



# **Big Data in Astronomy – Indian Perspective**

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(University of Delhi, india)  
Ekaterinburg, September 5-7, 2016

## **Exciting time for Astronomy in India :**

- Participation in Mega Projects – TMT, LIGO, SKA, INO**
- Space missions – ASTROSAT, ADITYA**
- New Telescopes – 3.6m DOT, 4m ILMT, 2m NLST**
- C-DAC HPC & National Knowledge Network backbone**
- HRD Challenges**

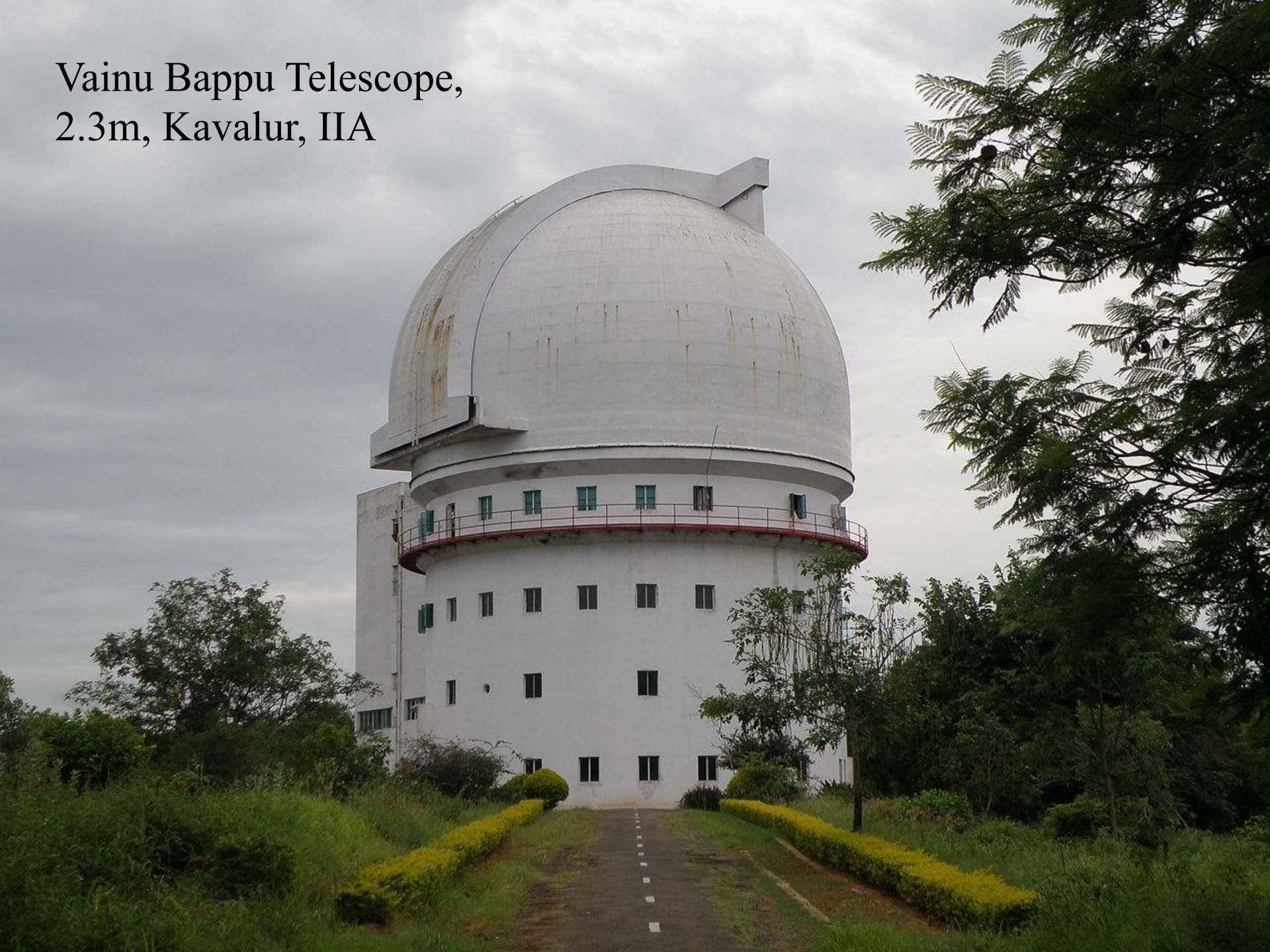
## **Acknowledgements:**

- Eswar Reddy (IIA) – TMT**
- Tarun Souradeep, Sanjit Mitra (IUCAA) - LIGO**
- Yashwant Gupta (NCRA-TIFR) - SKA**
- S. Seetha (ISRO) – ASTROSAT**
- Dipankar Banerjee – Aditya, NLST**
- Ajit Kembhavi (IUCAA) – VO, NKN**

## **Existing optical facilities spread all across India**

- **3.6 m DOT (ARIES)**
- **2.3m; 2m (IIA); 2m (IUCAA)**
- **1.3m, 1m (ARIES); 1.3m, 1m (IIA), 1.2m (PRL)**

Vainu Bappu Telescope,  
2.3m, Kavalur, IIA





# 2m Himalayan Chandra Telescope

Indian institute of Astrophysics



Hanle, Ladakh



# IUCAA 2m, Giravali



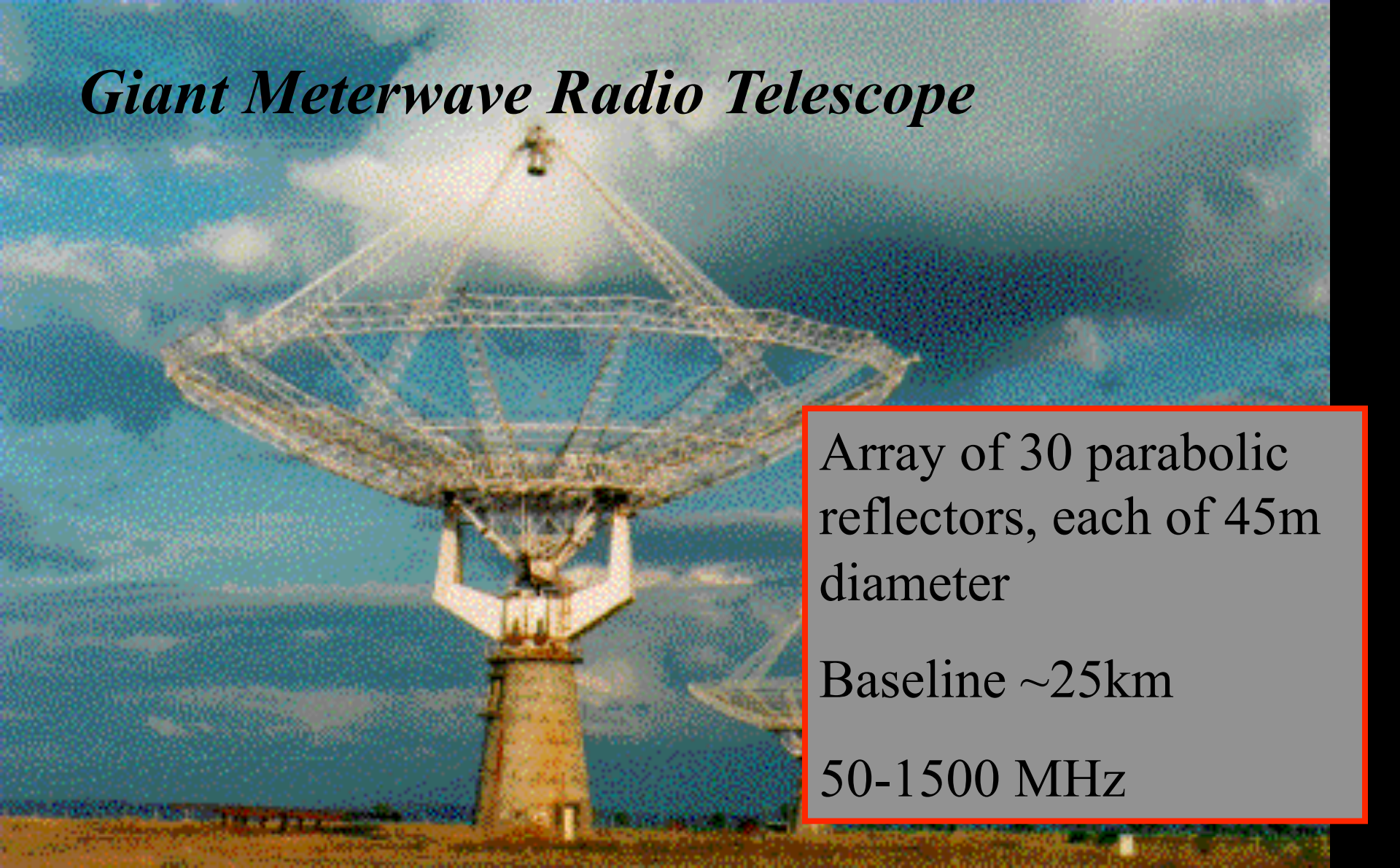


Devasthal  
3.6m Telescope  
ARIES





# *Giant Meterwave Radio Telescope*



Array of 30 parabolic reflectors, each of 45m diameter

Baseline ~25km

50-1500 MHz

GMRT, Narayangaon  
NCRA-TIFR



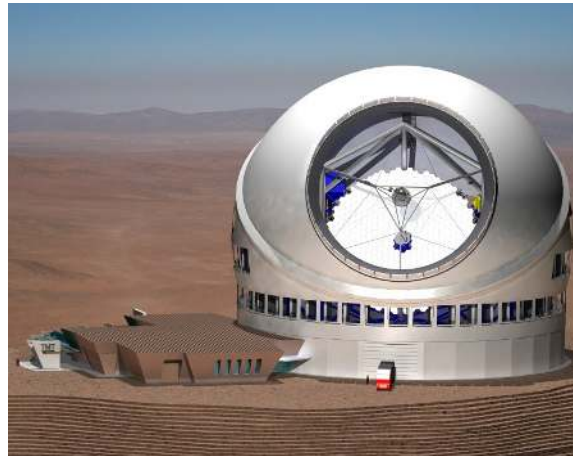
# Southern African Large Telescope – IUCAA is a partner



