

P. N. Bose Geological Centre

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Tata Steel CEO and Managing Director T.V. Narendran inaugurated the **PN Bose Geological Centre** on 2nd March 2024, as the steel city was set to celebrate the 185th birth anniversary of the founder J.N. Tata. A first-of-its-kind in the city, the Centre located at Northern Town, Jamshedpur has been set up as a specialised geological hub, recognizing the importance of preserving and exhibiting the geological riches of the nation, particularly Odisha and Jharkhand.

Named after P.N. Bose, a distinguished geologist, who was the first Indian graded officer of the Geological Survey of India, the Centre highlights the pivotal role played by him in the establishment of the Tata Steel Works in Jamshedpur.

Born on May 12, 1855 in a remote village of Gaipur, in 24 Parganas district, West Bengal, P.N. Bose had several firsts to his credit. He discovered Dalli-Rajhara iron ore deposit, surveyed Kalimpong and Darjeeling districts for coal, evaluated mineral wealth of Sikkim. The most outstanding achievement of his life, however, was the discovery of iron ore deposits in the hills of Gorumahisani in the state of Mayurbhanj. Following the discovery, Late P.N. Bose wrote a letter to J.N. Tata on February 24, 1904 which led to the establishment of Tata Iron and Steel Company at Sakchi, now Jamshedpur. As a man of science, he had constantly taken up the cause of technical education in the country. His efforts also catalysed the foundation of the Bengal Technical Institute which is better known as the Jadavpur University today, of which Bose was the first honorary Principal. With his influence in setting up the first ever integrated steel plant in India, and his relentless effort to be self-sufficient in terms of natural resources

aided with development of scientific and technical skills amongst the fellow Indians Shri P.N. Bose truly pioneered India in laying the very first stone to the path of being *Atmanirvar*.

This P N Bose Geological Centre in Jamshedpur is dedicated to all geologists of the country. It offers every visitor the unique opportunity to explore the intriguing geological eras in our planet's evolution, serving as a platform for understanding the formation of rocks and minerals via dynamic processes that shaped the Earth's crust over millions of years. The Centre also serves as a platform to document the history of mining at Tata Steel and honours the contributions of a number of highly experienced geologists, mining engineers and mineral process engineers who were responsible for progressing the Company to its pre-eminence in the mining and metals sector.

While Tata Steel is primarily known as a steel manufacturing company, it is worth noting that it is also one of the largest mining companies in the country. The P.N. Bose Centre highlights the importance of ores and minerals, with a focus on minerals essential for steel production; the geology of the Singhbhum-Odisha region; besides paying tribute to P.N. Bose's life and work. The Centre is also intended to showcase-exhibits from Tata Steel's iron ore, manganese, coal, and chromite mines.

The P.N. Bose Centre was envisioned by Dr. T. Mukherjee, former Deputy Managing Director (Steel). It has been enriched with a number of fossils, rocks and minerals contributed by the family of Late Dr. Jamshed J. Irani, Former Managing Director, Tata Steel and Dr T. Mukherjee. The Centre is grateful to him for this.



Fig 1. (a) Bust of Shri P N Bose at the Geological Centre. **(b)** Tata Steel's MD & CEO Mr T V Narendran inaugurates P N Bose Geological Centre on 2nd March 2024. **(c)** The landscaping at the outside of the centre resembles contour lines and displays samples from the Mines operated by Tata Steel.