

Dear Participants,

Less than two weeks to go for IPhO 2015! We hope that your preparations for travel to India are well on track. We are also eagerly awaiting your arrival in Mumbai.

To know more about India, Mumbai, and IPhO 2015 in general, please refer to the Information Booklet now available on our website:

<http://www.ipho2015.in/downloads>

A printed version of this booklet will be included in your registration kit.

So far 84 countries have completed their registration and another two are expected to do so in the next couple of days.

Some logistical details pertaining to IPhO 2015 are given below.

1 Accommodation

Contestants will be accommodated at the hotel The Leela:

<http://www.theleela.com/locations/mumbai>

Leaders, observers and visitors will stay at the hotel Taj Lands End:

<http://www.tajhotels.com/luxury/city-hotels/taj-lands-end-mumbai/overview.html>

Accommodation at either hotel will be on double sharing basis (except for leaders, observers and visitors who have opted for single occupancy at extra cost). Both the hotels are equipped with swimming pools, so do not forget to bring your swimsuits!

Accommodation at either hotel outside the Olympiad period (before 14:00 hrs on July 4, or after 12:00 hrs on July 13) will be at your own cost. If required, we will reserve the requisite number of rooms on your behalf at either hotel on request. Payment for these will have to be made directly by you to the hotel. Accommodation at other hotels have to be arranged entirely by you. A list of recommended hotels is put up on our website:

<http://www.ipho2015.in/images/hotels-around-international-airport-mumbai.pdf>

2 Money matters

2.1 Currency exchange

The currency of India is Indian Rupee (INR). Cash is handled by currency notes in denominations of 1000, 500, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5, and coins in denominations of 10, 5, 2, 1 and 0.50. Both the hotels have currency exchange facilities. It is also possible to exchange currency at the airport. There is also an ATM at the Leaders' hotel.

2.2 Fees and Payment

We request you to kindly pay the participation fees in advance either by credit card on our website, or by bank transfer (details below).

Name of beneficiary bank: **Central Bank of India**
Address of the beneficiary bank: **Mankhurd Branch, Mumbai 400088, INDIA.**
SWIFT code: **CBININBBOSB**
Name of account holder: **TIFR-HBCSE Misc. Account**
Account No.: **1038113243**
Address of account holder: **Mankhurd, Mumbai 400088, INDIA.**
Identification remark: **IPhO-2015**

Payment on arrival will be accepted in cash in INR (Indian Rupees) only. It is possible to exchange currency at the hotel.

The schedule of fees at IPhO 2015 is as under:

Fee for a participating delegation (maximum 5 contestants and 2 leaders)	USD 3000
Fee for each Scientific Observer	USD 1800
Fee for each Visitor	USD 2000
Extra payment for single occupancy (not available for contestants) for 9 nights per person	USD 1000

The above fees will cover all costs of accommodation, food (as fixed under the IPhO programme) and transport during the period of 14:00 hrs on July 4 to 12:00 hrs on July 13. Additional expenses such as extra food and beverages, paid amenities and services at the hotels, must be paid for directly to the hotel before check-out. The hotels accept cash and international credit cards.

2.3 Sale of experimental equipment

The experimental apparatus used in IPhO 2015 will be available for sale at a concessional rate in the Leaders' hotel after the experimental examination. The payment for this will be accepted in cash in INR only.

3 Moving around

All transportation related to airport pick-up and drop-off, examinations (for contestants), excursions and the opening and closing ceremonies will be arranged by the organisers. The mode of transport will be air-conditioned coaches.

3.1 Arrival and Departure

You are requested to kindly enter the details of your itinerary in the link provided on your country's registration page by June 26, 2015. We expect all teams to arrive by air at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji International airport (airport code: BOM) and depart from the same after the event. For exceptions, please alert us by email.

Arrangements for pick-up at the airport have been made for teams arriving after 8:00 hrs on July 4. For earlier arrivals, transport arrangements can be made, if possible, on request.

At the airport, HBCSE/Hotel staff will be present with placards of 46th IPhO outside the exit of the Mumbai International Airport. Please do not panic in case it is raining heavily and you do not see our staff due to congestion. Please be patient, secure for yourself a place to wait, take care of

your belongings and you will certainly spot them in a few minutes. In case of difficulty, the following telephone numbers may be helpful:

- Vikrant: +91 9820993310
- Pritesh: +91 7875320393

Contestants and leaders will be separated at the airport itself and taken to different hotels. Therefore, please segregate your luggage accordingly.

Drop-off at the airport will also be provided for teams departing till 14:00 hrs on July 13.

3.2 Excursions

Excursions for contestants and leaders, observers and visitors to places of interest in and around Mumbai have been arranged on days as announced in the schedule. In addition, visitors will be offered some extra excursions (at no extra cost) on the days when the leaders and observers would be occupied with the academic programme. Two of the excursions for the contestants will take them outside the city limits of Mumbai.

All guests are requested to wear closed shoes with good grip during excursions for safety reasons. Carrying your umbrella (provided in the registration kit) is a must. In the unfortunate event of extremely inclement weather some excursion may have to be cancelled.