# Giant Segmented Mirror Telescopes (GSMTs)



24.5-m GMT



30-m TMT

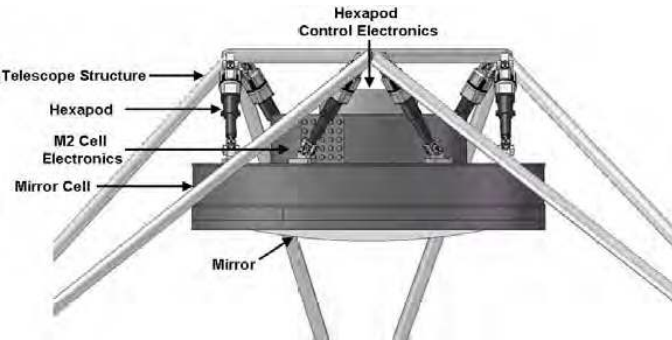


39-m E-ELT

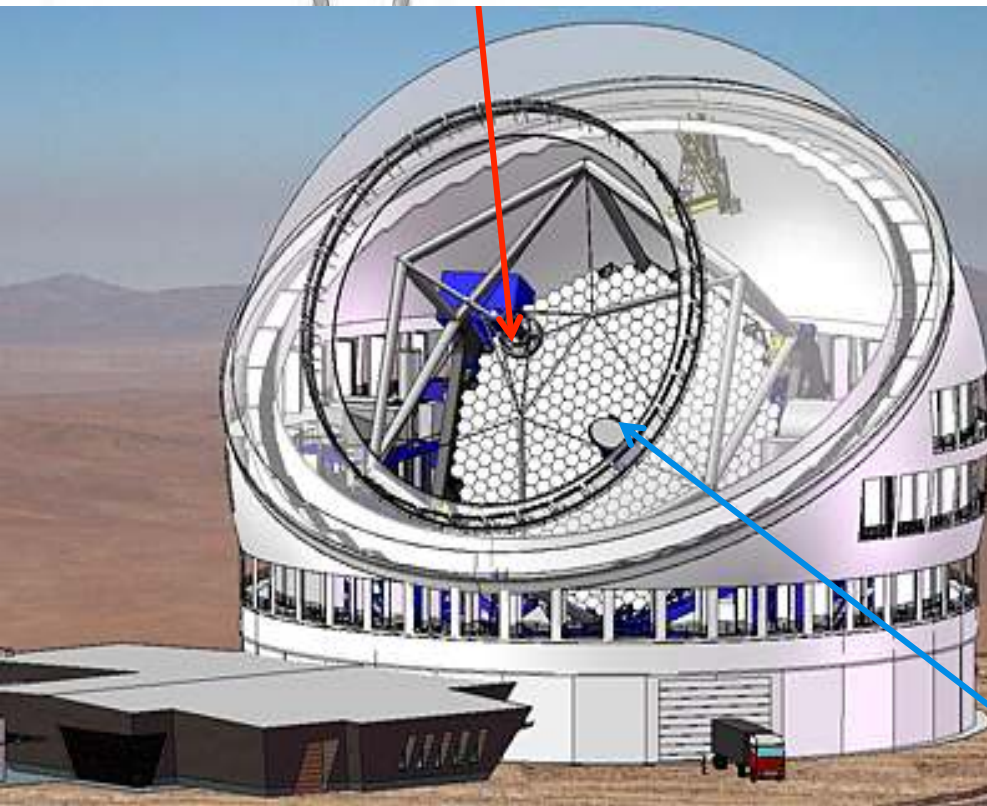
All the three projects invited India to participate.  
**This was in 2007**



# The Thirty Meter Telescope:



3.1m convex hyperboloidal secondary mirror



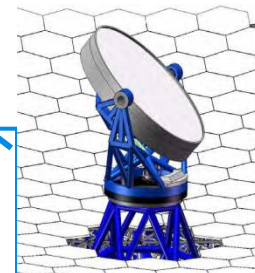
Ritchey-Chrétien optical design

30m hyperboloidal f/1 primary mirror with 492 segments

20 arcmin field of view

f/15 final focal ratio

Flat 2.5m x 3.5m tertiary mirror



# TMT Site: Mauna Kea



Clear/usable nights - 76%

Precipitable water - <2mm

Altitude - 4000m

Av. Temp. - 2.7C

## Seeing statistics (50m above ground)

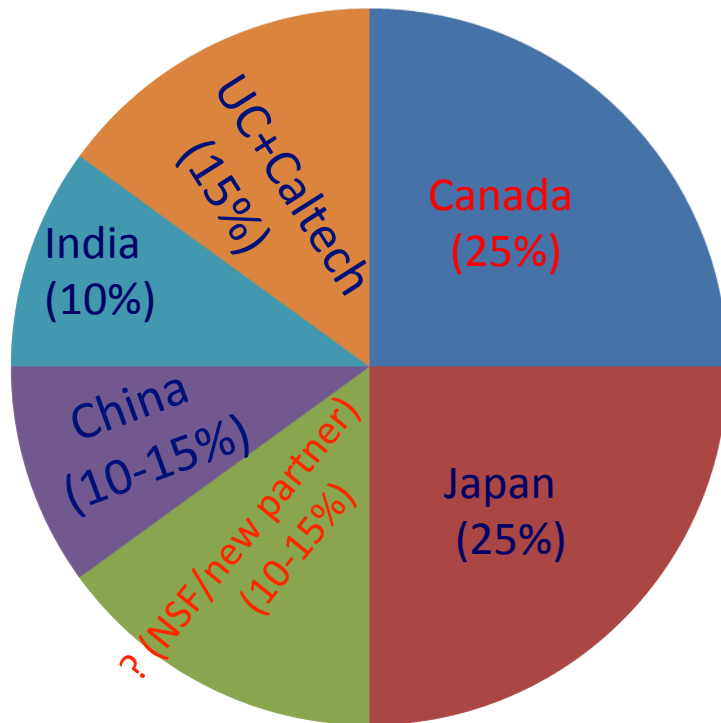
- 25% 0.40 arcsec
- 50% 0.54 arcsec
- 75% 0.75 arcsec

# TMT Early Light Instruments

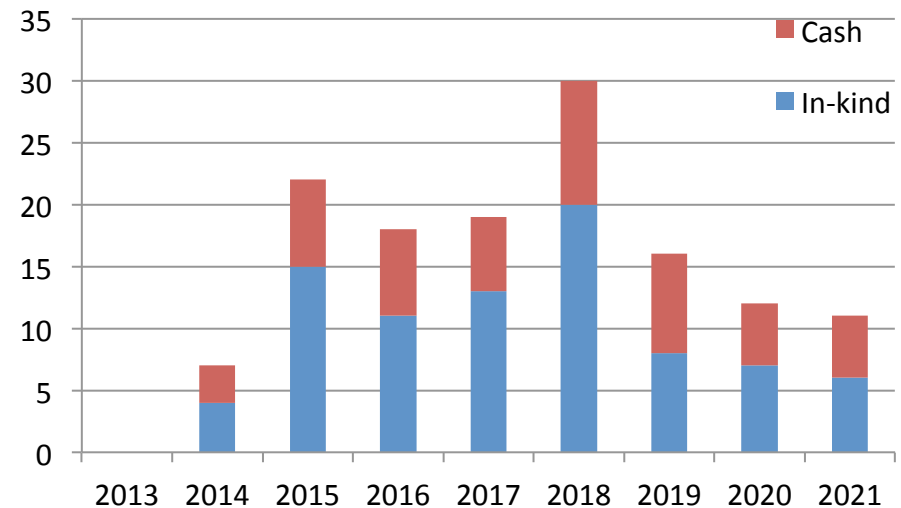
Instrument	Spectral Resolution	Science Case
Near-IR DL Spectrometer & Imager (IRIS)	$\leq 4000$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assembly of galaxies at large redshift</li> <li>Black holes/AGN/Galactic Center</li> <li>Resolved stellar populations in crowded fields</li> <li>Astrometry</li> </ul>
Wide-field Optical Spectrometer (WFOS)	300 - 5000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IGM structure and composition <math>2 &lt; z &lt; 6</math></li> <li>High-quality spectra of <math>z &gt; 1.5</math> galaxies suitable for measuring stellar pops, chemistry, energetics through peak epoch of gal form.</li> </ul>
Multi-slit near-DL near-IR Spectrometer (IRMS)	2000 - 5000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Near-IR spectroscopic diagnostics of the faintest objects</li> <li>JWST followup</li> </ul>
Mid-IR Echelle Spectrometer & Imager (MIREs)	5000 - 100000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical structure and kinematics of protostellar envelopes</li> <li>Physical diagnostics of circumstellar/protoplanetary disks: where and when planets form during the accretion phase</li> </ul>
ExAO I (PFI)	50 - 300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct detection and spectroscopic characterization of extra-solar planets</li> </ul>
High Resolution Optical Spectrograph (HROS)	30000 - 50000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stellar abundance studies throughout the Local Group</li> <li>ISM abundances/kinematics, IGM characterization to <math>z \sim 6</math></li> <li>Extra-solar planets!</li> </ul>
MCAO imager (WIRC)	5 - 100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Galactic center astrometry</li> <li>Stellar populations to 10Mpc</li> </ul>
Near-IR, DL Echelle (NIRDC)	5000 - 30000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Precision radial velocities of M-stars and detection of low-mass planets</li> </ul>



