



# NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY 2026



**U R Rao Satellite Centre  
Indian Space Research Organisation  
Bengaluru - 560017**

## Sir C. V. Raman

Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman, born in Tiruchirappalli in Tamil Nadu on 7<sup>th</sup> November 1888, was a renowned Indian physicist, who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1930 for his ground-breaking work in Physics. His father Chandrasekara Iyer, was a lecturer in Mathematics and Physics. His mother was Parvati Ammal. Raman had a good and congenial environment from childhood to pursue intellectual activities. He passed his matriculation at the age of 11 and graduated from the Presidency College, Chennai with gold medals in Physics and English. He also passed the I.C.S. examination with flying colors.

In 1907, while still in his teens, he was posted as Assistant Accountant General in Calcutta. However, he pursued his research in physics at the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IACS). He studied the diffraction of light and his thesis on the subject was published in 1906. In 1907, he completed his Master's degree in Physics, at the age of 19. Raman was awarded the Doctorate degree in 1921 by Kolkata University. He studied the physics of musical instruments like Violin, Mridangam and Tabla. In 1924, he became a Fellow of the Royal Society. In 1925, he went to Russia to receive an honor from the Russian Academy of Sciences. In 1926, he launched the Indian Journal of Physics.

Once during his return from Europe on a ship, Raman was amazed by the blue colour of the sea. He did some experiments and during this voyage, Raman sent two papers to the journal Nature arguing that the colour of the sea was due to light scattering by the water molecules - a phenomenon he called molecular diffraction. Raman showed that the blue colour of the sea is due to molecular scattering and not due to reflection of the colour of the sky. Back home in India, Raman and his students studied the frequency shift of scattered light. The real discovery of the "Raman Effect" took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 1928 when he pointed a direct vision spectroscopy on the scattered track and observed that the scattered light contained not only the incident colour but at least one other which was a clear demonstration of change in wavelength due to scattering. His research on "Raman Effect" was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics by the Swedish Academy of Sciences in 1930. The Government of India honored him with Bharat Ratna award in 1954. He was also awarded Lenin Peace Prize in 1958. He believed that his life was reserved for science.

**The day on which Raman effect was discovered i.e. 28<sup>th</sup> February, has been declared as National Science Day since the year 1987 by the Government of India.**



भारत सरकार  
अंतरिक्ष विभाग  
यू.आर. राव उपग्रह केंद्र  
पोस्ट बॉक्स सं. १७९७, एच.ए.एल. एयरपोर्ट रोड  
विमानपुरा पोस्ट, बेंगलूरु - ५६००१७, भारत



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Department Of Space  
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**Ramesh Naidu V**

Chairperson, Organising Committee, NSD-2026  
Chief General Manager, Facilities Area  
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06-February-2026

**Dear Sir / Madam,**

**Sub:** Celebration of National Science Day (NSD) – 2026

Government of India has marked 28<sup>th</sup> February of every year to celebrate the National Science Day to commemorate the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' by the Nobel Laureate and outstanding Indian Physicist Sir. C.V. Raman in the year 1928. This day is celebrated across India with great passion and enthusiasm to instill the spirit of scientific reasoning and inquiry in young minds.

U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC), a pioneering establishment under Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for leading research and development of Satellite technology, is organising multiple events on the occasion of National Science Day. I would like to invite students and teachers to participate in the various events planned on 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2026. All the prize winners will be invited to participate in the valedictory function on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The details are provided in the brochure. There are limited number of seats for all the events and prior registration is mandatory.

On behalf of the NSD-2026 organising committee, I once again extend my warm welcome to the students and teachers to participate in the National Science Day programme at URSC.

Looking forward to an enthusiastic participation.

