

## ABOUT IIST

Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), situated at Thiruvananthapuram is a Deemed to be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act 1956. IIST functions as an autonomous body under the Department of Space, Government of India. The idea of such an institute was mooted keeping in mind the need for high quality manpower for the Indian Space Research Organization, one of world's leading scientific organizations engaged in space research and space applications. The institute is the first of its kind in the country, to offer high quality education at the undergraduate, graduate, doctoral and post-doctoral levels on areas with special focus to space sciences, space technology and space applications. IIST was formally inaugurated on 14 September 2007 by Dr. G. Madhavan Nair, the then Chairman, ISRO and was temporarily housed in the premises of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, very close from where ISRO built and launched its first rocket. Both the founding fathers of the institute, Dr G Madhavan Nair and Dr B.N. Suresh, the latter being the first Director of IIST, played a very important role in the formation of the institute, facilitating its establishment and contributing to its vision.



IIST Campus Map

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Open Amphi-Theatre (OAT) | 7. Interdisciplinary Block |
| 2. Administration Block     | 8. Football Turf           |
| 3. Library                  | 9. Basketball Court        |
| 4. Aerospace Block          | 10. Front Gate             |
| 5. Avionics Block           | 11. Back Gate              |
| 6. Science Block            | 12. Cafeteria              |

## Patrons

**Dr. V. Narayanan**  
Secretary, DoS

**Dr. B. N. Suresh**  
Chancellor IIST

**Dr. Anil Bhardwaj**  
Director, PRL

**Prof. Dipankar Banerjee**  
Vice Chancellor, IIST

## Conveners

**Prof. Rajesh V. J.**  
Professor, Dept. of Earth and Space Sciences, IIST

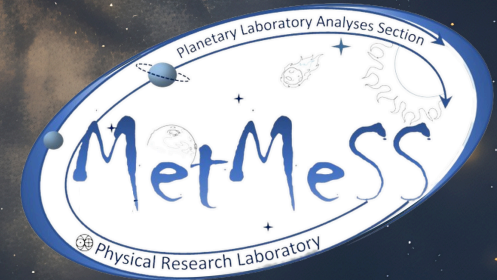
**Prof. Umesh R. Kadhane**  
Professor, Dept. of Physics, IIST

**Prof. Kuljeet K. Marhas**  
Professor, Planetary Sciences Division, PRL



## 5<sup>th</sup> MetMeSS

Symposium on  
“Meteoroid, Meteor, Meteorites:  
Messenger from Space”



Dates: January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Organised by:  
Indian Institute of Space Science & Technology,  
Thiruvananthapuram  
&  
Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad



Register Here!



## About MetMeSS

MetMeSS is a national symposium to promote meteorite and planetary science research in India. Traditionally organised by the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), it is being hosted for the first time by the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST). The event is jointly organised by the Department of Earth and Space Sciences, the Department of Physics, IIST & Physical Research Laboratory. This symposium marks an important milestone in strengthening India's contributions to planetary science and space exploration. It aims to foster collaboration among scientists, researchers, and students working in meteoritics, planetary geology, cosmochemistry, and astrobiology. The goal is to advance our understanding of the origin and evolution of the Solar System. MetMeSS provides a premier platform to share the latest developments in the study of extraterrestrial materials, including meteorites and samples from the Moon, Mars, and asteroids. Research will be presented through cutting-edge analytical techniques and theoretical studies. MetMeSS will be an in-person gathering, bringing together the national planetary science community. It will cover a wide range of topics such as meteors and space weathering, extraterrestrial organics, planetary surface and subsurface processes, small bodies, astrochemistry, astrobiology, and terrestrial analogues.

## Scientific Committee

- Prof. Kuruvilla Joseph (IIST)
- Dr. Tarun Kumar Pant (SPL)
- Prof. Sujoy Ghosh (IIT Kharagpur)
- Prof. Nachiketa Rai (IIT Roorkee)
- Dr. Satadru Bhattacharya (SAC)
- Dr. Shyama Narendranath (URSC)
- Prof. Dwijesh Ray (PRL)
- Prof. Umesh R. Kadhane (IIST)
- Prof. Kuljeet K. Marhas (PRL)
- Prof. Rajesh V.J. (IIST)

## Scientific Themes

- Early Solar System events, Accretionary Processes, Meteorites and Planetary Evolution
  - Early Solar System Formation and Accretionary Processes
  - Differentiated Meteorites and Planetary Evolution
- Meteors, Impact Processes, and Shock Metamorphism
  - Shock Metamorphism and Impact Mechanics
  - Meteorite Fall and Find Records: Global Trends and Indian Observations
- Meteoroid–Atmosphere Interactions, Space Weathering, and Dust Dynamics
  - Meteor–Atmosphere Interactions and Ionospheric Dynamics
  - Space Weathering and Dust Processing in Planetary Environments
- Planetary Surface and Subsurface Investigations: Moon, Mars, Venus, and Small Bodies
- Analogue Studies for Understanding Planetary Processes
- Astrochemistry, Astrobiology, and Prebiotic Matter
  - Astrochemistry and Astrobiology
  - Presolar Grains, Organics, and Interplanetary Dust Particles (IDPs)
- Planetary Sample Return Missions: Science, Instrumentation, and Curation

## Abstract submission

- Abstract not exceeding 300 words can be submitted.
- Awards will be presented for the best posters in different themes.
- Further details are available in the website

## Registration Fees

Faculty	₹5000
Students, Scholars	₹2500

## Important Dates

Registration	24 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
Abstract Submission Start	24 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
Abstract Submission End	10 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Abstract Acceptance	10 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Deadline for Registration	10 <sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Accommodation

- Limited accommodation will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Google Form is available under the Accommodation tab on the symposium website

## Contact Details

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Conference Email: metmessiist@gmail.com

Website:

<https://events.iist.ac.in//MetMess/index.php>

*For more details visit the website.*