# Partnership Distribution and cost



India's contribution profile



Total Cost of the project  
(construction)

USD 1195M (FY 2011)

USD 1522M (FY 2021)

10% share cost

USD 119M (FY 2011)

USD 152M (FY 2021)

Yearly Operations cost: ~5% of the total construction cost

# TMT Software

**Indian Institute of Astrophysics**  
**Observatory Software**

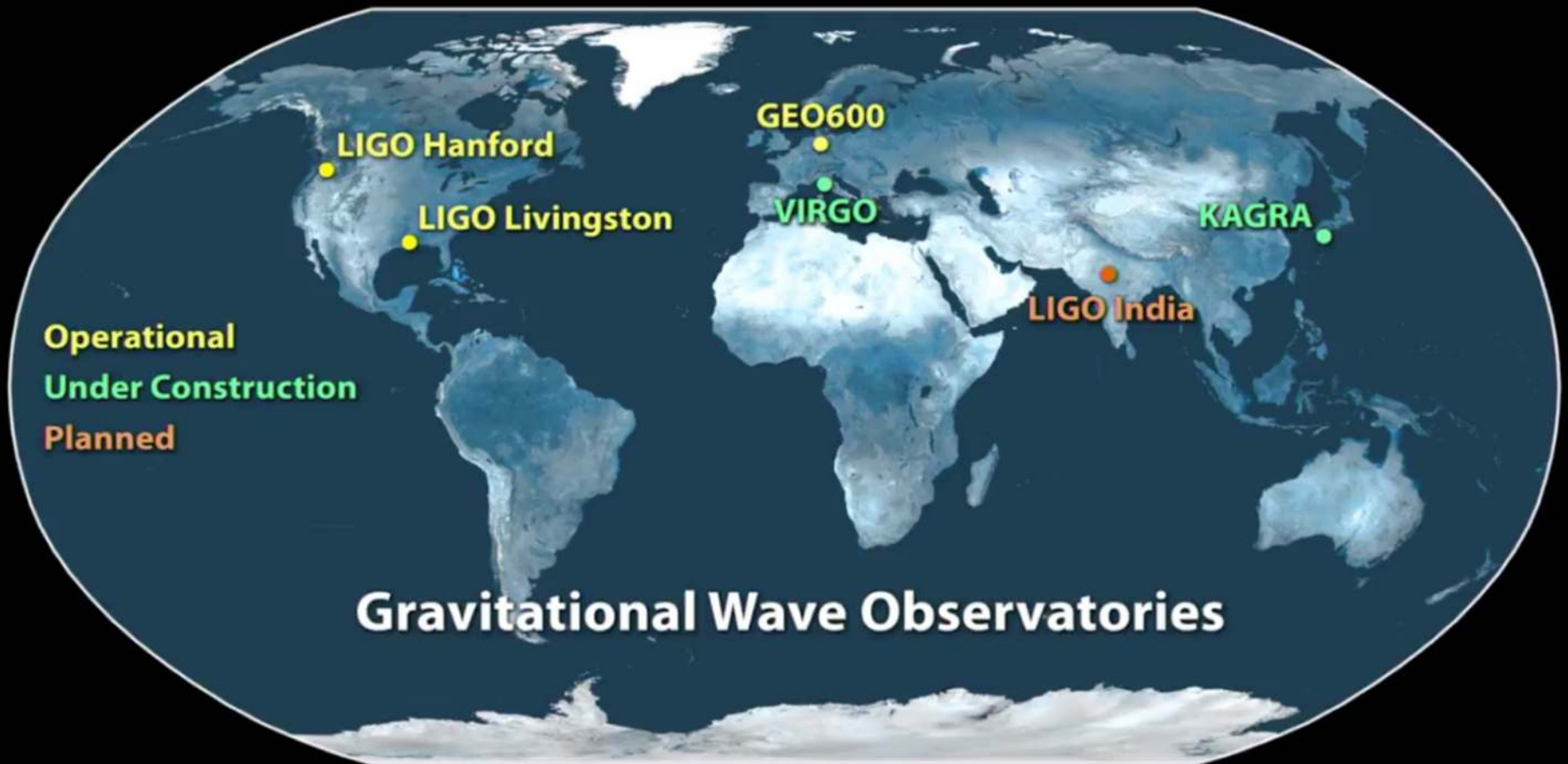
**Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics**  
**Telescope Control System**

**Partners: CDAC, PSL...**

# Global Network of GW Observatories

*Largest baseline provided by LIGO-India*

2023





# Discovery of the century

RINGDOWN

INSPIRAL

MERGER

## Hat trick

- Direct Detection of Gravitational Waves
- Direct Detection of a Blackhole
- First Detection of a Blackhole Binary System

- LIGO discovery paper has 37 authors from 9 Indian institutions,
- Over 60 Indian researchers in the Intl. LIGO Science Collab.
- The current FTE fraction in LSC is 5%, already 3<sup>rd</sup> largest outside USA.



# LIGO-India 'in principle' Approval

## By Indian Union cabinet on Feb 17, 2016

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Cabinet**

17-February-2016 14:55 IST

### **Cabinet grants 'in-principle' approval to the LIGO-India mega science proposal**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its 'in principle' approval to the LIGO-India mega science proposal for research on gravitational waves. The proposal, known as LIGO-India project (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory in India) is piloted by Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Science and Technology (DST). The approval coincides with the historic detection of gravitational waves a few days ago that opened up of a new window on the universe to unravel some of its greatest mysteries.

The LIGO-India project will establish a state-of-the-art gravitational wave observatory in India in collaboration with the LIGO Laboratory in the U.S. run by Caltech and MIT.

The project will bring unprecedented opportunities for scientists and engineers to dig deeper into the realm of gravitational wave and take global leadership in this new astronomical frontier.

LIGO-India will also bring considerable opportunities in cutting edge technology and will be engaged in the construction of eight kilometre long beam tube at ultra-high vacuum on

The project will motivate Indian students and young scientists to explore newer frontiers and give impetus to scientific research in the country.

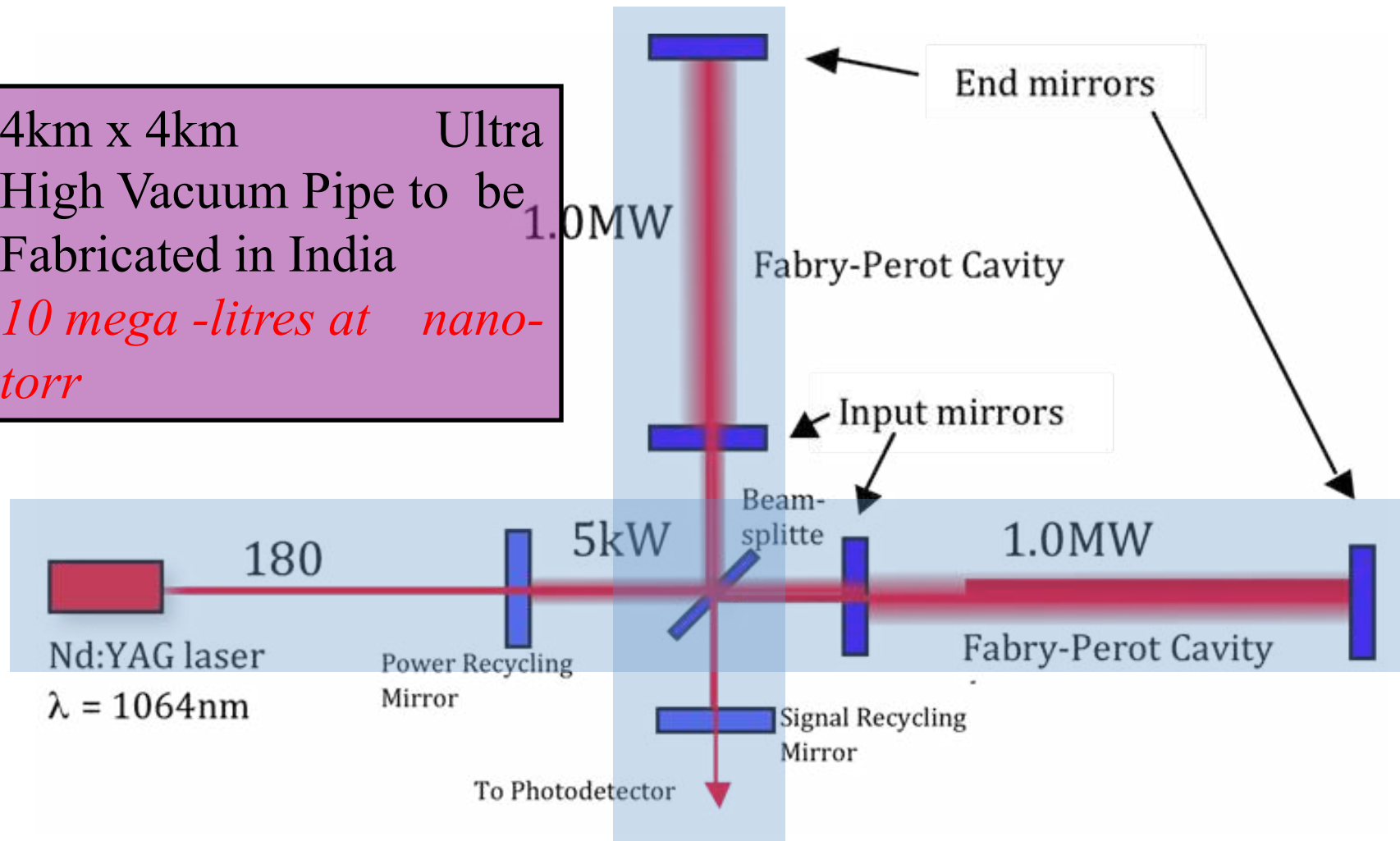
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# Schematic of the Advanced LIGO Detector