Contestants are not expected to leave the hotel outside the planned excursions, and in no circumstances without being accompanied by their student guide. Leaders, observers and visitors may wish to explore the city on their own. On such occasions, we advise you to use the taxi to travel rather than the public transport system which may be quite crowded.

You may contact the IPhO 2015 Help Desk at the hotel if you need help regarding transport.

4 Power, Telephone and Internet

The mains power supply in India is AC 230 V, 50 Hz. Details of power sockets and plugs are given on the Travel page as well as in the information booklet on our website.

The international telephone code for India is “+91” and the area code for Mumbai is “22”. Several networks offer GSM connectivity all over Mumbai. There are a few CDMA networks as well. There is also the option of adding broadband data connection for all these networks. Calls placed from your hotel room will be at your own expense.

4.1 Leaders, Observers and Visitors

WiFi-based internet connection will be available at the Leaders’ hotel, free of cost. This will be available in the rooms and common spaces of the hotel, except in the vicinity of the International Board meeting room during discussion sessions. The leaders and observers are not permitted to have contact with the outside world since the start of an IB meeting till the completion of the examination next day. Permission for contact under emergency circumstances will have to be sought from the President, IPhO.

In the International Board meeting room, one computer per country will be available for team leaders. These computers will run on Windows 7 with MS Office 2010 installed. Some languages will be supported on MS Office, but leaders are strongly advised to bring their own respective language fonts and translating software, if any, on their own laptops.

4.2 Contestants

As per the standard practice in IPhO, contestants are not allowed to communicate with the outside world and, in particular, the leaders, observers and visitors during the period starting from the first International Board meeting till the completion of the last examination. Therefore, the contestants will be required to deposit with the organisers their mobile phones, laptops, tablet PCs, and any other communication device on the evening of July 5, after the opening ceremony. These will be returned to them after the last examination on the evening of July 9. Failure to voluntarily deposit any such device may lead to disqualification of the contestant from the competition. In case of emergencies, the contestants should contact their respective student guides who will inform the appropriate authorities to enable communication with the leaders, if necessary.

5 Miscellaneous

5.1 Calculators

Each contestant at IPhO 2015 will be provided with a scientific calculator (model: **Casio fx-82MS**). The manual for this calculator is available at <http://www.casioeducation.com/resource/manuals/FX-300MSTP/User%20Guide.pdf>

The contestant may also use her/his own calculator, provided it is deemed “approved” as per the criteria laid down in the IPhO statutes (Regulations to §5):

A calculator shall be an approved calculator if it is not a graphical calculator, its display has no more than three lines, and if its user memory is completely cleared immediately prior to each examination.

If a contestant desires to use her/his own calculator, we request the respective Leaders or Country Coordinator to kindly inform us of the name of the contestant along with the model number of the calculator to be used as early as possible by email to ipho2015@gmail.com

To ensure a fair competition, the following procedure will be adopted during the event:

1. The personal calculator of the contestant must be labelled by the contestant clearly with the country name and full name of the contestant in English.
2. The contestant shall be required to deposit the calculator with the organisers at the same time as communication devices are surrendered (after the opening ceremony).
3. The calculator will be checked against the criteria laid down in the statutes to determine if it is approved.
4. If it is not deemed to be approved, the contestant will be informed as soon as possible. The device will remain in the custody of the organisers till the end of the theoretical examination on July 9, but will not be allowed to be used by the contestant.

If it is deemed to be approved, it will remain in the custody of the organisers, and provided to the contestant at the examination venue at the commencement of the experimental examination on July 7. It will be recovered at the end of this examination and again provided to the contestant at the beginning of the theoretical examination. After the theoretical examination on July 9, the contestant will retake possession of the device.

5. The contestant will always have the option of using the calculator provided by the organisers, if she/he carries it to the examination venue.

5.2 Climate and clothing

July is the month of heavy monsoon showers in India, especially Mumbai. Expect rain, sometimes heavy rain. The temperature will be around 30 °C, with not much variation between day and night. Humidity is expected to be high.

Please bring your raincoat/windcheater; an umbrella will be provided. Waterproof shoes would be advantageous.

You are advised to wear comfortable clothing and good closed shoes. While there is no requirement of wearing formal dress at the ceremonies, it is recommended that you avoid extremely casual dress on these occasions. You may also wear your traditional costumes. There will be a cultural get-together for contestants at the hotel on the evening of July 9.

5.3 Health and safety

We advise all participants to acquire necessary medical and travel insurance before leaving your country. You are advised NOT to eat from open stalls outside, especially uncooked or spicy food. You must be especially careful about drinking water. You are advised to drink only water commercially available in sealed bottles. Since July is a peak monsoon month, rain will always be round the corner. Be careful about slippery roads.

No special vaccinations are needed, in our view. But it is your choice. Medical facility will be available in the hotels. First-aid boxes will be available at all times during excursion. However, it will be advisable to bring your own medicines for minor illnesses like cold, fever, headache, etc and any regular medication that you may be required to take.

6 Contact information

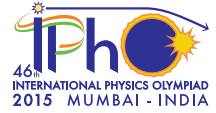
IPhO 2015 Secretariat
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<http://www.ipho2015.in>

Welcome to 46th IPhO!



46TH INTERNATIONAL PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

5–12 July, 2015 Mumbai, India



June 23, 2015

Mumbai

Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (TIFR)

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