

## Work visit of a Belgian colleague to India

(04/12/2023-15/12/2023)

[Sebastián Gaspar Zúñiga Fernández](#) (ULiège, Belgium; see picture) went to India for the assessment of the potential contribution of Indian observatories to the transiting exoplanets projects performed by the EXOTIC team, a Belgian team leading the projects ExoTRAPPIST and SPECULOOS. The original aim was to visit both [Santosh Joshi](#) (ARIES, India) and [Abhijit Chakraborty](#) (PRL, India). At ARIES, he discussed with faculty members and students about ongoing research projects. He had the opportunity to go to the Devasthal Observatory. Afterwards, a discussion about the opportunities for a joint project regarding new instrumentation, data analysis, and an upgrade in the operations was initiated. This is especially relevant for the 1.3-m telescope because some experiences in the operation with the SPECULOOS network could be transferred to this facility. Due to visa issues, [Sebastián Gaspar Zúñiga Fernández](#) was not able to go to PRL. This part of the visit was replaced by a one-day visit to the Indian National Science Academy from where he presented an online seminar for PRL in the Astronomy & Astrophysics seminar day.