4km x 4km Ultra  
High Vacuum Pipe to be  
Fabricated in India

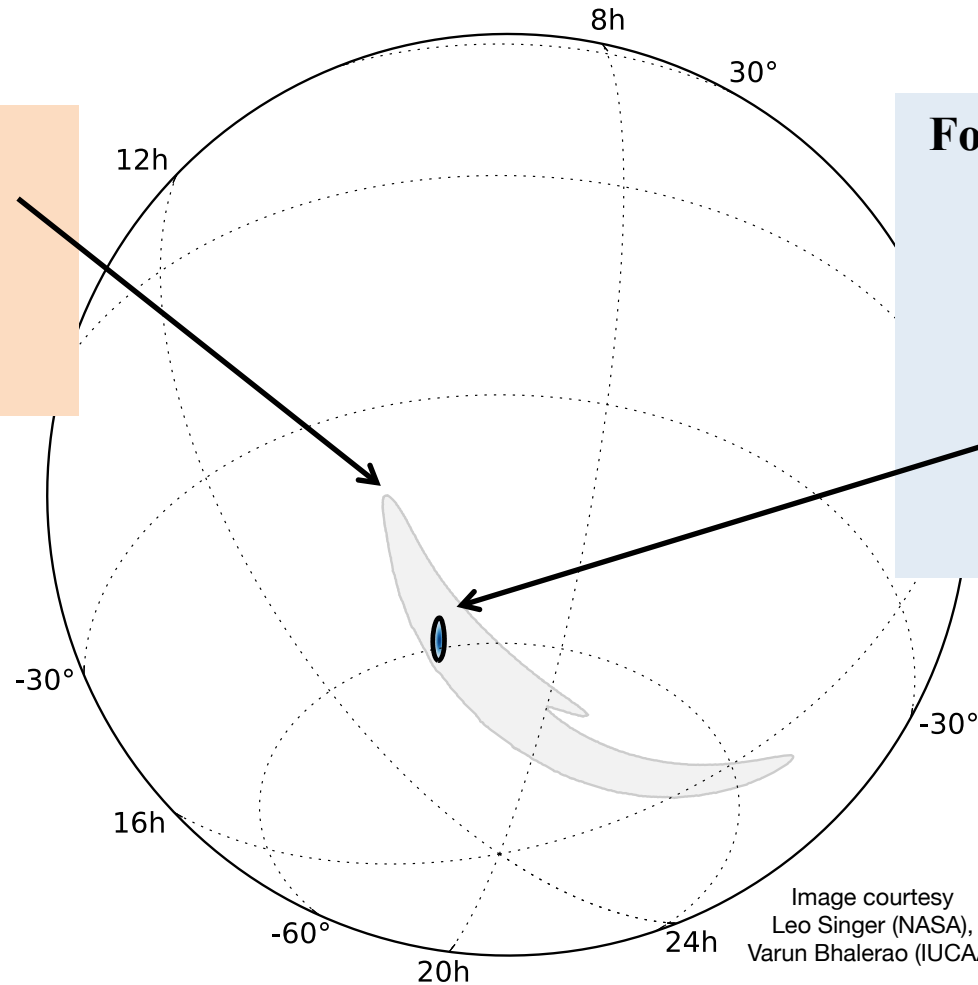
*10 mega-litres at nano-torr*







**Current:**  
Two US detectors  
sky-localization  
(620 square degree  
2500 full moons)



**Forecast : LIGO-India**  
in joint operation  
sky-localization  
100 time smaller  
(5 square degrees  
20 full moons) !!!

Image courtesy  
Leo Singer (NASA),  
Varun Bhalerao (IUCAA)



# **LIGO-India Project**

## **An Indo-US Collaboration**

**Funding agencies:** NSF (USA) and jointly DAE(India) & DST(India)

**Institutions:** LIGO Laboratories, Caltech & MIT (USA), IPR, IUCAA & RRCAT (India)

## **Proposed Indian commitment**

- **Construction and Operation of an Advanced LIGO Gravitational-wave observatory on Indian soil in collaboration with the LIGO Laboratory**
- **Infrastructure including 8 km of UHV system (10 million litres) with controls, installation of detector, as well as the team to build and operate the observatory.**

## **Proposed US commitment**

- **The entire hardware components of an advanced LIGO detector along with facility designs and software provided by LIGO-USA and its UK, German and Australian partners..**
- **Close collaboration, providing required training in technology and sharing experience.**

# LIGO DATA

- Time series data sampled at 16Hz - 16kHz
  - Thousands of monitoring channels
  - “science channels”: ~1% of total data
- LIGO data volume:
  - few MBps / detector x 1 year x 3 detectors
- Advanced LIGO data volume: ~1 petabyte / year



# LSC COMPUTING FACILITIES

- NEMO @ UWM (6914 cores)
- ATLAS @ AEI Hannover (6344 cores)
- Cluster at Tier-1 site Caltech (4236 cores)
- LHO (2300 cores), LLO (2032 cores)
- Clusters at Tier-2 sites MIT, UWM, PSU
- Clusters at GEO sites Birmingham, Cardiff
- SUGAR @ Syracuse (320 cores)





# LDAS @ IUCAA

- LDAS = LIGO Data Analysis System
- 105 computing nodes x 24 cores per node
  - about 100TF peak performance
  - memory 128GB or 256GB / node and 250TB storage
  - 10G interconnect
- Scope for GPU based codes: 10 NVIDIA K40 cards
- Authentication method: GSI enabled OpenSSH



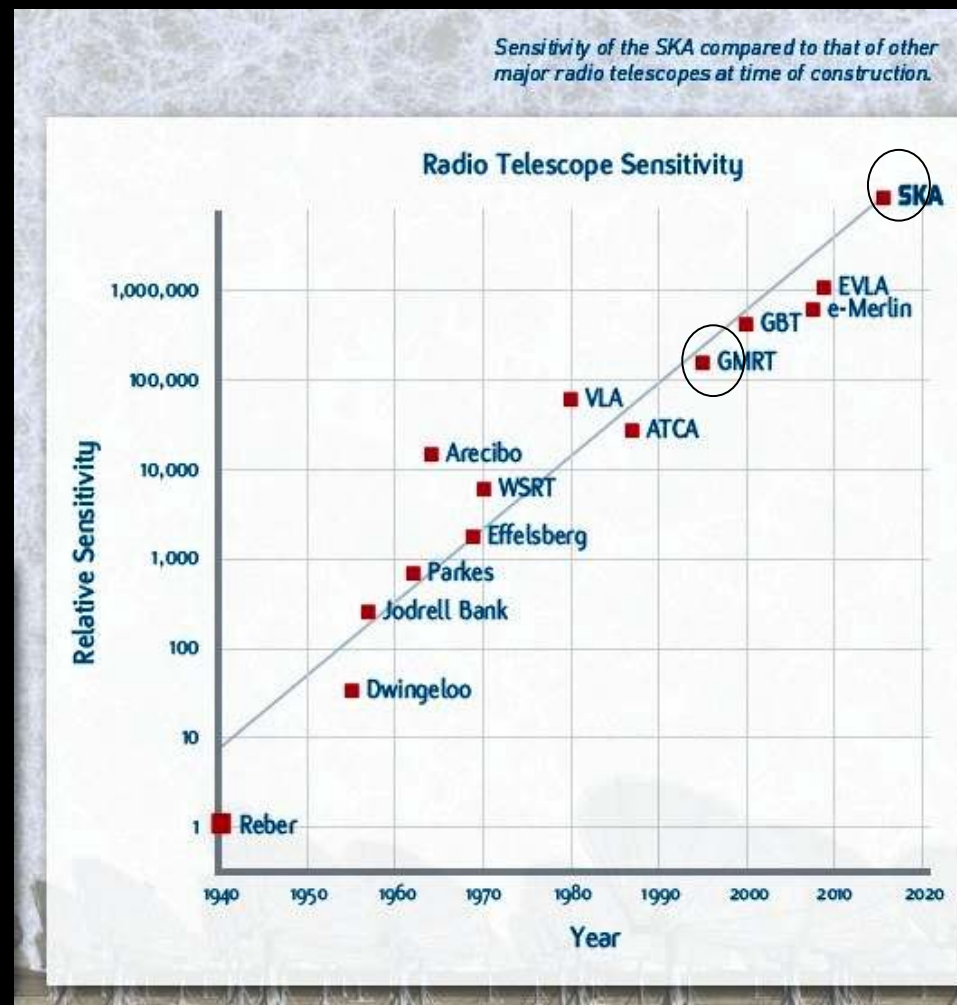
# FUTURE PLANS

- Tier-1 Data Centre
- Part of NKN big data project
  - storage ~1 PetaByte
  - will serve to the national community
  - may lead to national astronomical database
- $\geq 100$ TF computing cluster