Regards,

(Ramesh Naidu V)

## National Science Day 2026, U R Rao Satellite Centre – Event Matrix

Sl.No	Event	Category/Class/Std			Date, Time & Venue	Convener
		A: I – IV	B: V- VII	C: VIII-X		
1	<b>Model Making</b> (Max. 25 teams for category B and Max. 25 teams for category C)		1 team of 3 students per school	1 team of 3 students per school	21-02-2026 Category B : 09:30 AM to 11:30 AM Category C : 09:30 AM to 11:30 AM Near Pathway around URSC Lawn, URSC	Sharanappa S
2	<b>Test of Scientific Temper</b> (Max 180 students)			1 team of 3 students per school	21-02-2026 09:30 AM to 12:30 PM Satish Dhawan Auditorium 1 <sup>st</sup> floor Main Building, URSC	Ravishankar B T
3	<b>Teachers' Insight</b> (Max 15 teachers)	1 teacher per school			21-02-2026 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM MOCC Conference hall 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor Main Building, URSC	Revanna K
4	<b>Extempore Science Elocution</b> (Max 30 students per category)		1 student per school	1 student per school	21-02-2026 Category B: 09:30 AM to 11:30 AM Category C: 02:00 PM to 04:00 PM HRDD conference hall 1 <sup>st</sup> floor Main Building, URSC	Rupali Sahu
5	<b>Spot Painting</b> (Max 100 students)	2 students per school	2 students per school	2 students per school	21-02-2026 09:30 AM to 11:30 AM Parking Bay Below Canteen, URSC	Anitha B R
6	<b>Science in Action</b> (Max 40 students per category)		1 student per school	1 student per school	21-02-2026 09:30 AM to 12:30 PM Foyer in front of Auditorium 1 <sup>st</sup> floor Main Building, URSC	Chidambar Kulkarni
7	<b>Science Quiz</b> (Max 60 teams)			1 team of 3 students per school	21-02-2026 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM – Prelims URSC Main Canteen 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM – Finals Satish Dhawan Auditorium 1 <sup>st</sup> floor Main Building, URSC	Vishwanath Tirlapur

# **Event # 1**

## **Model Making**

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**Date : 21-02-2026**

**Time : 09:30 to 11:30 Hrs. for Category B & C**  
**(Reporting time at URSC Reception by 8:30 Hrs)**

**Venue : Near Pathway around URSC Lawn, Main Building, URSC**

**No. of participants : 1 team of 3 students per School**

**Eligibility:** Category B (V to VII Std.) & Category C (VIII to X Std.)

### **Details :**

#### **Category B: Space Model Making Competition**

**General Theme:** Satellite / Launch Vehicle Model

**Description:** This competition challenges students to design and create Satellite / Launch Vehicle Model using given materials like thick paper sheets, pins, glue, etc. The model may have to include visible details such as solar panels, antennae, antenna reflectors, thrusters, payloads (camera, telescope, etc.), launch vehicle stages, strap-on boosters, fins, heat shield, etc. Name/type of the satellite or launch vehicle and the specific details of the same will be announced before start of the event. Students are expected to use their creativity and knowledge to build a model meeting the requirements. Participants should think about how to use the available materials effectively to create a meaningful representation of the satellite / launch vehicle.

#### **Category C: Contraption Experiment**

**General Theme:** Innovative Contraptions- Exploring Mechanisms and Problem-Solving using general science principle.

**Description:** This competition invites students to create a working model designed to perform a simple task using given materials like thick paper sheets, pins, glue, spring, rubber bands, ice cream sticks, straw, pipes, pulleys, balloons, etc. For example, students might need to create a working model like, but not limited to, water syphon, air propelled vehicle, hydraulic lift, earthquake tower, straw bridge, winding machine, marble maze, gear train, ornithopter/airplane, tensegrity, paper roller coaster, etc. Students should to use their creativity and knowledge to build the working model meeting the requirements.

#### **Points to note - for both categories:**

1. The competition will begin with a briefing (5 - 10 minutes) on the day of the event, where the topic / task will be revealed.
2. Maximum of two hours will be provided to build the models / contraptions.
3. No external materials / tools are allowed. Only the materials provided during the event can be used.

**Points to note - for Category B:**

1. Teams must present their models to judges in 2 minutes with a brief explanation of the idea, design, and construction process.
2. While evaluating, the emphasis will be placed on the originality of the model, the creativity in using materials, and representation of all the features listed.

