

Space enthusiasts & sky-gazers left mesmerised as moon 'covers' sun

Pics: Pravin Barnale



The solar eclipse was visible in Indore, but the 'ring of fire' was not seen in sky of the city. (R) Children view the solar eclipse on Sunday

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Indore: It was a day filled with excitement and joy for sky-gazers and space enthusiasts as they witnessed an annular solar eclipse on the occasion of summer solstice on Sunday.

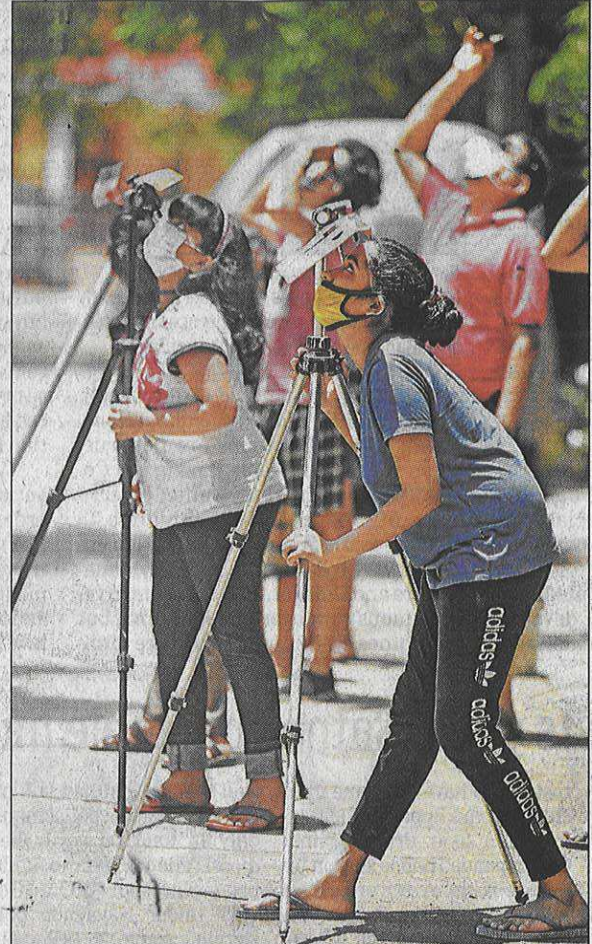
"It was an annular solar eclipse and moon was unable to cover the entire sun, leaving a small surface exposed. The small exposed surface looks like a ring, which is called the 'ring of fire'. Indoreans couldn't witness the ring of fire. This is the 23rd such celestial event in a span of 10 years," Children Science Centre coordinator Rajendra Singh told TOI.

Arrangements for the

commoners at the science centre to witness the celestial event, which began from 10:15am and was at its peak at 12:10 pm. "We ensured maintaining physical distancing among visitors," he said.

IIT-Indore, live streamed the event via YouTube channel through its department of astronomy, astrophysics and space engineering (DAASE). "DAASE will use this phenomenon to study effect on ionosphere and space weather as well as for advance research related to the sun and its planetary systems," said head of DAASE Abhirup Datta.

At 12pm, it was zero shadow day too, said science communicator at the science



centre Sunil Singh.

Post the solar eclipse, several temples in city were washed by priests. "After

washing the temple we offered prayers," main priest of Bada Ganpati Maharaj Dhaneshwar Dhadhich told TOI.