

Among the scientists drawn to Patna, Bihar to view the July 22 **total solar eclipse** was Sandip Dasgupta, an Indian American senior engineer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California. He was hosted by New Delhi-based SPACE, Science Popularisation Association of Communicators and Educators. Piyush Pandey, director of the Nehru Planetarium in Mumbai, and his team chose to watch from Robertsganj, near Varanasi, in Uttar Pradesh. They have shared this photo of the eclipse.

International Year of Astronomy <http://www.iucaa.ernet.in>  
Nehru Planetarium <http://www.nehru-centre.org>



CHANDU KAPAMBELKAR

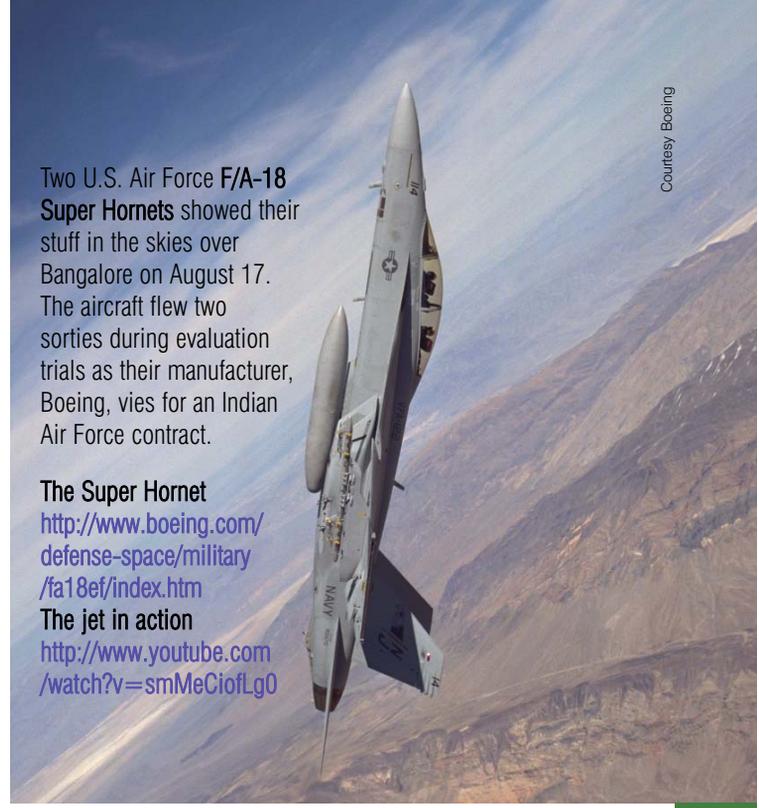
# NEWS SCAPE



T.G. VENKATESH

The U.S. Consulate in Chennai and the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce organized a quiz on knowledge of the United States in July for students from 22 high schools in Puducherry. The three winning teams received iPods, pen drives, watches and dictionaries. (From left) G. Vivilin Synthia and B. Sindhu Ravindra, second-place winners from St. Joseph of Cluny Girls Higher Secondary School, also received trophies from S. Sundaravivelu, director of education in Puducherry, and Ragini Gupta, U.S. Consul for Cultural Affairs in Chennai.

Indo-American Chamber of Commerce <http://www.iaccindia.com/guidanceasst.htm>  
U.S. Consulate in Chennai <http://chennai.usconsulate.gov/>



Courtesy Boeing

Two U.S. Air Force **F/A-18 Super Hornets** showed their stuff in the skies over Bangalore on August 17. The aircraft flew two sorties during evaluation trials as their manufacturer, Boeing, vies for an Indian Air Force contract.

The Super Hornet  
<http://www.boeing.com/defense-space/military/fa18ef/index.htm>  
The jet in action  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=smMcCiofLg0>

Flex banners used for New Delhi American Center programs, which are useless after an event is over, are now being transformed into **trendy bags**. These are donated to Swechha, an environmental NGO in New Delhi, which recycles and converts them into tote bags, shoulder and bowling bags, etc.

American Center, New Delhi  
<http://www.facebook.com/americancenternewdelhi>  
Swechha <http://www.swfc.org.in/>



HEMANT BHATNAGAR



DALJIT SINGH

Amita Sinha (left), a professor of landscape architecture at the University of Illinois, toured New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand to document natural, cultural and industrial heritage sites. Affiliated with the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) as a senior **Fulbright researcher**, Sinha also lectured at architecture colleges from February to May 2009. In May, Sinha, USIEF Executive Director Adam Grotzky, New Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit and INTACH Chairman S.K. Misra released a book on the Yamuna River. **USIEF** <http://www.usief.org.in/>