Newsletter
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Nehru Centre

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Worli, Mumbai - 400 018.
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Annual Subscription Rs. 100

Events At a Glance...

Children's Day @ Nehru Centre

Art Gallery



Bal-Disha
An exhibition of artworks by children.

November 10 - 16, 2026
11.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Nehru Centre Art Gallery

Library

A Book I Wrote-2026 (8th Edition)

Launch of book written by children and for children on the occasion of Children's Day.

Friday, November 13, 2026
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.
Hall of Harmony
Ground Floor

Culture Wing

प्रसन्नतेचा गांव

Presentation of Marathi and Hindi songs by 15 talented child artistes of Kalangan and an ensemble orchestra.

Saturday, 21st November 2026
5.30 p.m.
Nehru Centre Auditorium

Speeches of the Freedom Movement

22. Jawaharlal Nehru
A Tryst with Destiny
New Delhi, 14 August 1947

The fifth session of the Constituent Assembly of India commenced in the Constitution Hall, New Delhi, at eleven p.m. The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad chaired the session. In his speech, the President paid tribute to the sacrifices of all the freedom fighters who with smiles on their faces walked to the gallows or faced bullets on their chests, who experienced living death in the cells of the Andamans, or spent long years in the prisons of India, who preferred voluntary exile in foreign countries to a life of humiliation in their own, who not only lost wealth and property but cut themselves off from near and dear ones to devote themselves to the achievement of the great objective of the freedom of their motherland. He also paid tribute of love and reverence to Mahatma Gandhi who had been a beacon light, a guide and philosopher during the last thirty years or more. He expressed his sense of sorrow on the partition of the country. Finally, he proposed that all members stand in silence to honour the memory of those who had died in the struggle for the freedom of India.

The Assembly stood in silence for two minutes. After this, Dr Rajendra Prasad invited Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to move the motion which stood in his name.

The following speech by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru made while introducing the 'pledge' to be taken by the members of the Constituent Assembly marks a landmark moment in the history of India.

"Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny, and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge, not wholly or in full measure, but very substantially. At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom. A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance. It is fitting that at this solemn moment we take the pledge of dedication to the service of India and her people and to the still larger cause of humanity.

At the dawn of history India started on her unending quest, and trackless centuries are filled with her striving and the grandeur of her successes and, her failures. Through good and ill fortune alike she has never lost sight of that

quest or forgotten the ideals which gave her strength. We end today a period of ill fortune and India discovers herself again. The achievement we celebrate today is but a step, an opening of opportunity, to the greater triumphs and achievements that await us. Are we brave enough and wise enough to grasp this opportunity and accept the challenge of the future?

Freedom and power bring responsibility. That responsibility rests upon this Assembly, a sovereign body representing the sovereign people of India. Before the birth of freedom we have endured all the pains of labour and our hearts are heavy with the memory of this sorrow. Some of those pains continue even now. Nevertheless, the past is over and it is the future that beckons to us now.

That future is not one of ease or resting but of incessant striving so that we might fulfil the pledges we have so often taken and the one we shall take today. The service of India means the service of the millions who suffer. It means the ending of poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity. The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye. That may be beyond us but as long as there are tears and suffering, so long our work will not be over.

And so, we have to labour and to work and work hard to give reality to our dreams. Those dreams are for India, but they are also for the world, for all the nations and peoples are too closely knit together today for



Jawaharlal Nehru addressing the members of the Constituent Assembly on the eve of 15th August 1947

any one of them to imagine that it can live apart. Peace has been said to be indivisible, so is freedom, so is prosperity now, and so also is disaster in this One World that can no longer be split into isolated fragments.

To the people of India, whose representatives we are, we make appeal to join us with faith and confidence in this great adventure. This is no time for petty and destructive criticism, no time for ill-will or blaming others. We have to build the noble mansion of free India where all her children may dwell.

I beg to move, Sir,

That it be resolved that:

(1) After the last stroke of midnight, all members of the Constituent Assembly present on this occasion, do take the following pledge:

At this solemn moment when the people of India, through suffering and sacrifice, have secured freedom, I, Jawaharlal Nehru, a member of the Constituent Assembly of India, do dedicate myself in all humility to the service of India and her people to the end that this ancient land attain her rightful place in the world and make her full and willing contribution to the promotion of world peace and the welfare of mankind;

(2) Members who are not present on this occasion do take the pledge (with such verbal changes as the President may prescribe) at the time they next attend a session of the Assembly."

