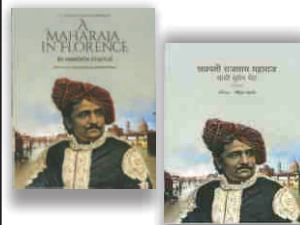
by
Gaatha Team

Friday, 19th September, 2025

Audience: Family (10 years and above)

Time: 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Book Discussion



Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj: A Maharaja in Florence
and

छत्रपती राजाराम महाराज: यांची युरोप भेट १८७०

Written by **Ms Nandita Ghatge**

The author will be in conversation with Shri Kumar Ketkar.

Date: Thursday, 18th September, 2025. **Time:** 4.00 p.m.

(Open to all)

Venue for all events: **Who Are We Hall, First Floor, Nehru Centre.**



nehru-centre.org/library.html



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www.twitter.com/nehrucentlib



nehrucentlibrary.blogspot.com



www.instagram.com/nehrucentlib

10.00 a.m. to 5.45 p.m.

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