

Indian students image stunning Earth photos through camera onboard the International Space Station

About 350 hi-res colour images of different locations captured through ISS camera in this NASA mission! 11 schools participated in the mission.

New Delhi, 2 February, 2015: SPACE brought the enthralling experience of requesting images of the Earth from the International Space Station within the reach of its associated students through Sally Ride EarthKAM (Earth Knowledge Acquired by Middle school students) January mission. This was a NASA mission administered by Sally Ride Science. Students also wrote messages for astronauts onboard the ISS, which will be compiled by SPACE and sent to the mission team.

SPACE conducted sessions with its associated schools to guide students in requesting photographs of the Earth from the ISS, which continued from **27 – 31 January, 2015**.

SPACE has been conducting this NASA educational outreach programme in India for the past **5 years** to promote student engagement in science, technology and astronomy.

Some of the participating schools were - Amity International School, Sector 1 &6 Vasundhara, Pushp Vihar and Sector 46 Gurgaon ; Manav Rachna, Charmwood Faridabad and Gurgaon; Delhi Public School, Greater Faridabad. A total of 11 Delhi/NCR schools participated in this mission.

During this programme, participants logged in to the website and requested images from the camera mounted on the ISS. Participants get a chance to capture select images of the Earth's surface as seen from space. These images can be used in class projects in Earth science, space science, Geography, Social Studies and more.

Our Indian American astronaut Sunita Williams serviced this camera on her last ISS mission – Expedition 33.

Mr Amit Verma, CEO, SPACE, says, *“This is a special opportunity for our associated students to access the camera on board the ISS, like professional scientists and astronomers, and use the acquired data for their classroom purposes. Sally Ride EarthKAM is a fantastic way to engage students in Earth and space science, Geography, Social Studies, Mathematics, communications and art.*

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About Sally Ride EarthKAM

The project was initiated by Dr Sally Ride (America's first woman in space) in 1995 and called KidSat. In 1998, the programme was deemed successful and renamed ISS EarthKAM. In India this programme was started by SPACE in India in 2010-2011 with the aim to encourage using the images (clicked by ISS) as educational resources, to enhance learning and address standards in science, Geography, Mathematics, technology, and more. Sally Ride EarthKAM camera has permanent payload on board the ISS and supports approximately four missions annually.

About SPACE

It is a pioneer organization working towards development of science and astronomy in India. For more than 10 years, it has shaped the modern approach to learning science. Through hands-on learning methodology, it has brought experimentation and rational thinking to classrooms. It has pioneered STEM education (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) in India, contributing to the mandate of the government that students should be inspired to pursue science and engage in innovation.

Through its path-breaking concepts and programmes SPACE has brought recognition and reward for aspiring students. SPACE has also successfully implemented astronomy and space science curriculum in the Indian education system. As a result, many of our students are now pursuing research in various related fields in universities all over the world, especially in the International Space University. Today, SPACE member students are asteroid discoverers, comet hunters, researchers, doctoral students and many of them are national and international level project winners. SPACE has helped to incline one lakh students and over 100 institutes towards science through its programmes. We aim to 'foster scientific temperament' in the students and inspire teachers to innovate in their classroom teaching.

Our Flagship Projects

- Project Paridhi
- All India Asteroid Search Campaign (AIASC)
- Project Dark Skies
- Kalpna Chawla Quiz Contest
- Internet Telescope
- Project Khoj
- Hydro Rocketry Design Competition

For more information please log on to:

SPACE Website: <http://www.space-india.com>

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