With Shri Jawaharlal Nehru's famous speech, we bring an end to the series Speeches of the Freedom Movement. We look forward to bringing to our readers a new series from next month.

What Nehru said....

Indian art is so intimately associated with Indian religion and philosophy that it is difficult to appreciate it fully unless one has some knowledge of the ideals that governed the Indian mind...In Indian art there is always a religious urge, a looking beyond, such as probably inspired the builders of the great cathedrals of Europe.

… from Chapter 5, Through the Ages, The Discovery of India

NEHRU PLANETARIUM
Tel: 022-40245413
Mobile : 9892890510

THE MOON MISSION – INDIA'S JOURNEY TO THE MOON

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

(MONDAY CLOSED)

Email: managernpmumbai@gmail.com

Astrophysicist Nobel Laureates

13. Francis Halzen 2026

In the August and September issues of our newsletter, we discussed the Nobel Prizes awarded to Raymond Davis Jr. and Masatoshi Koshiba in 2002 for their pioneering work on cosmic neutrinos. Nearly a quarter of a century later, this year's Nobel Prize has once again brought neutrinos into the limelight, this time recognizing the detection of astrophysical neutrinos. We felt that this was an occasion worth marking, and therefore decided to break our usual sequence to focus on this year's Nobel Prize and its Laureate.



Francis Louis Halzen

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2026 was awarded to Francis Louis Halzen 'for decisive contributions to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory and the discovery of high-energy neutrinos of astrophysical origin'.

Francis Louis Halzen is a Belgian-born American physicist whose research spans theoretical particle physics, nuclear physics and high-energy astrophysics. He played a leading role in developing the idea of using Antarctic ice as a giant detector for high-energy neutrinos arriving from distant cosmic sources. His vision led to the creation of the IceCube Neutrino Observatory at the South Pole.

Francis Louis Halzen was born on 23 March 1944 in Tienen, Belgium. Although relatively little information about his family life is publicly available, his academic journey is well documented. He grew up in post-war Europe, at a time when scientific research was expanding rapidly and international collaboration was becoming increasingly important.

Halzen completed his master's degree in physics at the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, in 1966. He obtained his PhD from the same university in 1969. His doctoral thesis, written in Dutch, was titled *Gebroken symmetrieën van hadronen – dynamica van het πN-kanaal*, which translates approximately as *Broken Symmetries of Hadrons – Dynamics of the πN Channel.* Hadrons are subatomic particles made up of quarks, held together by the strong nuclear interaction.

After completing his doctorate, Halzen worked at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, in Geneva. In 1972, he joined the University of Wisconsin–Madison as an assistant professor and became a full time professor in 1977.

Halzen's early research focused on theoretical particle physics and nuclear physics. In 1984, he co-authored *Quarks and Leptons: An Introductory Course in Modern Particle Physics* with Alan D. Martin. The book became a widely used textbook for students of particle physics. Over time, Halzen's research interests expanded towards cosmic rays and astroparticle physics, bringing together particle physics, astronomy and the study of the most energetic processes in the Universe.

In 2001, Halzen became the principal investigator and co-spokesperson for the IceCube project. Based at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, the project brought together scientists and research institutions from around the world to build a novel observatory capable of detecting high-energy neutrinos of cosmic origin.

Neutrinos are electrically neutral subatomic particles that have an extremely weak interaction with matter. They can travel vast cosmic distances without being significantly deflected by magnetic fields or absorbed by intervening material. Detecting them, however, is extraordinarily difficult as enormous volumes of transparent material are needed to provide a reasonable chance of observing their rare interactions.

Halzen recognised that the clear, deep glacial ice beneath the South Pole offered an excellent medium for such a detector. The challenge was to transform this natural resource into a scientific instrument on an unprecedented scale. Construction began in 2005. The work could be undertaken only during the Antarctic summer, approximately from November to February, when temperatures and weather conditions are relatively less severe and continuous daylight is available. Special hot-water drills were used to bore deep holes into the ice, into which strings carrying optical sensors were lowered. Once deployed, the equipment remained frozen in place.

IceCube Neutrino Observatory at the South Pole

The IceCube Neutrino Observatory was completed in December 2010. The original IceCube detector instrumented approximately one cubic kilometre of Antarctic ice with 5,160 optical sensors distributed along 86 vertical strings. When a neutrino interacts with matter in or near the detector, it may produce a charged particle that emits a faint blue glow known as Cherenkov radiation. IceCube's sensitive optical detectors record this light, allowing scientists to reconstruct the direction and energy of the particle and infer the properties of the neutrino interaction.



