

## 300 exhibits to be displayed on Science Day

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Pune:** Over 300 exhibits will be put up at the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) observatory on the occasion of Science Day on February 28 and March 1.

Over 16,000 visitors attend the science day celebrations each year and the number is expected to rise this year. Institutions such as the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Tata Institute of Fundamental research (TIFR) and Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education will display their exhibits. Lectures by eminent scientists, including Jayant Narlikar, will also be held.

The exhibition, mainly aimed at popularising science and technology in rural areas and attract-

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ing rural talent, will be inaugurated by vice-chancellor of the University of Pune, R K Shevgaonkar.

The GMRT is the world's largest low frequency radio telescope and visitors will get a chance to learn its history and the results of observations made by it. They will also be able to talk to scientists and see live observations of the sun and pulsars using GMRT antenna.

J K Solanki, convenor of the Science Day committee at GMRT, said, "Interesting projects by participating institutes include a project on biology and cosmic rays by the TIFR, Mumbai and the launching of a hydrogen balloon for experimental purposes by TIFR, Hyderabad. Also, ISRO will exhibit all its models, including the Chandrayaan."

About 20 colleges and as many schools from across the state will present projects on science and amateur astronomical clubs will be present to impart knowledge.

Scientist Jayant Narlikar will speak on 'Astronomy - what and why' on February 28 at 2.30 pm while Mahendra Sonawane of TIFR will deliver a lecture on 'Patterns in biology'. Yogesh Wadadekar of the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics will speak on 'The future of radio astronomy'.