Victoria Memorial Hall cordially invites you to an illustrated lecture on

**Destination Moon: The Indian Story**

**Speaker**
Debiprasad Duari
Renowned space scientist and Director, MP Birla Planetarium, Kolkata

**Monday, 9 September 2019, 5.30 pm**
Victoria Memorial Hall
Conference Hall (Administrative Wing)
1 Queens Way, Kolkata – 700 071

Entry only through East Gate (opp. St. Paul’s Cathedral) from 5.00 pm; no entry after 6.00 pm or when seating capacity is full, whichever is earlier; cars are not allowed in the VMH campus.
India has fast become one of the leading space-faring nations. Its tremendous success is not only in launching satellites and breaking all past records, but in showing its capability to successfully carry out missions to Moon and Mars. In recent times every Indian, along with the whole scientific community, has watched the fantastic progress of Chandrayaan 2, which aims to put an orbiter around the Moon and also to soft-land a module, named Vikram, which in turn has carried a robotic rover named Pragyan. This is a path-breaking feat by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), and the successful landing of Vikram will make India a member of an elite group of only four countries to achieve this distinction. The uniqueness of the mission is that ISRO has planned to land the Vikram lander near the South Pole of the Moon, where no spacecraft has ever ventured. One of the main objectives of the Chandrayaan 2 mission is to search for water ice on the Moon, which will enhance the possibility of a future human settlement on the Moon. Through this effort, the aim is to improve our understanding of the Moon—discoveries that will benefit India and humanity as a whole. These insights and experiences aim at a new level of activities in how lunar expeditions will be approached for years to come, propelling further voyages into the farthest frontiers of space.