**Points to note - for Category C:**

1. Participants will design & build their model, demonstrate working of the model and explain the design, working principle & steps involved.
2. The evaluation will focus on creativity, innovation, and how effectively the model functions.

**Contact Person for clarifications:**

**Convener** : Sharanappa S

**E-mail** : [nsd-model@ursc.gov.in](mailto:nsd-model@ursc.gov.in)

## Event #2

### Test of Scientific Temper (What, Why & How of Things)

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**Date :** 21-02-2026

**Time :** 09:30 to 12:30 Hrs

**(Reporting time at URSC Reception by 08:30 Hrs)**

**Venue :** Satish Dhawan Auditorium, 1<sup>st</sup> floor main building, URSC

**No. of Participants :** 1 team of 3 students per School

**Eligibility:** Category-C (VIII to X Std).

#### **Details :**

This competition is mainly to test the approach and reasoning ability of students to happenings related to normal day-to-day activities and observations of things around them.

Some of those inquisitive questions could be as follows:

- How a human can fly around earth?
- Why do you feel breathless while running?
- Why do we see only one face of the moon always?

The students are expected to answer based on scientific principles/concepts. The event ***Test of Scientific Temper*** tries to explore scientific awareness among student community. The solution should cover the understanding of problem, equipment required, principle of operations, logic and reasoning for choosing solution (whatever applicable to problem). For example, when asked, "how a human can fly around earth?", in proposed solution(s) candidate should think about environment in which human need to fly, the equipment required to fly around.

#### **Points to note:**

1. This is a team event with 3 students in each team.
2. Event consists of be two rounds - Preliminary written round with questions in English followed by the Final round for six finalist teams. Team can present in English, Hindi and /or Kannada in Final round.
3. Sheets will be supplied. Students should bring pens/pencils and writing pads.
4. Solutions need to be brief and focused. Original ideas, approach and answers will be appreciated.
5. While evaluating an answer, emphasis will be given for the understanding of basic scientific principles and approach to solve problem rather than solution of the problem.

#### **Contact person for clarifications:**

**Convener** : Ravishankar B T

**E-mail** : [nsd-tst@ursc.gov.in](mailto:nsd-tst@ursc.gov.in)

# Event #3

## Teachers' Insight

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**Date : 21-02-2026**

**Time : 10:00 to 12:30 Hrs**

**(Reporting time at URSC Reception by 08:30 Hrs)**

**Venue : MOCC Conference hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Main Building, URSC**

**No. of Participants : One teacher per School**

**Eligibility:** Teachers

**Topic: "The synergy of intellect: Human-AI collaboration in Modern Science"**

### **Details :**

The synergy between human intuition and Artificial Intelligence is a transformative "force multiplier" for discovery. While AI acts as a computational engine, processing vast datasets and simulating complex scenarios at superhuman speeds, it lacks the creative spark and ethical judgment of the human mind. In this partnership, humans serve as the architects of inquiry—defining vision and moral boundaries—while AI handles the high-volume "drudgery" that previously slowed progress.

For educators, the mission is to teach students to master this interface. By wielding AI as a collaborative tool, the next generation can solve the universe's greatest mysteries with unprecedented precision.

One teacher, authorized by the Head of each School, is required to send a single page essay to NSD organisers through email as a file attachment. These essays will be evaluated and about 15 teachers will be shortlisted to participate in the Panel discussion on February 21, 2026 at URSC. Focus of the essay writing and the Panel discussion will be on the theme of Human-AI collaboration in Modern Science.

### **Points to note:**

1. The essay (one page) shall be in PDF format and written in English language.
2. Name of the Teacher and School shall be clearly written at the top of Essay.
3. **The essay shall be sent to the below mentioned e-mail id on or before 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026 (22:00 Hrs)** along with teacher's full name, School address & their e-mail ID in the mail content.
4. Shortlisted teachers for Panel discussion will be informed via e-mail on 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026.
5. The Panel discussion at URSC / ISRO will be conducted in two rounds.
6. Medium of instructions will be in English.
7. While evaluating the essays, emphasis will be given for content, writing skill, originality, innovative ideas and language.

