



Students take part in activities during the National Space Day programme at Raman Research Institute on Friday.

Cosmic dawn, sunspots: Schoolchildren get rare glimpse into space science

BENGALURU, DHNS: Close to 150 school students from Bengaluru explored space science through hands-on activities at a National Space Day programme at the Raman Research Institute (RRI) on Friday.

The students, from government and private schools, participated in live science and space-themed experiments and demonstrations, allowing them to engage with scientific concepts through practical activities rather than classroom lessons. They also interacted with RRI researchers and asked questions about astronomy, space missions and scientific research.

One of the areas introduced to the students was PRATUSH (Probing Reionisation of the Universe using Signal from Hydrogen), an RRI-led space-based experiment designed to study faint radio signals from

hydrogen dating back to the early universe. The experiment seeks to study the period known as the Cosmic Dawn and Epoch of Reionisation, when the first stars and galaxies began to emerge.

RRI Director Tarun Souradeep said such programmes were important because institutions engaged in basic science had a responsibility to keep the public informed about research.

“Space Day and Science Day are opportunities for us to reach out to the public about the kind of work we are doing with the taxpayers’ money. I feel it is our responsibility. It is also an opportunity to attract young people to the charm of doing basic sciences,” he said.

The programme also included tours of the Raman Museum and Archival Gallery, where students viewed scientific exhibits and archival material.