# The SKA is the future of Radio Astronomy

- The SKA is the most ambitious radio astronomy project
- Science with the SKA will be truly revolutionary !
- SKA will drive the growth of many new & cutting edge technologies : from electronics to supercomputing to software
- All the major radio astronomy nations are members



**Radio telescope sensitivities over the years**  
**SKA will be 50x better than today's best !**

# Indian Participation in SKA : overview



- India has been part of SKA from the beginning & member of the formal organisation bodies (including the present “SKA Organisation”)
- Indian astronomers have been active participants in various SKA committees
- With 3% of full SKA collecting area, the GMRT project is an important low frequency radio telescope -- provides useful test-bed for SKA work
- Presently ongoing upgrade activities at GMRT provide for natural overlap & synergy with SKA efforts ; e.g. monitor and control systems with industry collaboration, development of next-gen signal processing platforms
- RRI's involvement in the MWA pathfinder project provides valued experience
- Both main science goals of SKA Phase I are active areas of research in India
- NCRA, working with partners from software research groups & industry, has taken a lead role in some of the work packages for design of the SKA



# ASTROSAT

## Space astronomy observatory of India

- India's multiwavelength space astronomy mission is aimed at studying the celestial sources in X-ray (0.3 - 100 keV), optical (320 – 550 nm), far UV (130 – 180 nm) and near UV (200 – 300nm) spectral bands simultaneously.
- Spacecraft and payloads are healthy. Payloads developed and operated by different centers of ISRO, TIFR, IIA, IUCAA, CSA, UoL, NCRA, PRL, RRI
- All the payloads are operational. Observations under progress.
- The preliminary results are made available at the ISRO website ([www.isro.gov.in](http://www.isro.gov.in)).

# Thirtieth consecutive success for PSLV



Lift-off from SHAR  
at 10:00 hrs IST  
on 28<sup>th</sup> Sep 2015



🚀 The spacecraft was launched successfully on 28th September 2015 from SDSC Sriharikota. **Orbit: 650 km, near-equatorial; Inclination:  $\leq 6$  degree.**

# Spacecraft – actual view

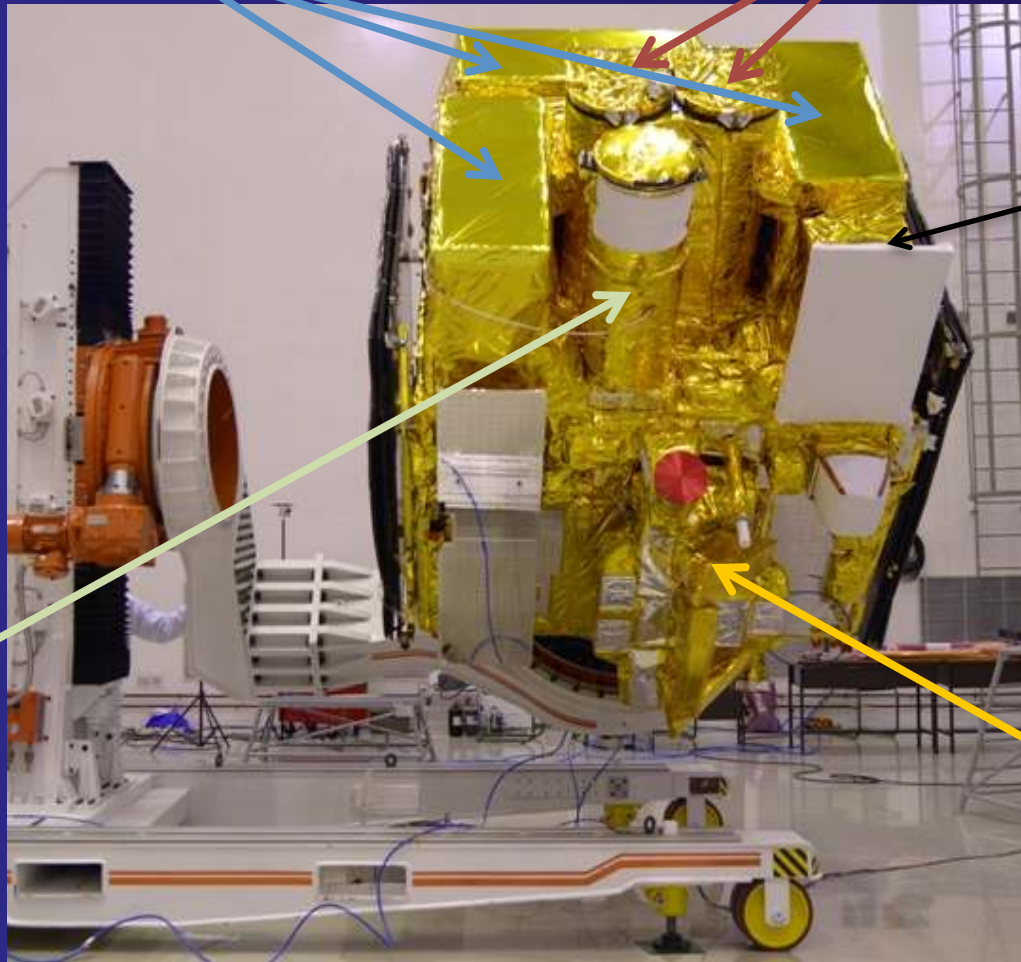
Large Area X-Ray Proportional Counter (LAXPC)

Ultra Violet Imaging Telescope (UVIT)

Cadmium Zinc Telluride Imager (CZTI)

Soft X-ray Telescope (SXT)

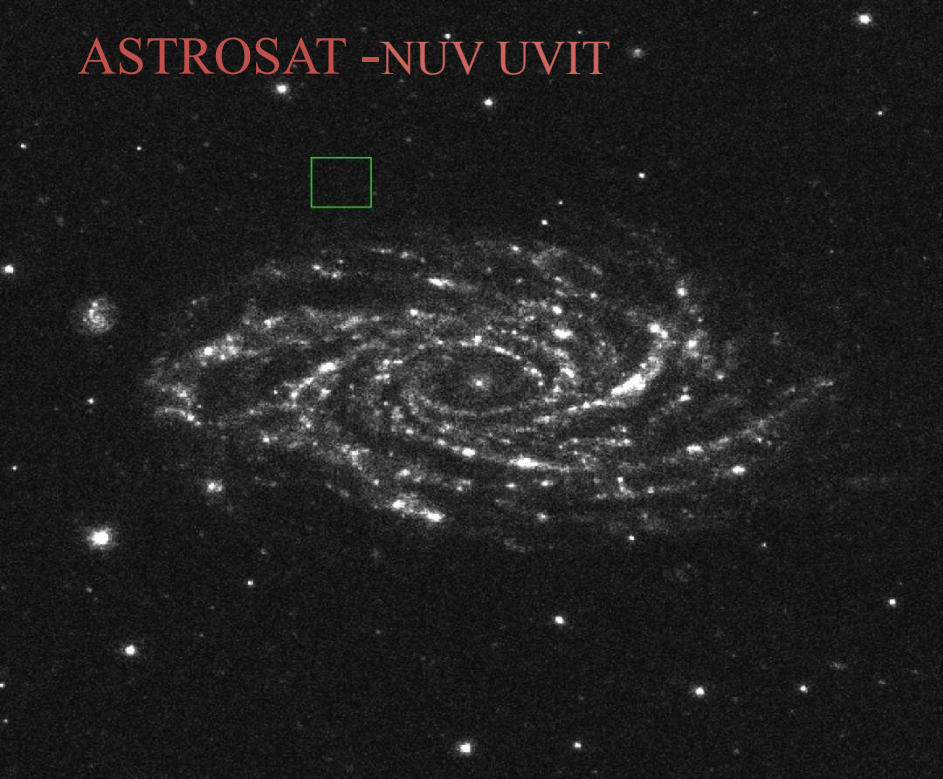
Scanning Sky Monitor (SSM)



