

NCSM

Communicating Science to Empower People



Ministry of Culture
Government of India



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENCE MUSEUMS

Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India
33, Block-GN, Sector-V, Bidhan Nagar, Kolkata-700091
e-mail: sciencecentre@ncsm.gov.in
www.ncsm.gov.in, [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ncsmgoi) /ncsmgoi

Genesis



Birla Industrial and Technological Museum (BITM), Kolkata- The first science museum in the chain

In 1959 Birla Industrial and Technological Museum (BITM), Calcutta and in 1965 Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum (VITM), Bangalore were established under Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). In early 70s, Planning Commission, Govt. of India set up a task force that recommended for the formation of a Central agency for developing Science Museums/Centres in India. Based on the recommendation of the task force, National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) was set up and registered as a society on

April 4, 1978. Govt. of India decided to de-link Science Museums from CSIR and brought the two existing Science Museums namely BITM, Calcutta, VITM, Bangalore along with a developing science centre namely Nehru Science Centre, Bombay under this newly formed society, NCSM. Since then, Science Centre movement spread across India and covered almost every state in just three decades.

National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), Kolkata



Developing a Culture of Science, Technology & Innovation

Science & technology is the backbone of the process of development for any society. Developments and inventions are catalysts, which trigger innovations. In today's world, innovations are continually impacting the society and our daily life. Science centres/museums have an important role to play as a link between science, technology, innovation and the public, as a guide that helps communities navigate through a constantly changing world, a safe place for visitors to cultivate their own creativity and imagination. National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, primarily engaged in popularizing Science and Technology through a network of Science Centres, Mobile Science Exhibitions (MSE) units and a plethora of activities for students and general public over the years, is now trying to make science and culture of innovation accessible to people by encouraging them to engage with the process of science in museums/centres to explore things they would not try elsewhere and get access to tools of innovation and creativity.



A network of science centres/museums in India

As recommended by the Task Force, the National Council of Science Museums initiated process to set up National level science museums/centres, Regional Science Centres, Sub-Regional Science Centres and District Science Centres located in metropolis, state capitals, larger towns, cities and district headquarters respectively. Presently NCSM, with its Headquarters at Kolkata, administers and manages 26 science museums/centres spread across the country and Central Research & Training Laboratory (CRTL), in Kolkata, the Council's central hub for research, development and professional training. In addition, it has developed 24 Science Centres which have been handed over to different States and Union Territories of India, thus becoming the largest network of science centres and museums in the world.

Our Strength ...

- ★ Setting up of new Science Centres / Science Museums / Science Cities / Science Parks / Space Education Centres/ Panorama and Thematic Expositions on Science & Technology in India and abroad on turnkey basis
- ★ Providing consultancy for development of science centres and exhibitions
- ★ Design, development, fabrication and supply of innovative interactive exhibits for galleries and exhibitions
- ★ Development and fabrication of Museo-Bus to carry exhibitions on Science & Technology themes to remote areas.
- ★ Developing new display technologies for science communication particularly on digital platform.
- ★ Developing travelling exhibitions on the contemporary science & technology issues.
- ★ Making science kits for schools, science shows and science demonstration lectures.
- ★ Developing 2-D & 3-D interactive multimedia programmes/software for science communication.
- ★ Imparting professional training to science centre professionals.
- ★ Developing interactive astronomy education resource materials.
- ★ Management of Science Centres/Museums.





Interactive Science Activities

Science centres/museums provide an experience based and engaging learning environment to inculcate a spirit of inquiry, ignite curiosity, foster creative talent and develop scientific temper in the society. It is characterized by its two-pronged channel of communication - exhibits and activities. While the exhibits, both indoor and outdoor, are mostly interactive, the demonstrations and training programmes are also fully participatory and exciting. They help children and the adults alike learn the basics of science through fun and enjoyment as well as help in developing interest and motivation for S & T. Some of these are; science demonstrations, science seminars, science fairs, science dramas, debates, writing and drawing contests, science hobby camps, sky observation programmes and nature trails.



