



मौलिक विज्ञान प्रकर्ष केन्द्र

University of Mumbai & Department of Atomic Energy  
**CENTRE *for* EXCELLENCE IN BASIC SCIENCES**

Tuesday **COLLOQUIUM**

**Citizen Cyberscience:  
a new frontier for Indian research**  
**by Mr. Francois Grey, CERN, Geneva**



*Francois Grey is the coordinator of the Citizen Cyberscience Centre in Geneva, a partnership between CERN, the UN Institute for Training and Research and the University of Geneva. He is also a Fellow of the Shuttleworth Foundation, which supports dynamic leaders at the forefront of social change. He is currently based in Beijing where he is Professor of Distributed Scientific Computing at the Tsinghua University.*

*In 2010, he was awarded a Visiting Professorship by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, to establish the first citizen cyberscience project in China, CAS@Home.*

There are now about 100 million Internet users in India, of which about 40 million people use the Internet everyday. India is just behind China and the US in terms of Internet usage. Yet, the processors in most of the computers attached to the internet are idle much of the time, while their owners write emails or surf the Web. What if just a small fraction of this citizen computing power could be harnessed to help Indian scientists do their research? Indeed, what if Indian citizens could participate in cutting-edge research, via the Web, spending an hour a day annotating scientific images or cataloguing scientific data? Many leading researchers at universities such as Stanford in the US and Oxford in the UK routinely use the power of "citizen cyberscience" to tackle large-scale scientific computing and data analysis challenges, in areas as diverse as astrophysics and molecular biology. This represents more computing power than the largest supercomputers, and an amazing aggregation of brainpower, too. The speaker will argue that there is great scope for Indian researchers to benefit from this emerging new trend in science. But citizen cyberscience is much more than just an affordable scientific resource. It is a means to engage Indian citizens of all ages and backgrounds in science, to enable them to join in frontline research, and to empower them to be an active part of the scientific and technological progress that is shaping their future.

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**Tuesday, March 1 2011 at 4.30 p.m.**

Seminar Room, Prefabs

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**Lecture is open to all**