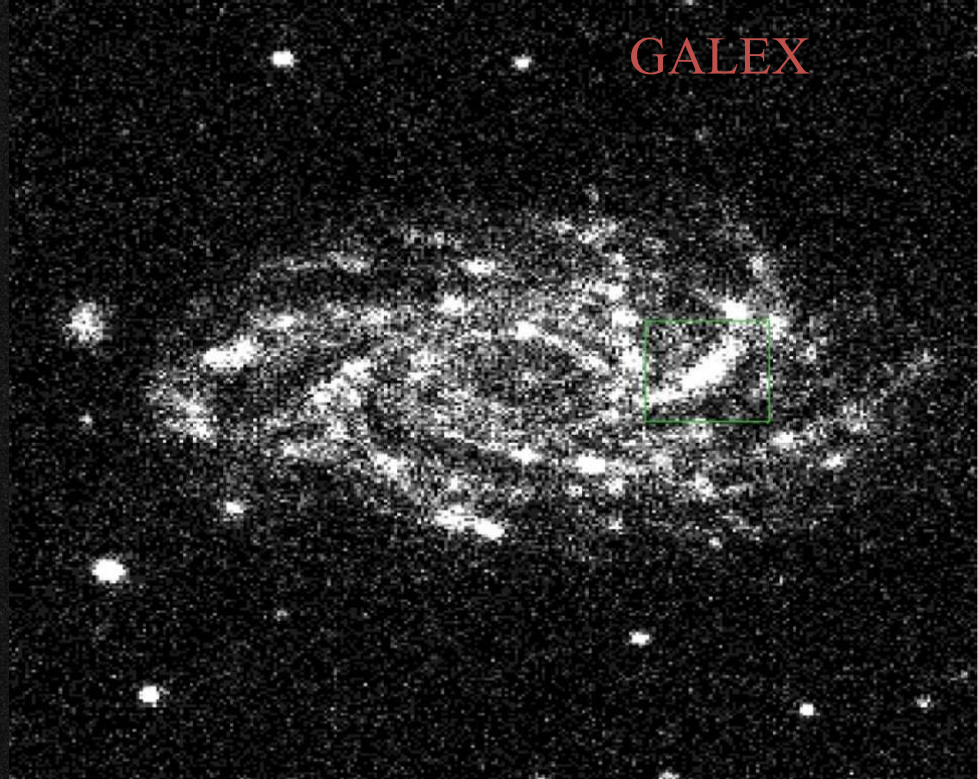
S/C in tilted position during pre-launch test at SHAR



ASTROSAT -NUV UVIT



GALEX



NGC 2336

# First Indian satellite to be operated as an Observatory



- **Performance Verification (PV):** First 6 months after launch; payloads switched ON in a sequence and their performance verified and calibrated; all the data belongs to payload teams.
- **Guaranteed Time (GT):** 6 months period after PV phase completion; reserved for observations from the payload teams.
- **Regular observations:** After completion of PV and GT; based on Announcement of Opportunity (AO) cycles; open to national and international user community
- **Target of Opportunity (ToO)** aimed at new transient sources which cannot be predicted in advance
- 2% of the observing time is reserved for **calibration** and for maintaining the health of the instruments
- **Observation time is planned to be made open** to Indian Scientists after first year of performance verification and international users after second year, on proposal basis.

# ASTROSAT Data Pipeline

- **Level 0 Data:** Raw Data, segregated by instrument, along with auxiliary data. Very instrument specific, not released for public use.
- **Level 1 Data:** Reorganized raw data in FITS format, along with auxiliary data needed for further processing. First released via the web to the instrument PI, then to other users.
- **Level 2 Data:** This contains standard science products obtained from Level 1 data. Released in FITS format in the same manner as Level 1 data.

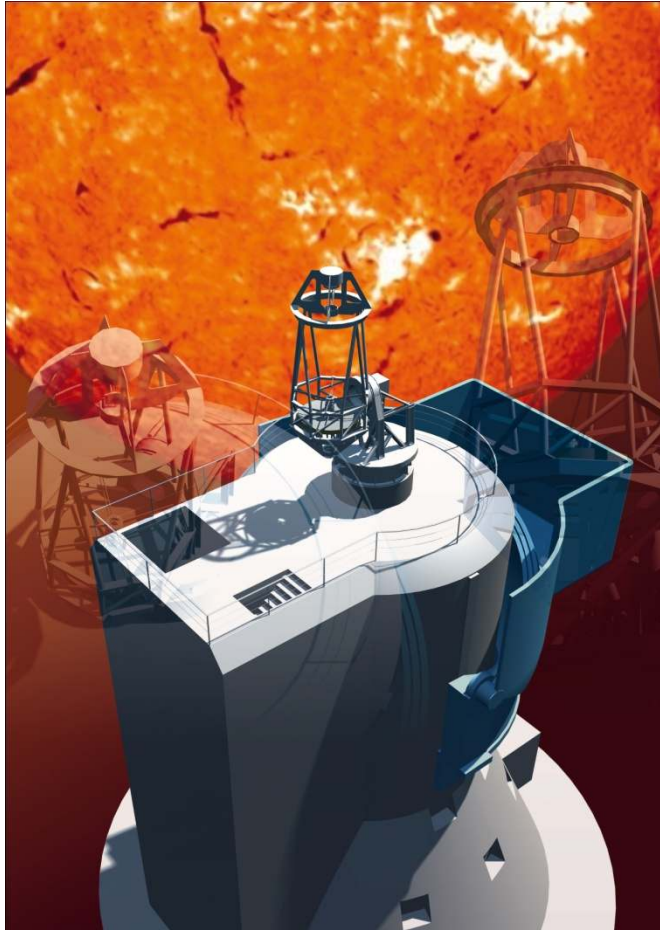


# ASTROSAT Data Rate

Instrument	Level 0 Data	Level 1 Data	Level 2 Data
UVIT	50 GB	50 GB	10 GB
XT-EPIC	2 GB	2 GB	20 GB
<p>LAXPC: A typical event file for a 10 ks exposure will be about 0.5-2 GB, depending on the brightness of the source.</p>			
SSM	3GB	3GB	0.5 GB
AUX	1 GB	1 GB	0.5 GB
<b>Total</b>	<b>64 GB per day</b>	<b>64 GB per day</b>	<b>32.5 GB per day</b>

**$\sim 12 \text{ TB yr}^{-1}$**

# THE NATIONAL LARGE SOLAR TELESCOPE (NLST)



# NLST IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

## NEW GENERATION SOLAR TELESCOPES

GREGOR	1.5 m	Germany	Tenerife (Spain)	2010
NST (New Solar Telescope)	1.6 m	U.S.A.	Big Bear (U.S.A.)	2009
NLST	2 m	India	Himalayas (India)	2020
ATST (Advanced Technology)	4m	USA	Haleakala (Hawaii, USA)	2018
EST (European Solar Technology)	4 m	European Consortium	Tenerife (Spain)	>2020
CGST (Chinese Giant Solar Telescope)	8 m	China	TBD	>2025 (?)

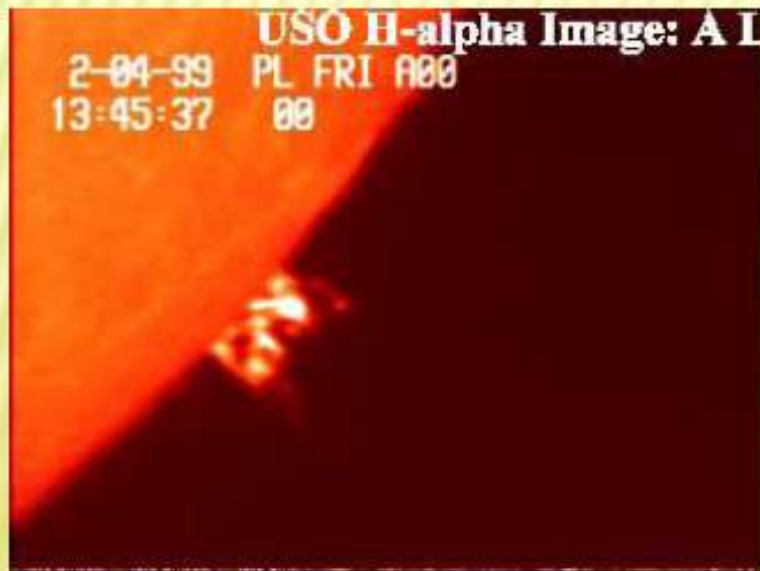


# Aditya-L1 Mission

## Proposed Indian solar observatory at L1

**Mission objective:** To design, realize and launch a satellite for solar studies to be placed in a halo orbit around the Lagrangian point 1 (L1) of the Sun-Earth system (1.5 million km from Earth; approximately  $1/100^{\text{th}}$  of AU).

**Scientific objective:** To study the solar dynamics in the chromosphere and corona with a suite of instruments including a coronagraph and a UV imager. The orbit around L1 provides continuous solar observations without any eclipse/occultation and is an excellent outpost outside Earth's magnetic field to make in-situ measurements of incoming charge particles.



