



Science REPORTER

India's Biggest Space Challenge by Anand Kumar Sharma. The Gaganyaan article provided detailed analysis of the mission which is currently a hot topic. For Gaganyaan mission, four pilots from IAF (Indian Air Force) will be trained at the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Centre in Moscow.



This edition provided me a lot of information for which I am thankful to the SR team and all the writers.

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ECLIPSE READY RECKONER

READING the article on Solar Eclipse in the December issue was a pleasure as it could be used as a ready reckoner by casual enthusiasts like me. True that now almost everything is available on the net. But, collating usable things from the ocean of information available online is even harder than finding the information itself. So, a short article with information compiled in an understandable manner is absolutely great.

I found the detailing on the indirect method of solar viewing as the best part of that article. It was useful for almost everyone. Shooting tips were also useful for photo enthusiasts. Description of celestial aspects behind eclipse was also interesting. But, the author could have been a bit more elaborate on details of Saros cycle. It will be great to have a separate article on that.

I preferred taking a hasty and single day trip to Kerala after reading the article. It paid me dividends as I could witness the event from there right from the centre line. Without having long focal length lens, shooting was never my prime target and I did not even try it.

I must thank *Science Reporter* and the author Mr Debasis Sarkar for the pleasure I enjoyed while watching the eclipse. Shall expect many more similar ready reckoner type articles in the days to come.

Abhishek Bhaduri
Network security consultant

RING OF FIRE

I was aware of the Solar Eclipse of 26 December 2019 but could not decide if travelling to the centreline from my residence in Kolkata would be a wise idea. I am a regular reader of *Science Reporter* and was very happy to find an article dedicated to two solar eclipses in the December issue of the magazine.

The article by Debasis Sarkar, **Ring of Fire – Double Bonanza for India**, was very informative. I am a music teacher with very little idea of astronomy and yet



I could understand almost everything that was written in the article. I travelled with my family to Kerala with a pair of eclipse goggles and a camera. I was filled with excitement when I saw the ring of fire with my eyes. I also took photos using my DSLR through a solar filter that was distributed by a science museum few years back.

The article motivated me to travel to Kerala, observe the eclipse and enjoy a wonderful Christmas vacation. I am thankful to you, *Science Reporter* as well as Debasis Sarkar for making this article available to us.

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TREASURE TROVE OF INFORMATION

SCIENCE REPORTER treated us to some of the most wonderful S&T stories of the year 2019 in its January 2020 issue. "World's First Living Creature With Fully Synthetic DNA", "World's First Ever 3-D Heart", "First Ever Plant Sprouts On The Moon" were some such stories in the cover story **Major Scientific Highlights of 2019**.

There were other informative articles as well. For instance, **Devil's Marbles** by Shivani and **Mission Gaganyaan** –

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