

## Science express Exhibition train in Kamakhya



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Daya Nath Singh 27 April 2009 9086 views

Science Express is a state-of-art science exhibition on a train traveling about 17,000 kilometers and covering 51 cities around the country in the current phase. It is a modified version of the earlier Science Express, an Indo-German collaborative project that was flagged off by Indian Prime Minister, Dr Man Mohan Singh and German Chancellor Dr Angela Merkel. It was visited by 22.53 lakh people in 57 cities across India.

The 16 coach, fully air conditioned train, hosts the exhibition developed by Max Planck Society, Germany, showcases India's achievements in science and technology and has the joy of science hands-on lab for conducting science experiments. The exhibition with more than 300 large-format visual images, over 150 video clips and multimedia exhibits, deals extensively with cutting-edge research in science and technology. The exhibition attempts to develop scientific temper among the students and encourages them to pursue their interest in science...

The Science express schedule for Kamakhya railway station in Guwahati is from 29th April to 1st May 2009. It will remain open for the visitors from 10 am to 5 pm daily. So far around 10.26 lakh students, teachers and people who keep interest in noble cause have visited Science express.

Vikram A Sarabhai Community Science Centre (VASCSC) has partnered with the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India for management of the Science express, throughout the country.

'Science express' is an innovative science exhibition mounted on a specially designed train. This stat-of-art exhibition would cover about 17,000 kms over six months with halts at 51 railway stations across India in the current phase that started from 30th November 2008 from Delhi Safdarjung railway station and halting for 2-3 days at each scheduled stoppages during which masses, in general and students, in

particular are invited to visit the exhibition. The major objective of this unique venture is to nurture curiosity amongst our youth and rekindle their waning interest in science.

This sparkling white, fully air-conditioned train has 16 coaches. The exhibition, with more than 300 large-format visual images, over 150 video clips and multimedia exhibits, deals extensively with cutting edge research in science and technology. Though the exhibition is open for all, it primarily targets high school and college students. It attempts to develop scientific temper among them and encourages them to pursue careers in science. Further, it strives to take modern research out of the lab and reveal just how relevant science is to everyday life. Visitors of this futuristic exhibition can learn how science is enabling society to face the global challenges of the 21st century.

In the 12 exhibition coaches, most of the exhibits have been developed by the Max Planck Society, Germany, a noble laureate powerhouse while some exhibits are indigenous. Through these, the visitors explore wide areas in science in a fascinating manner and delve into the mysteries of our world, ground breaking discoveries, emerging issues, cutting-edge science and future oriented technologies.

There is no entry fee for the science express exhibition. Students and youth are encouraged to visit this exhibition in large numbers and take advantage of this innovative endeavor.

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Daya Nath Singh

Journalist; Guwahati Press Club office Secretary

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