

Harnessing the Sun for 50 Years



Commemorating the Golden Jubilee of Solar Photovoltaics in India

Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
Wednesday, January 28, 2026

Tentative Programme

Time	Speaker	Tentative Title
Venue: Prof. B. Nag Auditorium, Victor Menezes Convention Centre (VMCC), IIT Bombay Campus		
08:30 – 09:30	Registration and Breakfast	
09:30 – 09:45	Prof. Shireesh Kedare Director IIT Bombay	Welcome Address
09:45 – 10:00	Prof. B. G. Fernandes, PI NCPRE Prof. Anil Kottantharayil, PI PoTIC	Brief Overview about Solar PV Activities at IIT Bombay
10:00 – 10:30	Shri S. K. Sarangi, Secretary MNRE (To be confirmed)	Keynote Address: Growth of Solar PV in India 1976-2026
10:30 – 10:40	Prof. Juzer Vasi, IIT Bombay Dr. Rajiv Arya, Visiting Professor IIT Bombay	Idea Behind this Commemoration
10:40 – 11:10	Tea Break	
11:10 – 11:30	Dr. Bharat Bhargava Ex-CEL, Ex-MNRE	Early Manufacturing at Central Electronics Ltd. (CEL), and Launch of the National Solar Mission by MNRE
11:30 – 11:50	Mr. Sharwan Sangal Ex-CEL	Early Solar PV Systems by CEL deployed in India
11:50 – 12:10	Dr. Lawrence Kazmerski National Laboratory of the Rockies	Beginnings of Solar in the USA, and Genesis of the NREL Efficiency Chart
12:10 – 12:30	Dr. Ivan Saha Reliance Infrastructure, ex-ISRO	From Space PV to Private Sector Utility-Scale
12:30 – 12:50	Mr. Hemant Lamba, Auroville	Early Deployments of Solar in Auroville
12:50 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 14:20	Prof. S. P. Gonchaudhuri NB Institute for Rural Technology	PV in Sundarbans and Other Adventures
14:20 – 14:40	Dr. Rajiv Aya Ex-Solarex, Ex-CEO Moser Baer	Early USA-India Interactions and Setting up Moser-Baer Solar

14:40 – 15:00	Prof. Viresh Dutta Dept. of Energy Science and Engineering, IIT Delhi	Activities at the Thin Film Laboratory, IIT Delhi 1975-today
15:00 – 15:20	Mr. K. Subramanya Ex-CEO, Tata BP Solar	Establishing and Spreading solar business in India and taking Indian Solar technologies to the World
15:20 – 15:40	Dr. O. S. Sastry Ex-SEC, Ex-Director-General, NISE	Assessing Performance and Reliability of Early Solar Modules in India
15:40 – 16:00	Mr. Rabindra Satpathy Holtec Asia	Journey from Early Rural Solar to Nuclear
16:00 – 16:30	Tea Break	
16:30 – 17:50	Panel Discussion: The Next 50 Years of Solar in India (Panelists to be confirmed)	
17:50 – 18:00	Prof. Narendra Shiradkar, NCPRE	Concluding Remarks