IceCube Neutrino Observatory at the South Pole

The detection of high-energy astrophysical neutrinos has opened an exciting new avenue for studying the cosmos. Unlike light, neutrinos can escape from certain dense and energetic environments and carry information about processes taking place in distant astronomical objects. Their detection helps scientists investigate cosmic particle accelerators, including active galaxies powered by supermassive black holes.

The observatory received a major upgrade in 2026, with five additional strings of improved optical sensors and calibration instruments installed beneath the ice. These additions are intended to improve measurements of neutrino properties and enhance the observatory's sensitivity to certain astrophysical phenomena. Planning and development work for the proposed IceCube-Gen2, a substantially larger next-generation facility, is also progressing.

Halzen's achievement is not simply the development of an ingenious detector. It is also an example of how a bold scientific idea can be transformed into a working observatory through decades of perseverance, international cooperation and technological innovation.



Location of the Observatory

Lat. 89°59′24″S Long. 63°27′11″W

NC Culture Wing
nehrucentreculturewing
WhatsApp: 9324857186

Nehru Centre आयोजित

प्रसन्नतेचा गांव

लहान मुलांनी गायलेली मराठी आणि हिंदी गीतं



Concept, Music & Direction: Dr. Varsha Bhave



KALANGAN
निर्मितीचं अनंत आकाश
कलांगण

Presented by 15 talented artistes of Kalangan and an ensemble orchestra

Duration: 2 Hours 30 minutes with Interval

Accompanists

Music Arranger & Samvadini
Somesh Narvekar

Keyboard
Amit Gothivarekar, Kaushiki Joglekar

Octopad
Siddharth Kadam

Dholki, Dholak
Hanumant Rawade

Tabla
Nishad Karalgikar

Saturday, 21st November 2026
5.30 p.m.
Nehru Centre Auditorium

Entry: Free Entrance Cards will be available on Monday, 16th November 2026 from 10.30 a.m. until availability from the booking counter of the Nehru Centre Auditorium

Programme for November 2026

Open from 11.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m.

ANAGHA RATNAPARKHI
ASHWINI JAMBOTKAR
PREETI GOTKHINDIKAR
GAURANG PUNTAMBEKAR



Anagha Ratnaparkhi

This group of four artists will showcase their creative pieces of art in various mediums.

Tuesday 3rd November 2026 to Monday 9th November 2026 (AC Gallery)

SWATI SATISH NAZARE

Swati will exhibit her works of art alongwith her students.

Tuesday 3rd November 2026 to Monday 9th November 2026 (Circular Gallery)

CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBITION

Saraswati Purushottam Memorial Trust, Mumbai has been organizing art exhibition of works created by children from various schools every year for the last thirty-seven years which will be on show this year too.

Tuesday 10th November 2026 to Monday 16th November 2026 (Circular Gallery)

SANTOSH KUMAR TIWARI
RAMU KUMAR

Santosh Kumar's work is deeply inspired by the timeless beauty of the ghats of Banaras which is depicted in his art.



To commemorate Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru's birth anniversary, Nehru Centre Art Gallery has been organizing an exhibition of children's artworks every year for the past thirty-one years. Children from different schools of Mumbai will participate this year too.

Date:
Tuesday 10th November to Monday 16th November 2026

Venue:
(AC Gallery)

Time:
Between 11.00 am & 7.00 pm daily



Ramu Kumar

Ramu Kumar is a senior sculptor and visual artist from Bihar with thirty years of experience in sculpture, mural art and art education.

Tuesday 17th November 2026 to Monday 23rd November 2026 (AC Gallery)

ANITA DALVI
CHANDANA RAVATE
VAISHNAVI GIMBHAL
SUNITA BARAF

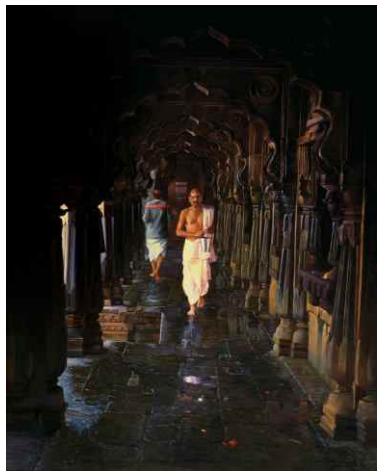


Chandana Ravate

This group of four artists who are the grand daughters of Padmashiri Jivya Soma Mhase will exhibit the legacy of Warli tribal art.

