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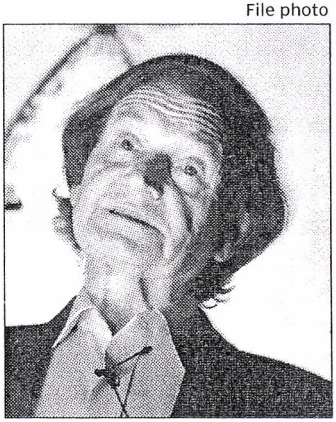
'Universe came into being before the Big Bang'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Pune: Renowned cosmologist Roger Penrose claimed that the universe came into being even before the Big Bang and that it continually cycles through a series of lifetimes called 'aeons'.

Penrose was speaking at a press meet organised by the Indian Institute of Science, Education and Research on Sunday at the National Chemical Laboratory Innovation Park.

File photo



Roger Penrose

He is on a visit to India and has been interacting with students. He said, "After having analysed the maps from the Wilkinson Anisotropy Probe (WMAP) that reveal the cosmic microwave background, we found signals in circles that reveal the theory." Penrose studied the WMAP data for seven years along with his colleagues.

However, he said, "We need to see more of these concentric circles and perhaps more studies and analysis would reveal information of previous Big Bangs and universes."

Penrose further explained, "My conformal cyclic cosmology theory is a departure from the Big Bang theory of the universe that is generally perceived to mean that the universe burst in a Big Bang from an infinitesimal point and then expanded. But, according to my observations the universe is not defined by one beginning and end, but goes through an infinite succession of beginnings and endings into the remote future, without a reversal or what is called crunching. It never collapses, it goes on expanding and it's a cycle."

Speaking about the students in India and his interaction with them, he said, "The students here are very curious and very concerned about the existence of the universe. It is evident from the philosophical questions they ask during my lectures."