*Initiation of mass ejection*

**Launch :** PSLV-XL

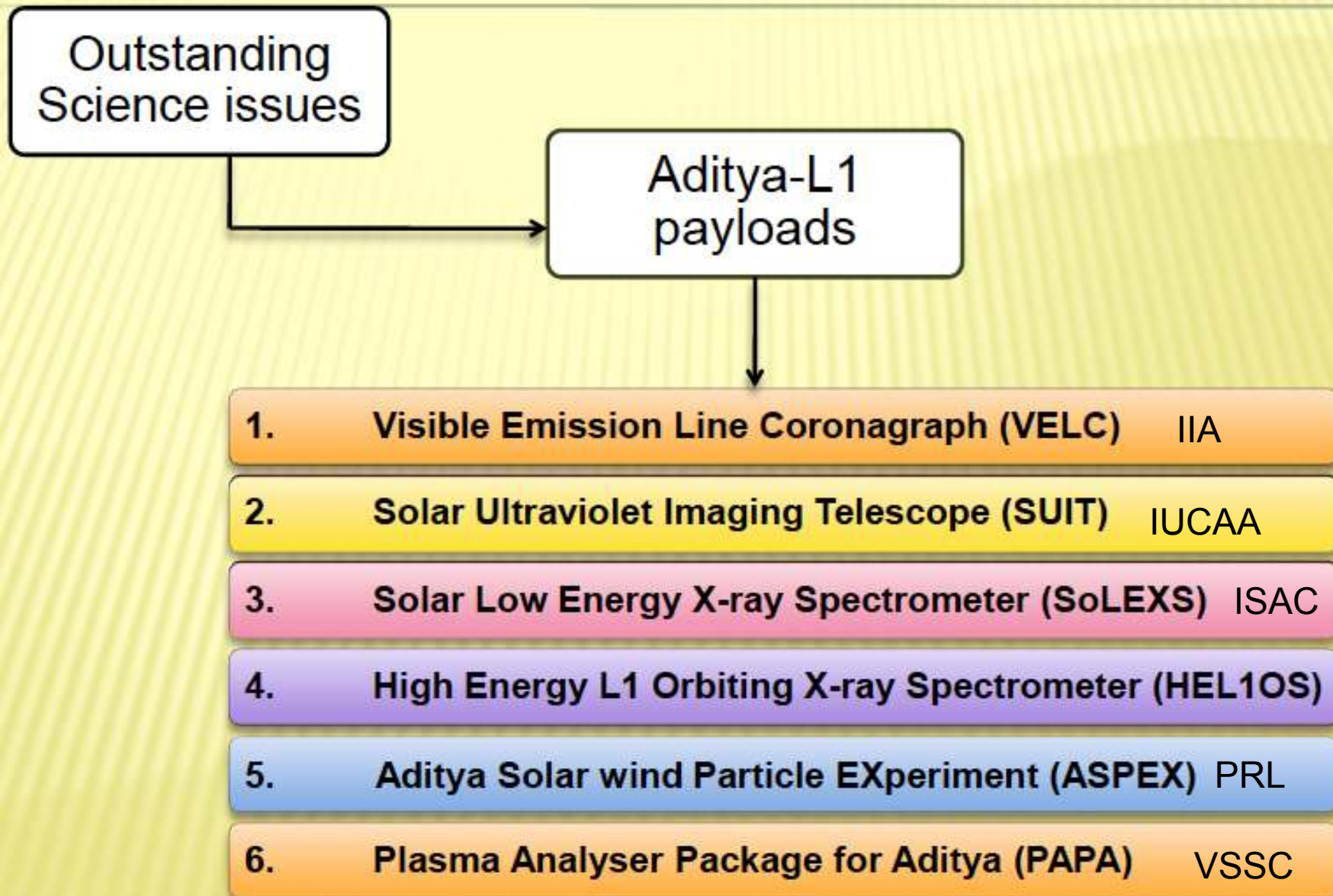
**Target :** 2018 – 2019

**L1 Orbit insertion :** ~ 100 days

**Mission life :** 5 years (nominal)



# Payloads selected for Aditya-L1



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High Performance Computing (HPC) plays an important role in both scientific advancement and economic competitiveness of a nation - making production of scientific and industrial solutions faster, less expensive, and of higher quality. HPC is a key component in many applications: designing vehicles and airplanes; designing high-rise buildings and bridges; discovery of drugs; discovery and extraction of new energy sources like oil and natural gas; weather forecasting; and many more.

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C-DAC embarked on its first HPC mission in 1988...

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C-DAC has commissioned and operates three national...

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The supercomputing systems and facilities of C-DAC...

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C-DAC embarked on its first HPC mission in 1988. Since then, it has delivered a series of supercomputing systems called PARAM series of supercomputers. These include:

- PARAM 8000, India's 1st Giga-scale supercomputer in 1990
- PARAM 10000, 100 Gigaflop supercomputer in 1998
- PARAM Padma, 1Teraflop supercomputer in 2002. This was India's first supercomputer to enter the Top500 list of supercomputers of the world (ranked 171 in June 2003)
- PARAM Yuva, a 54 Teraflop supercomputer in 2008 (ranked 69 in November 2008)
- PARAM Yuva II, a 529 Teraflop supercomputer in 2013 (ranked 69 in June 2013)
- PARAM Biochrome is an HPC cluster for Bioinformatics applications. The cluster has a compute capacity of 5 TeraFlops.
- PARAM Bio Blaze: A supercomputing facility with peak compute power of 10.65 TF, was launched on February 18, 2014 to address the challenges in bioinformatics

[PARAM Yuva II](#) (File Type: .pdf, File Size: 2.48MB, Updated on: Jan 2013), the latest in the series, is a eight-core, dual-socket node based hybrid compute cluster with multiple interconnects, compute co-processor, hardware accelerator, high performance storage and supporting softwares for parallel computing. It incorporates C-DAC's in-house technologies including PARAMNet-3 - a High Speed System Area Network, FPGA based hardware accelerators called Reconfigurable Computing System (RCS), a range of Systems and Applications Software components, and Industrial Design and Engineering of the whole system. PARAM Yuva II has sustained performance of 386.71 TF for LINPACK Benchmark and peak performance of 529.4TF. It has high bandwidth storage of 200 Terabytes.

## Products & Services



High Performance Computing,  
Grid & Cloud Computing



Multilingual Computing & Heritage  
Computing



Professional Electronics,  
VLSI & Embedded Systems



Software Technologies including FOSS



Cyber Security & Cyber Forensics



Health Informatics



Education & Training

## Related Links

# National Knowledge Network

- In March 2010, Govt. of India allocated ~1 billion USD for implementation of NKN
- To connect educational institutions, R & D institutions, health service facilities, agricultural institutions and libraries of the country