8. Time management, communication skills, content and active / engaging participation in discussions, will be the evaluation criteria for Panel discussion.

**Contact person for clarifications:**

**Convener** : Revanna K

**E-mail** : [nsd-te@ursc.gov.in](mailto:nsd-te@ursc.gov.in)

# Event # 4

## Extempore Science Elocution

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**Date** : 21-02-2026

**Time** : 09:30 to 11:30 Hrs. for Category B

(Reporting time at URSC Reception by 8:30 Hrs)

14:00 to 16:00 Hrs for Category C

(Reporting time at URSC Reception by 13:00 Hrs)

**Venue:** HRDD Conference Hall, Main Building, URSC

**No. of participants:** One student per category per school; Max 2 students per school

**Eligibility:** Category-B (V to VII Std), Category-B (VIII to X Std)

### **Details :**

This event aims at improving student's oratory skills as well as testing their knowledge about general science. It is an individual event. Students are expected to speak for 3 (three) minutes on a topic picked 10 minutes earlier. All topics will be related to science and well-known scientists. Best talk will be selected for the award of prizes based on the content, coherence and oratory skill.

### **Points to note :**

1. Students must not bring any reference materials, book or notebook inside the event hall.
2. Students must not use any presentation material/ projector while presenting their topic. This event is entirely oratorical in nature.
3. Change of assigned topic to any student is not allowed in any condition.
4. The judgement by respective judges will be final. No change in the result will happen for any given condition.
5. Judgement will be based on speaking skills, assertiveness, fluency, knowledge on the topic, in-time completion. There are four prizes on each category.
6. Elocution by students shall be in English language.
7. Be present in the hall 15 minutes before the event timing.

### **Contact person for clarifications:**

**Convener** : Rupali Sahu

**E-mail** : [nsd-ext@ursc.gov.in](mailto:nsd-ext@ursc.gov.in)

# Event # 5

## Spot Painting

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**Date :** 21-02-2026

**Time :** 09:30 to 11:30 Hrs. for Category A, Category B and Category C  
(Reporting time at URSC Reception by 08:30 Hrs)

**Venue :** Parking Bay (Below Canteen), URSC

**No. of participants:** Two students per category per school; Max 6 students per school

**Eligibility:** Category-A (I to IV Std), Category-B (V to VII Std), Category-B (VIII to X Std).

### Points to note:

- Students shall bring necessary drawing and painting materials (Pencils, Colors, Crayons, Brushes etc.).
- Drawing sheet of size 450 mm x 350 mm will be supplied by the organisers.
- Topic will be announced on the spot just prior to the Event.
- Maximum 2 hours will be provided to the participants to complete the painting.

### Contact person for clarifications:

**Convener** : Anitha B R

**E-mail** : [nsd-pc@ursc.gov.in](mailto:nsd-pc@ursc.gov.in)

# Event # 6

## Science in Action

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**Date :** 21-02-2026

**Time :** 09:30 to 12:30 Hrs

**(Reporting time at URSC Reception by 08:30 Hrs)**

**Venue :** Foyer in front of Auditorium, 1<sup>st</sup> floor Main building, URSC

**No. of participants :** One student per category per school; Max 2 students per school)

**Eligibility:** Category B(V to VII std); Category C (VIII to X std)

### **Details :**

- 'Science in Action' is an interactive demonstration of scientific experiments for the participants to test the understanding of basic principles in science.
- In this event science experiments will be demonstrated and the students will be asked to write answers to a short quiz based on the experiments.

