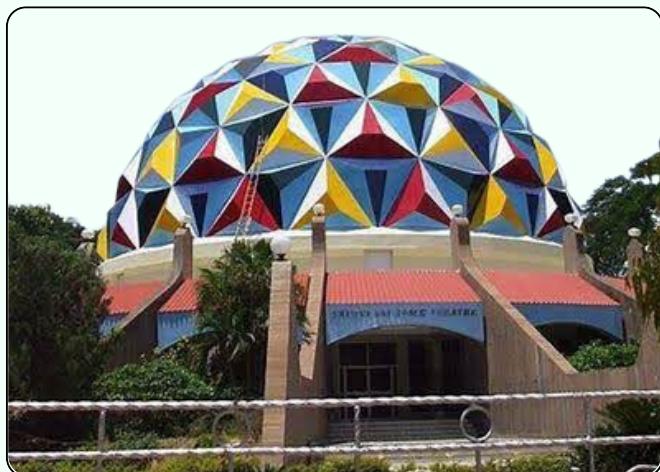


Science & Innovation Lab

Sri Sathya Sai Space Theatre

Have you ever wanted to fly through the cosmos without leaving Earth? That's exactly what a **planetarium**—or space theatre—lets you do! Think of it as a giant, domed cinema where the ceiling is the sky. Special, high-tech projectors beam images of stars, distant planets, nebulae, and even space missions onto the dome, making you feel completely immersed in the universe. It's an incredible educational tool that brings astronomy, physics, and maths to life by showing you the scale and motion of celestial bodies in a dramatic, unforgettable way.



One of India's most special venues for this cosmic journey is the **Sri Sathya Sai Space Theatre** in Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh. Founded way back in 1985, this planetarium is the only one of its kind between the major cities of Bangalore and Hyderabad, making advanced science accessible in a more rural area—a true mission of educational outreach.

What makes it a must-see?

First, the entry is completely free, honoring its founder's vision of accessible education for everyone.

Inside, the theater uses an advanced **Spitz Space Systems-512** projector that can display a breathtaking 4054 stars and 88 recognized constellations.

In 2011, the theater upgraded to a **full-dome mirror-dome projection system**, which wraps the visuals all around you, offering a truly immersive 360-degree experience. Plus, its unique "hyposphere" (tilted dome) design means you look forward, just like in a regular cinema, making the show even more comfortable and engaging.

It provides shows in English, Hindi, and Telugu, and its presentations blend scientific knowledge with deeper, spiritual insights. For high school students, a visit here can spark fantastic ideas for science fair projects, deepen understanding of orbits and gravity, and connect lessons from history, art, and mathematics with the vast, beautiful subject of astronomy. It's a place where science, learning, and the human spirit connect.

