

# 'Everything in universe from same multiverse'

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LIKE THE theory of reincarnation, every process in the universe, including the formation of planets, stars and galaxies, is passed on from one form to another but they all come from the same multiverse, said professor Tom Gehrels from University of Arizona. He was in the city for a talk at the Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics.

"I had first come to India in 1945 as a young soldier with the British army. I was awestruck by the beauty of this country and decided to come back one day. I have been coming here every year

## Tom Gehrels and his works

**TOM GEHRELS** is an American astronomer, Professor Planetary Sciences, and Astronomer at the University of Arizona, Tucson. He pioneered the first photometric system of asteroids in the 50s and has discovered, jointly with the husband and wife team of Cornelis Johannes van Houten and Ingrid van Houten-Groeneveld, over 4000 asteroids, including Apollo asteroids, Amor asteroids and a dozens of Trojan asteroids.



**Gehrels was in the city for a talk at IUCAA**

since 1979," Gehrels said. He is a lifetime fellow at the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, and holds lectures there very year.

Gehrels, who studies different subjects in eight-year periods like his teacher Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar, is presently studying the multiverse theory of the uni-

verse. He believes there never was a big bang and instead thinks the multiverse is the ensemble of various universes. "Our universe came from the multiverse and is ageing constantly and going back to it. Everything is protected like being in a can," Gehrels said.

The man instrumental in set-

ting up the spacewatch telescope that studies hazardous asteroids, feels that India needs to participate actively in it. While he was all praise for the Indian space missions, especially the moon missions, he said in India it took 30 years for scepticism to give way to curiosity. "Most experts are of the view that asteroids need to be taken more seriously. While 65 million years ago, dinosaurs were wiped off the face of the earth due to asteroids, if such a thing happens now it will be us humans. Now I'm here for the asteroids even thirty years later, but I will not be there to find out if the multiverse theory is taken up in another thirty years," he added.