Tuesday 17th November 2026 to Monday 23rd November 2026 (Circular Gallery)

DEEPAK PATIL



Deepak Patil

Deepak is from Khopoli in Maharashtra. His paintings are very realistically portrayed.

Tuesday 24th November 2026 to Monday 30th November 2026 (AC Gallery)

LALIT PATIL

Lalit delves into the depths of human identity, portraying the layers of emotions we navigate daily.

Tuesday 24th November 2026 to Monday 30th November 2026 (Circular Gallery)

Our Instagram link:
nehru_centre_artgallery

UNESCO - Intangible Cultural Heritage - India

7. Kalbelia: Folk songs and dances of Rajasthan

The Kalbelia community are the nomadic snake handlers that largely reside on the outskirts of Pushkar, Ajmer, Chittorgarh and Udaipur districts. *Kaal* is a common word for death and the name Kalbelia suggests the tribe's dominance over poisonous snakes and the fear of death.

Once professional snake handlers, today this community evoke their former occupation in music and dance that is evolving in new and creative ways. The Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan was inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in the year 2010.

Passed down within the community from generation to generation in an oral manner, this art form blends music, dance and folklore to create one unique experience. The Kalbelia women dance and swirl wearing flowing black skirts which replicate the movements of a serpent while the men accompany them on the khanjari percussion instrument and the poongi, which is a woodwind instrument traditionally played to capture snakes. The songs often reflect the community's daily life, legends, festivals and historical myths which helps keep their and stories. The women dancers wear traditional tattoo designs, jewellery and garments that have rich embroidery done with small mirrors and silver thread. The community is also well-known for its on-the-spot improvisation of lyrics and composing poetry during live performances. During the festival of Holi, the community performs special traditional dance and songs.

Singing and dancing are a matter of pride for the Kalbelia community and a marker of their identity at a time when their traditional travelling lifestyle and their role in rural society are diminishing. They demonstrate their community's attempt to revitalize its cultural heritage and adapt to the changing socio-economic conditions through this art form. Despite facing challenges of modernity, the Kalbelia musicians and dancers continue to perform at national and international stages, sharing their legacy with newer and wider audiences. Whether it is a festival or cultural event, Kalbelia folk songs and dances bring an electric, authentic energy that transcends borders which makes them an important part of Rajasthan's musical landscape.



Playing the *poongi*



Woman in a traditional dress



A group performance

Further Reading at the Nehru Centre Library:

- Traditions of Indian folk dance by Kapila Vatsyayan, Clarion Books, 1987, Call No. 793.31954/Vat, Barcode: 11903 and 6837
- Living traditions of India: Arts and crafts of Rajasthan by Aman Nath, Mapin Publishing Pvt. Ltd, 1994, Call No. R709.3544/Nat/Wac, Barcode: 11039
- Celebration of life Indian folk dances by Jiwan Pani, Publication Division, 2000, Call No. 793.31(54)/Pan, Barcode: 11975

R. N. I. No. MAHENG/1999/121 Date of Publication: 18th of every month

For Private Circulation Only Posted at Worli, MDG, Mumbai - 400 018. on 24/25th of previous month

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Nehru and Indian Constitutionalism
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Constitutionalism and Democracy in South Asia
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Mumbai: Past and Present
India and Central Asia
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Colourful art catalogues for sale

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Nehru Centre Library
for all things literary





A Book I Wrote-2026
(8th Edition)
A collection of poems and stories

Launch of book written by children and for children on the occasion of Children's Day.

A Nehru Centre Library initiative to encourage children to pen their thoughts.



This year's theme is 'Things that I never want changed.'

We all are witnessing a transformation, with AI and robotics fast becoming part of our everyday lives. Some of these technologies will have a considerable impact, and may even replace some aspects that we consider as 'human'.

In such a world, what do children wish never gets replaced?



The illustrations in this book have been generated using AI tools, along with human design interventions, bringing to life the original poems and stories written by the winning children.



The book serves as an example of the transformation we are witnessing intertwined with the originality of human expression.





Date: Friday, 13th November 2026

Time: 3.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Venue: Hall of Harmony, Ground Floor,
Discovery of India Building, Nehru Centre, Dr. Annie Besant Road,
Worli, Mumbai – 400018.

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