### **Points to note:**

1. Sheets will be supplied for the quiz. Students should bring pens/pencils and writing pads.

### **Contact person for clarifications:**

**Convener** : Chidambar Kulkarni

**E-mail** : [nsd-sa@ursc.gov.in](mailto:nsd-sa@ursc.gov.in)

# Event # 7

## Science Quiz

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**Date : 21-02-2026**

**Time : 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM – Prelims**

**(Reporting time at URSC Reception by 08:30 Hrs)**

**Venue: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, URSC Main Canteen, URSC**

**Time: 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM – Finals**

**Venue: Satish Dhawan Auditorium, 1<sup>st</sup> floor main building, URSC**

**No. of participants: 1 team of 3 students per School**

**Eligibility: Category-C(VIII to X Std)**

### **Details:**

- This event aims at inculcating interest in science and technology amongst students and also assessing the knowledge about basic science and latest technologies.

### **Points to note:**

1. The quiz will be conducted in two phases. The first phase will be the preliminary round. This will be in the form of written test.
2. The top six teams of the preliminary round will be shortlisted for the final round. The final round will be oral quiz form.
3. The topics covered will be from various facets of science.

### **Contact Person for clarifications:**

**Convener** : Vishwanath Tirlapur

**E-mail** : [nsd-sq@ursc.gov.in](mailto:nsd-sq@ursc.gov.in)

## General Instructions

1. All participants (students / teachers) and accompanying teachers coming to URSC shall carry their school Identity Card.
2. All the students must be accompanied by their respective teachers only.
3. Participants have to be present **at least 1 hour prior to start of the event**.
4. The registrations for all the events shall be made by the school representatives through online mode only on NSD website <https://www.ursc.gov.in/science-promotion/nsd-2026>

**Individual registrations (by students / parents) are not entertained.**

**After registration, the participants will get an acknowledgement email and registration number.**

5. **As the no. of participants for each event is limited (as per event matrix), the registration will be automatically closed upon reaching the targeted limit ('first come first serve' basis). Spot registrations are strictly not allowed.**
6. **Online registration alone does not confirm participation in the events. Invitation for participation will be sent by the organisers prior to the event, which need to be shown at the time of entry on the day of event.**
7. Names of prize winners will be announced by 26<sup>th</sup> February on the NSD website.
8. Prizes will be distributed during the NSD valedictory function on **28<sup>th</sup> February, 2026 starting at 10:00 Hours**. All the prize winners are requested to attend the Valedictory function.
9. All participants will be given "**Participation Certificate**" on the day of the event.
10. Snacks packet will be given at URSC reception at NSD registration counter.
11. Lunch will be served to the **participants (students / teachers) and accompanying teachers** on 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026 **between 12:30 to 13:30 PM**.
12. School have to make their own transport arrangements for the teachers and the participants. **There is no provision for stay/accommodation for participating students and teachers.**
13. **Mobile phones, CDs, pen drives, cameras, bags or any other electronic items** are not permitted inside the URSC campus as per rules. Participants / visitors are requested not to bring any such item. In case such items are brought, own arrangements need to be made for safe keeping of the same.
14. Participants need to bring pen/pencil/eraser/writing pad as required for events.
15. Medium of conduct of events will be in English.

<b>Important Dates:</b>	
<b>Registration Lines Open on</b>	<b>06<sup>th</sup> February, 2026</b>
<b>Last Date for Registration</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> February, 2026 (if targeted no. of participants is reached, registration will be closed earlier)</b>
<b>Event Date</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> February, 2026</b>
<b>Announcement of Winners</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> February, 2026</b>
<b>Valedictory Function</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> February, 2026</b>

