

COSMIC CARNIVAL 2025
Hosted by All Saints' College, Nainital
2nd – 6th November 2025

INTRODUCTION

The Cosmic Carnival 2025, organized by All Saints' College, Nainital, was an extraordinary educational and experiential event that brought together young science enthusiasts and educators from various schools across the country. The five-day event, held from 2nd to 6th November 2025, provided a platform for students to explore the wonders of astronomy, physics, and atmospheric sciences through workshops, competitions, and field excursions. It not only enhanced scientific temper but also fostered collaboration and creativity among the participating delegates.

DAY 1 – SUNDAY, 2nd NOVEMBER 2025

Arrival and Principal's Dinner

The first day of the event marked the arrival of delegates from seven member schools across the country. The organizing committee ensured a smooth check-in process at the School Guest House – Resource Centre, where participants were welcomed with warmth and hospitality.

The highlight of the evening was the Principal's Dinner, hosted at the Principal's Residence. The ambiance was elegant yet relaxed, providing a perfect setting for introductions and informal interactions among delegates of various schools and faculty members. This dinner served as an ice-breaking session where educators and students shared their excitement for the upcoming activities. The evening concluded with a brief welcome address, emphasizing teamwork, curiosity, and learning as the key themes of the event.





DAY 2 – MONDAY, 3rd NOVEMBER 2025

Workshops, Competitions, and Stargazing in Collaboration with Astroverse Experience Pvt. Ltd.

The second day began with great enthusiasm as delegates assembled for the opening ceremony held in the college auditorium. The event commenced with a warm welcome address by the host school followed by an inspiring keynote speech by the Chief Guest Dr. Manish Naja, Director of the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), Nainital, India. Dr. Naja delivered an enlightening address on advancements in science and technology, and ongoing research in atmospheric studies. His engaging session included an interactive dialogue with teachers and students, sparking intellectual discussions and inspiring young minds.

Following the inaugural ceremony, the day unfolded into a series of interactive workshops and engaging competitions designed to spark curiosity and practical understanding of scientific principles:

- The Rocket Design Workshop provided hands-on experience where students designed and constructed miniature rockets, learning about aerodynamics, propulsion, and stability.
- The Telescope Aiming Training familiarized students with celestial navigation, teaching them to align and focus telescopes with precision.
- The Rocket Launch Challenge was one of the most exhilarating segments, where participants launched their custom-built hydro rockets, testing both their engineering skills and creativity.
- The Telescope Aiming Competition offered a chance to showcase observation skills in a time-bound challenge, encouraging accuracy and focus.
- The Virtual Velocity and Robo-Kabaddi sessions combined robotics and coding with teamwork and quick thinking, merging technology with physical activity.

As the sun set, participants gathered for the much-awaited stargazing session, where professional-grade telescopes unveiled the mysteries of the night sky. Students

observed celestial bodies, constellations, and deep-sky objects, deepening their appreciation of astronomy.

The evening culminated with a formal Award Ceremony organized by Astroverse Experience Pvt. Ltd.



DAY 3 – TUESDAY, 4th NOVEMBER 2025

Visit to ARIES Observatory

The third day was dedicated to an educational excursion to the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), one of India's premier astronomical observatories and nature walk in the serene hills of Ayarpatta. Morning was invested in a tour of the school and sing along carols, a visit to St. Nicholas church in our premises. After lunch, the delegates departed from the school, looking forward to an immersive learning experience that awaited them. Upon reaching ARIES, they were introduced to the institute's historic contributions to observational astronomy.

The highlight of the visit was the demonstration on the working of the **Sampurnanand Telescope**, one of the oldest working telescopes in India. Participants learned about its working mechanism, optical design, and role in astronomical discoveries. Additionally, they explored the **Stratosphere-Troposphere Radar Technology**, understanding its application in studying atmospheric layers and meteorological phenomena.

Students also attended an informative session on the **Krittika constellation, Andromeda Galaxy, and other deep-sky structures, accompanied by a short documentary on light pollution in the planetarium**. The day concluded with an extraordinary **stargazing experience through the 250mm Newtonian Dobsonian Reflector Telescope**, where delegates observed planetary systems and galaxies under the guidance of experts.



DAY 4 – WEDNESDAY, 5th NOVEMBER 2025

Adventure and Excursion Day

The fourth day combined recreation with learning, as delegates embarked on an excursion to **Kainchi Dham, Sattal and Chaafi**. The scenic drive through the lush hills of Kumaon provided a refreshing change of pace. Participants explored the spiritual serenity of Kainchi Dham before heading to Sattal for adventure sports.

Delegates took part in **kayaking and ziplining**, experiencing both thrill and teamwork. These activities fostered confidence, coordination, and cooperation among students.

Lunch was served at **Machaan Restaurant in Chaafi**, a picturesque retreat surrounded by natural beauty, where delegates relaxed and shared their adventure stories over sumptuous meal.



DAY 5 – THURSDAY, 6TH NOVEMBER 2025

Departure

The final day of the Cosmic Carnival was marked by heartfelt farewells as delegates prepared to depart according to their schedules. Packed meals were thoughtfully arranged for those leaving as per their departure schedule. Teachers and organizers ensured smooth coordination and extended their gratitude to all participants for making the event a resounding success. The atmosphere was filled with a mix of joy, nostalgia, and the satisfaction of having participated in a truly enriching experience.

CONCLUSION

The Cosmic Carnival 2025 was a remarkable blend of science, creativity, adventure, and collaboration. Each day brought new learning opportunities—whether in the laboratories, under the open sky, or amidst the mountains. The event successfully fulfilled its objective of inspiring young minds to pursue scientific inquiry and innovation. **The joint efforts of All Saints’ College, Astroverse Experience Pvt. Ltd., and ARIES created an environment that encouraged exploration and discovery beyond textbooks.** Delegates departed with cherished memories, strengthened friendships, and a renewed curiosity about the universe.

We thank the Principals of all the participating schools, faculty members, student delegates, our principal Mrs. Anjina Richards, Astroverse Experience Pvt. Ltd. and ARIES for making this event a memorable one.

May the stars always guide our journey of learning!

P.S. – Due to the **arrival of the Honourable President of India, Smt. Draupadi Murmu** in Nainital during the workshop period, certain events had to be **rescheduled and reorganized**. However, the flexibility and cooperation of all participating schools ensured that the programme continued smoothly and successfully, maintaining its spirit of enthusiasm and learning throughout.