

## **For Immediate Release**

**Date:** March 23, 2016

### **Students measured Earth with Simple Maths**

*300 school students replicated the 2000 years old Eratosthenes experiment with the accuracy of 95 percent*

**New Delhi:** SPACE the pioneer organization working towards the development of science and astronomy in India, conducted its flagship programme Project Paridhi, a hands on project to measure circumference of Earth with **300 students from different schools of Delhi-NCR** at DDA Sundial, Barapulla Flyover, New Delhi on March 21, 2016. The Vernal Equinox was celebrated pan India from March 18, 2016 to March 22, 2016. The measurement has been done with the accuracy of 95 percent by most of the students.

**24 schools of Delhi-NCR** participated, in which 20 schools were pre-registered for one venue of DDA Sundial, Barapulla Flyover, New Delhi including, Ryan international school, Sec-31, Gurgaon; Scholars Global School, Bahadurgarh, Haryana; Apeejay School, Sheikh Sarai; Delhi Public School, Greater Faridabad; JBM Global School, Noida; ASN Sr. Sec. School, Mayur Vihar; Sri Venkateshwar International School, Dwarka; Delhi Public School, Sushant Lok; Presidium School, Sec-57, Gurgaon; Bal Bharati Public School, Noida; GD Goenka Public School, Model Town; Amity International School, Noida; Bal Bharati Public School, Gangaram Hospital Marg; Uttam Schools for Girls, Ghaziabad; Tagore International School, Vasant Vihar; Amity International School, Sec-43, Gurgaon; Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Vasant Vihar; Amity International School, Sec-46, Gurgaon; Manav Rachna International School, Charmwood, Faridabad; Ramjas School, Pusa Road.

**4 SPACE CSE schools**, The Indian Heights School, Dwarka - March 18, 2016; GD Goenka Public School, Sector-9, Rohini - March 21, 2016; GD Goenka Public School, Gurgaon - March 21, 2016; and Bal Bharati Public School, Pitampura - March 22, 2016.

Inspiring the young students, **Chairman & Managing Director (CMD), SPACE, Mr Sachin Bahmba** said that "SPACE will take this kind of hands of activity to all schools and foster an enjoyment of science through such simple attractive projects."

The students measured the shadows of objects as cast by the sun, and used simple geometry and trigonometry to find the circumference of the Earth. This activity is a hand on science activity that illustrates that science is best learnt by doing. The activity replicates one originally done by ancient astronomer Eratosthenes in Greece 2000 years back.

### **About Project Paridhi**

**Project Paridhi is a flagship project initiated by SPACE FOUNDATION in the year 2010, in order to popularize Hands on Science.** Under this project, SPACE educators will replicate and in fact take actual measurements of the shadows made by the Sun to measure the circumference of Earth as done 2000 years back by astronomer - Eratosthenes. SPACE has been conducting this project previously at various national heritages like Jantar Mantar, Qutub Minar and also by using the giant sundial constructed at Barapullah during the commonwealth games. In this experiment students have been able to calculate the circumference of earth to an accuracy of 99% with comparison to

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the real circumference. With the help of this project SPACE has highlighted that such Indian monuments can be used as tools to demonstrate and get the common man interested in science.

***This project has also been accredited in a report on Astronomy in public places and highways by French Professors, Mr. Prof Denis Savoie and Prof Bonnet Bidaud.***

### **About SPACE**

SPACE came into existence in 2001, with the goal of popularizing science and inculcating scientific temperament among masses specially students in India. Its aims and objectives are derived from the Constitution of India – Part IV-A Fundamental Duties of Citizen, Article 51 A (h), says – “It shall be the duty of every citizen of India - to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform”. SPACE has been changing the face of Science and Astronomy awareness, education and innovation in India through path-breaking concepts, services and programs. We are constantly striving to use these programs to foster scientific temperament in society, especially among the youth who are the harbingers of our future. The ultimate intention is to create an intelligent, analytic and space savvy global community who will be the future leaders in mains exploration of space and the universe, in a world that is rapidly heading to a space age. SPACE is also a part of the advisory panel for the restoration of our national heritage and scientific observatory Jantar Mantar.

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