

Annual Symposium- 2026

# Foundations of Physics and Spirituality (FPS)

February 21, 2026: (09:00 am – 05:30 pm | IST)

Techno Main Salt Lake, Kolkata

## Program Schedule

Time	Details
08:30 am – 09:00 am	Participants collect their registration kits & enter the Hall
<b>Session 1: Inaugural Session</b>	
09:00 am – 10:00 am	Symposium Inauguration
10:00 am – 10:15 am	Break
<b>Session 2: Foundations of Physics and Spirituality - An Overview</b>	
10:30 am – 11:05 am	<b>Topic: Foundational Questions in Physics: Perspectives from Science and Spirituality</b> Shri Varun Agarwal, <i>Director, Bhaktivedanta Institute, Kolkata (Alumnus, IIT Kanpur)</i>
11:05 am – 11:10 am	Question and Answer
11:10 am – 11:45 am	<b>Topic: Bell's Theorem and Free Will</b> Prof. Manik Banik, <i>Associate Professor, S.N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, India</i>
11:45 am – 11:50 am	Question and Answer
<b>Session 3: Information and Agency</b>	
11:50 am – 12:25 pm	<b>Topic: Revisiting Water Molecules</b> Dr. Dheeraj Dube, <i>Assistant Professor, IIT Mandi, India</i>
12:25 pm – 12:30 pm	Question and Answer
01:00 pm – 02:00 pm	<b>Lunch &amp; Group Photo</b>

02:00 pm – 02:35 pm	<b>Topic: Conservation of Conscious Experience: A Quantum Informational Approach</b> Dr. Roshan Tiwari, <i>Research Scientist, Bhaktivedanta Institute, Kolkata (Alumnus, IISER Kolkata)</i>
02:35 pm – 02:40 pm	Question and Answer
<b>Session 4: Science, Happiness, and the Wonder of Existence</b>	
02:40 pm – 03:20 pm	<b>Topic: Rational Mysticism: Science and our sense of the mysterious</b> Prof. Dr. Marcelo Gleiser, <i>Dartmouth College, USA</i>
03:20 pm – 03:30 pm	Question and Answer
03:30 pm – 04:00 pm	<b>Topic: Science of happiness for uplifting consciousness</b> Shri Vasudeva Rao, <i>President, Bhaktivedanta Institute, Kolkata (Alumnus, IIT Kanpur)</i>
04:00 pm – 04:05 pm	Question and Answer
04:05 pm – 04:15 pm	Break
<b>Session 5: Exploring Great Minds: Inspiration for Young Seekers</b>	
04:15 pm – 04:30 pm	<b>Topic: Journey of the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle</b> Mr. Yenegu Nikhil, <i>PhD Scholar, Department of Chemical Sciences, IISER Kolkata</i>
04:30 pm – 04:35 pm	Question and Answer
04:35 pm – 04:50 pm	<b>Topic: The Inner Odyssey of an Ordered Mind – Michael Faraday</b> Dr. Siddharta Tiwari, <i>Bhaktivedanta Institute, Bhubaneswar (Alumnus, IIT Kharapur)</i>
04:50 pm – 04:55 pm	Question and Answer
05:00 pm – 05:30 pm	<b>Cultural Programs or Games</b>
<b>Symposium Ends</b>	