Engaged in Public Understanding of Science

Science museums and centres are found to provide a significant range of educational, social, cultural and economic benefit to their communities. With a new approach to present interactive, immersive and virtual exhibitions on contemporary topics of science and technology supported with engaging activities, they are helping communicate science to millions. The science centres in India are moving towards a new direction for better “public understanding of science” showing an increased sensitivity to the social relevance of science. With the bottoms up approach, science centres can play a very vital role in public understanding of science. These new science centres are embarking upon a way to become a platform for engagement of the public and a forum for dialogue on new issues and developments in S & T.

Footfall

Annually around 15 million visitors are benefited through the science museums/centres of NCSM spread across India. About 2.75 million rural children attend the Mobile Science Exhibition program of NCSM.

Science Park: *where science is a plaything in the open*

NCSM pioneered the concept of 'learn while you play' in 1979 when the world's first outdoor science park at Nehru Science Centre in Mumbai was opened to the public. It took science beyond the four walls of the museum building and bring it under the open sky amidst nature's playful and non coercive learning ambience.



Mobile Science Exhibition: *Science on Wheels*

NCSM conducts the largest and the longest running mobile science exhibition throughout the country with a fleet of 48 museo-buses to create awareness of science and technology in rural areas and provide hands on learning opportunity to rural children.



Catalysing Science Centre Movement

NCSM is proactively engaged in taking the science centre movement beyond its own network by establishing new science centres/museums in unrepresented areas of the country in collaboration with respective local governments/agencies. NCSM is also providing professional support to other countries in setting up their own science centres either on turnkey project basis or by providing interactive exhibits.



NCSM AND EXPANDING SCIENCE CENTRE NETWORK



01. Birla Ind. & Tech. Museum, Kolkata
02. Visvesvaraya Ind. & Tech. Museum, Bengaluru
03. Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai
04. Srikrishna Science Centre, Patna
05. District Science Centre, Purulia
06. District Science Centre, Gulbarga
07. District Science Centre, Dharampur
08. National Council of Science Museums (Hqrs) & Central Research & Training Lab., Kolkata
09. National Science Centre, Delhi
10. Regional Science City, Lucknow
11. Raman Science Centre & Planetarium, Nagpur
12. Regional Science Centre, Tirupati
13. District Science Centre, Tirunelveli
14. Regional Science Centre, Bhubaneswar
15. Science City, Kolkata
16. Bardhaman Science Centre, Bardhaman
17. North Bengal Science Centre, Siliguri
18. Regional Science Centre, Guwahati
19. Digha Science Centre, Digha
20. Kapilas Science Park, Odisha
21. Dhenkanal Science Centre, Odisha
22. Regional Science Centre & Planetarium, Calicut
23. Goa Science Centre, Panaji
24. Kurukshetra Panorama & Sc. Centre, Kurukshetra
25. Regional Science Centre, Bhopal
26. Science Centre, Andaman
27. Mizoram Science Centre, Aizawl
28. Sikkim Science Centre, Gangtok
29. Arunachal Pradesh Science Centre, Itanagar
30. Nagaland Science Centre, Dimapur
31. Manipur Science Centre, Imphal
32. Shillong Science Centre, Meghalaya

33. Kalimpong Science Centre, WB
34. Solapur Science Centre, Maharashtra
35. Reg. Science Centre, Ranchi
36. Reg. Science Centre, Dharwad
37. Chhattisgarh Science Centre, Raipur
38. Reg. Science Centre, Jaipur
39. Pimpri Chinchwad Science Centre, Pune
40. Reg. Science Centre, Coimbatore
41. Sub Reg. Science Centre, Jorhat
42. Sub Reg. Science Centre, Jodhpur
43. Sub Reg. Science Centre, Pilikula
44. Sub Reg. Science Centre, Puducherry
45. Regional Science Centre, Dehradun
46. SRSC Baragarh, Odisha
47. Science Centre, Srinagar (J & K)
48. SRSC Udaipur, Tripura
49. Science Centre, Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh
50. Science City, Guwahati, Assam

51. RSC, Kottayam, Kerala
52. SRSC, Almora, Uttarakhand
53. SRSC, Palampur, Himachal Pradesh
54. SRSC, Gaya, Bihar
55. Science Centre, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh
56. SRSC, Udaipur, Rajasthan
57. SRSC, Kokrajhar, Assam
58. SRSC, Mayabunder, A & N
59. Science Centre, Vijayawada
60. Science Centre, Bikaner