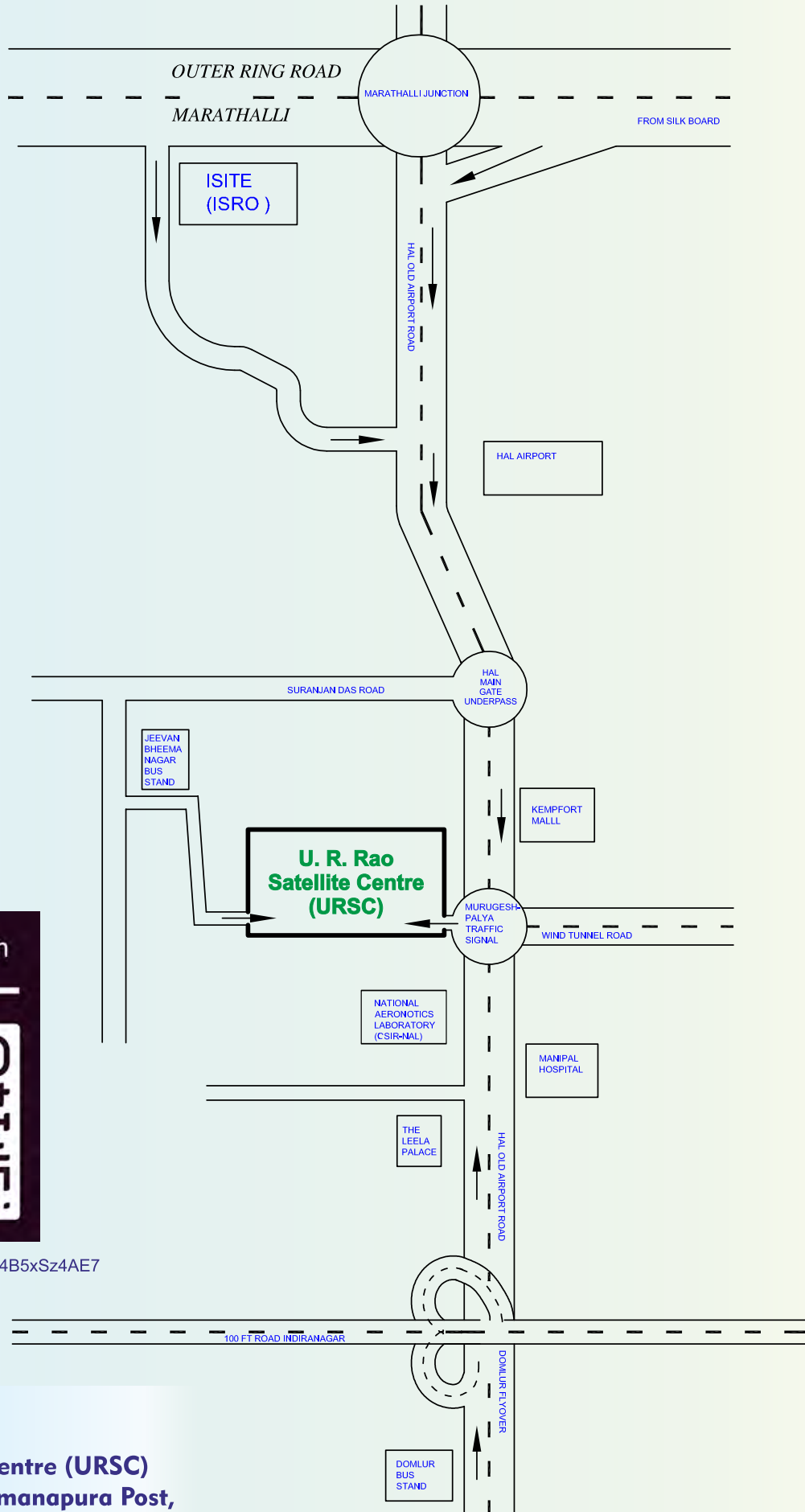
**Contact Details for any queries related to NSD-2026 :**

**Email :** [nsd@ursc.gov.in](mailto:nsd@ursc.gov.in)

**Telephone :** 080 - 25082170 (Member Secretary) or 080-25082263(NSD Office)  
between 09:00 hours and 16:30 hours on all working days

**Website :** <https://www.ursc.gov.in/science-promotion/nsd-2026/index.jsp>

# U R RAO SATELLITE CENTRE ROUTE MAP



URSC Location

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/yBP1B6D4B5xSz4AE7>

Venue:

**U. R. Rao Satellite Centre (URSC)**  
Old Airport Road, Vimanapura Post,  
Bengaluru - 560017



# Building Satellites for the Nation

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यू.आर.राव उपग्रह केंद्र  
U.R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE

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