

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1855
ANSWERED ON 11/02/2026**

PLANETARIUM/OBSERVATORY IN MEERUT

†1855. SHRI. ARUN GOVIL:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to establish a planetarium and observatory in Meerut keeping in view the interest of Indians in astronomy which has led to significant discoveries related to planets and constellations since ancient times and that after Scientists Shri Rakesh Sharma and Ms. Sunita Williams travelled to space, the interest of Indian children in space science has increased substantially and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes to establish a planetarium or observatory in Meerut, on the lines of those existing in other parts of Uttar Pradesh such as Lucknow, Varanasi and Prayagraj; and**
- (c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be established?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

(a) to (c): The Government recognises the growing interest in astronomy and space science in the country, particularly among students, and the role played by institutions such as planetariums and observatories in promoting scientific temper and public engagement with science. A Cosmology Education and Research Training Centre (COSMOS) is being established at Mysuru by Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru an autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology with the financial support of DST, DAE, DoS, O/o PSA and MPLADS funds of the Hon'ble Finance

Minister. The state-of-the-art, world's first, 8K resolution LED Dome planetarium utilizes cutting-edge LED technology from RSA Cosmos to create an immersive 360-degree viewing experience, superior to traditional projection systems. Located at the University of Mysore near Chamundi hill, the planetarium focuses on advancing astronomy and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education apart from training teachers and students in data analysis using real-time data from telescopes.

National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture is the implementing agency of the “Scheme for Promotion of Culture of Science (SPoCS)”, under which Science Cities, Science Centres, Digital Planetarium, Innovation Hubs are set up across the country based on the proposals received from different State Governments and Union Territories desirous to set up Science Cities, Science Centre, Digital Planetarium, Observatory Innovation Hub etc. However, as of now, there is no proposal for setting up a planetarium/observatory in Meerut.