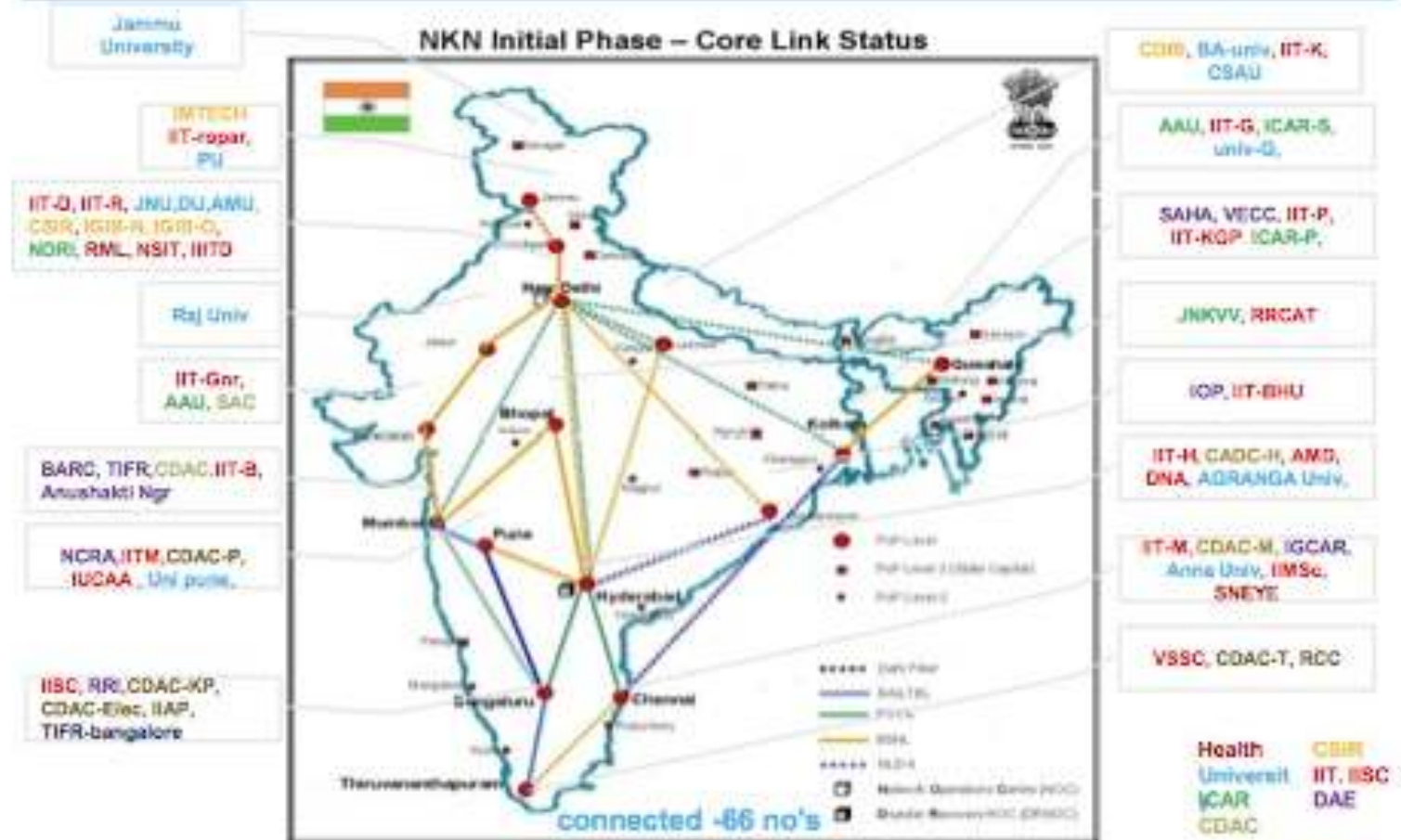


## Technical Overview

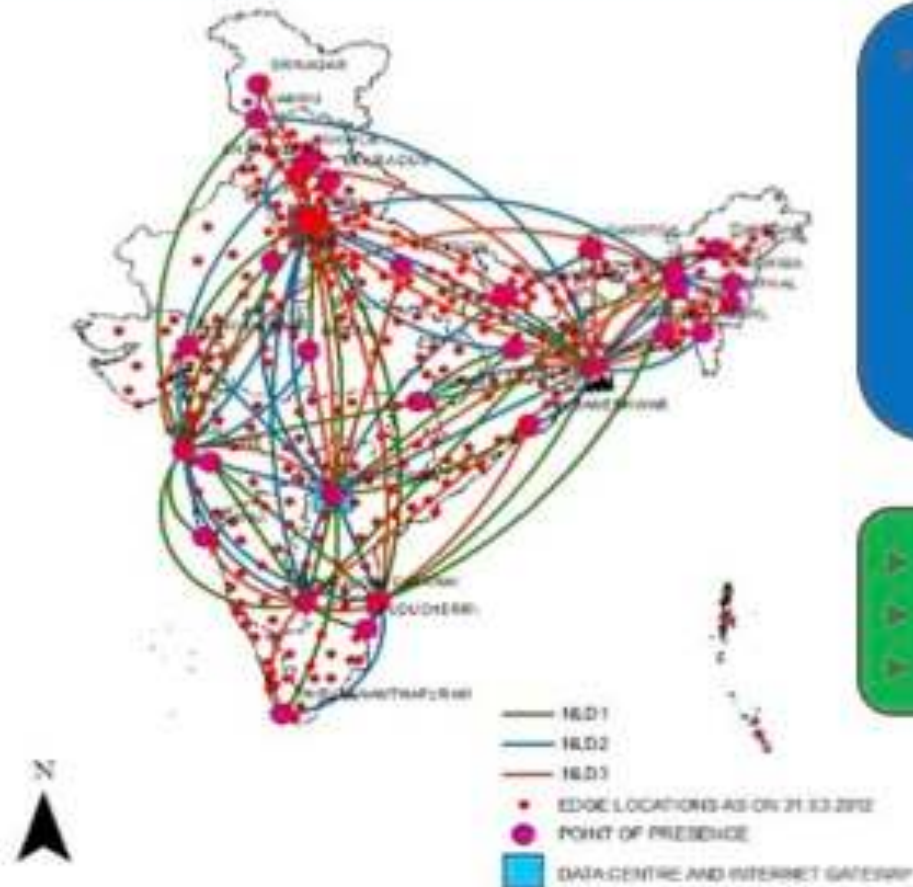
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- ▶ The backbone of the network starts from 2.5 Gbps and progressively moves onto 10 Gbps connectivity between 7 Supercore (fully meshed) locations across India.
- ▶ The network is further spread out through Core locations with multiple of 2.5/10 Gbps partially meshed connectivity with Supercore locations.
- ▶ The network architecture and governance structure allows users with options to connect to the distribution layer as well.
- ▶ For special interest groups, NKN enables Virtual Private Networks
- ▶ NKN provides international connectivity to its users for global collaborative research. Presently, NKN is connected to:
  - ▶ Trans Eurasia Information Network (TEIN3)
  - ▶ Similar connectivity to few other research networks is in the pipeline

## Connected Sites Under Initial Phase of NKN



## NKN: On Conclusion of Final Phase

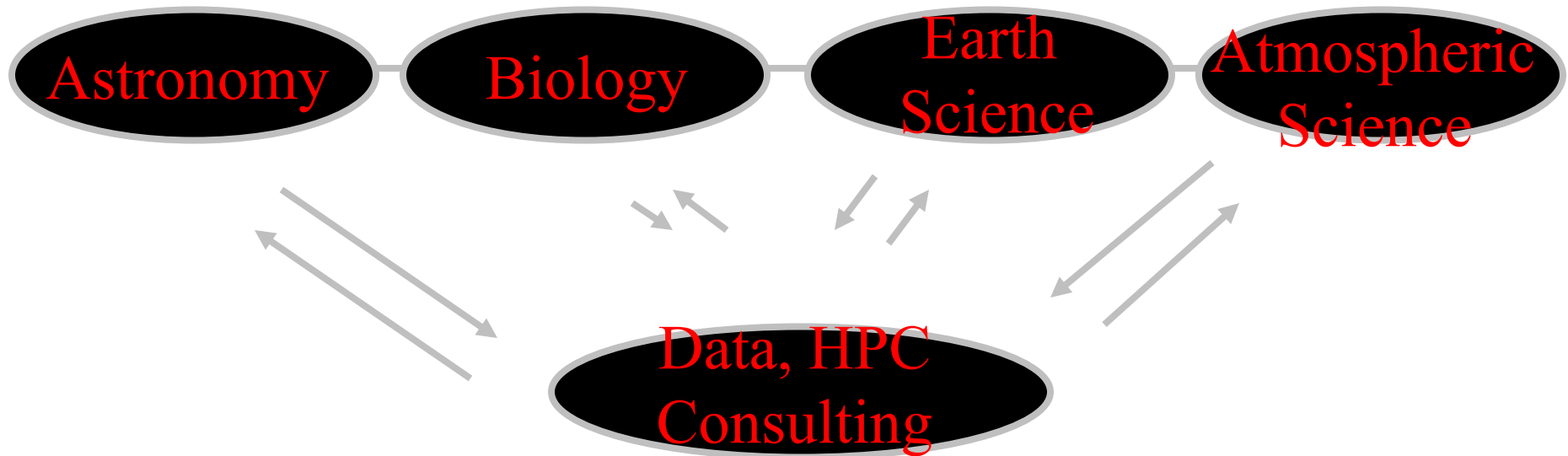


At the conclusion of the final phase, NKN shall have presence in more than 500 districts of India with connectivity to major research and education institutions

Points of Presence (PoP)	: 31
Backbone Links	: 89
Edge links	: 1500

# Big Data Infrastructure

Domain Specific Data Centres  
Few PByte Level

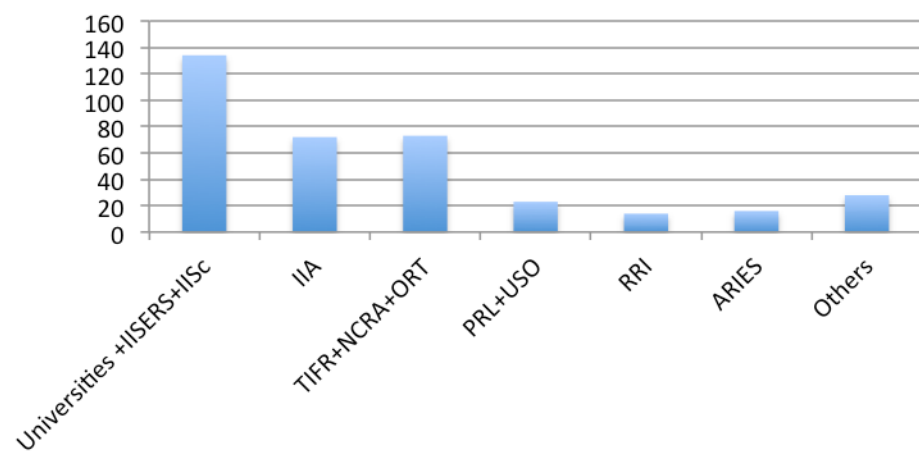


Main Data Centre  
Many PByte Level





**Total ~450**



**Human Resource**

## IAU Membership profile of BRICS

Country	IAU membership
Brazil	206
Russia	440
India	281
China	659
South Africa	118

## HRD requirements in Astronomy in the next 5-10 years

- LIGO – TMT – SKA – Aditya etc
- 800 Additional Active Astronomers

### Ways:

- Popularization at different levels
- More introductory workshops, advanced workshops
- Internships like Indigo summer internships
- Joint graduate schools for large groups – 20-50 students/yr
- Instrument and software development centers at universities
- Introduction of observatory fellowships
- Student fellowships at MS level like SKA
- Post-Doc Fellowships (SALT/TMT Post Doc. Fellowships)
- TMT faculty for universities
- Intake expansion of PhDs
- Job Opportunities

Thank You !