

#### 4.6.3 IOPEWS Foundation Day Celebration

Institute of Physics Employees Welfare Society celebrated its 5<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on 01.01.2021. Sri R. K. Rath, Registrar, IOP, was the Chief Guest at the function. All the members attended this function.

#### 4.6.4 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day Celebration

IOP Bhubaneswar celebrated the 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day at its campus by adhering to social distancing and other norms as per Govt. protocol amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. Prof. Pankaj Agarwal, Director I/c. of the Institute, hoisted the National Flag, offered floral tribute to Bharat Mata and delivered his Independence Day address followed by the National Anthem, sung by everyone in a rhythmic chorus.

#### 4.6.5. Women Cell Activities

This year the theme for International Women's Day (8 March) was "Women in

leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world." It was to celebrate the tremendous efforts of women and girls around the world in shaping an equal future and recovery from the pandemic.

On the occasion of the Women's day, online talks were arranged by Women-cell of IOP on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The talks were given by Prof. S.M. Yusuf, Director, IOP, Ms. Sushma Taishete, Joint Secretary R&D, DAE, Mumbai, and Prof. Sulabha Kulkarni, Senior scientist NASI, CMET, Pune. Due to the pandemic, the meeting was held in hybrid mode, with speakers and many IOP members present online and some members present in the lecture hall (block-B) of IOP, maintaining the social distance and other Covid related protocols.

At the outset, Prof. Shikha Varma, Chairperson of Women Cell, IOP, welcomed everyone and thanked all the distinguished speakers for enthusiastically agreeing for giving a talk on this occasion.

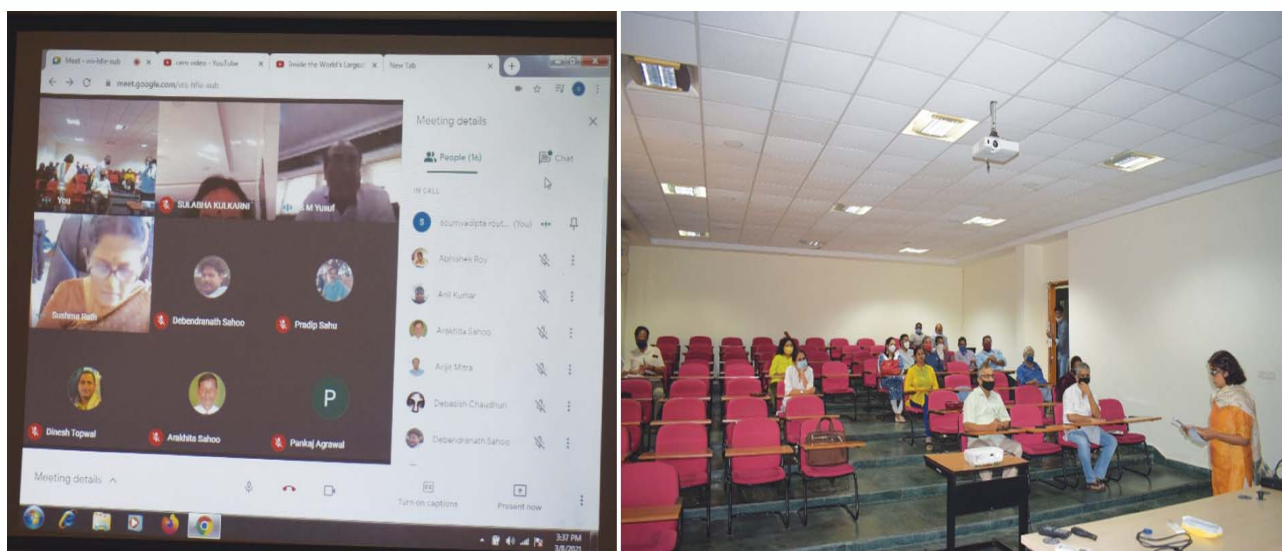


5<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of IOPEWS



Celebration of Independence Day

## Other Activities



Program dated 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021: (from top left) some members in the lecture hall, Prof. Sulabha Kulkarni, Prof. S.M. Yusuf, Ms. Sushma Taishete and IOP members.

Members (including Prof. Shikha Varma and the Registrar) in the lecture hall of IOP on 8th March 2021.

She thanked the Director, as well as the Registrar, administration and computer center of IOP, for facilitating the program and other IOP members for their enthusiasm.

Prof. S.M. Yusuf remarked that, as a Vice President of the Indian Physics Association (IPA), he has been involved in gender equity activities of IPA and had inaugurated the conference 'Pressing for progress-towards Gender Equity in Physics', at the University of Hyderabad. Prof. Yusuf in his talk, presented some salient features of the Women Cell and Internal Complaints Committee ("ICC") of IOP. He also mentioned various activities that have been undertaken by the Women Cell, IOP in promoting the message of gender equity in science. He further highlighted the efforts undertaken by IOP scientists and members in encouraging girls and women towards a career in science. He highlighted the need to bring more women as faculty and staff in IOP.

Ms. Sushma Taishete, Joint Secretary (R & D), DAE, first thanked Prof. Yusuf for the invitation and expressed satisfaction that Director, IOP, has taken a direct interest in such an event and spoke on this occasion. Then she gave a very motivating presentation on the difficulties that are faced by women in many of their endeavours and the roads that they can take to overcome these difficulties. She presented many examples, from her experiences, of many girls and women who could achieve distinction despite problems. In this direction, she also presented her impactful journey and the role played by many, around her, in her successful achievements. She stressed the importance of hard work and the desire of high goals in girls for achieving successful targets.

Prof. Sulabha Kulkarni presented a talk entitled 'Contribution of Women in Science and Technology.' After discussing the challenges faced by women during the 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, she



gave a lucid historical perspective on the contributions of many women scientists, mathematicians, artists, educationists, doctors who made significant contributions, despite not much support. She also presented the illustrative journey of several women who have made significant contributions to science but have not received due recognition. She mentioned the various schemes taken up by Govt. of India in encouraging the girls and women scientists.

The response of the audience for the talks was very enthusiastic and positive. The Women Cell of IOP plans to organize more such discussions and presentations. The event ended with remarks on occasion by Prof. Shikha Varma, Chairperson of Women Cell, IOP.

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