

Issue No. 07 | June 2022

# अणुविद्या

HBNI NEWSLETTER

होमी भाभा राष्ट्रिय संस्थान Homi Bhabha National Institute

( परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग की सहायता प्राप्त संस्था और यूजीसी अधिनियम 1956 की धारा 3 के तहत विश्वविद्यालय माना जाता हे )

(An Aided Institution of the Department of Atomic Energy and a Deemed-to-be University Under Section 3 of the UGC Act. 1956)

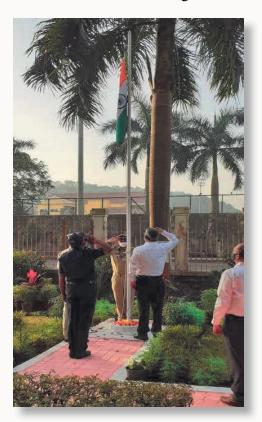
giral June 2022

**Events at Central Office** 

#### MICHAI NATIONAL PERSON

## **Republic Day Celebration**

The 73<sup>rd</sup> Republic Day was celebrated at HBNI on January 26, 2022 adhering to all protocols due to Covid-19 pandemic. Prof. P. D. Naik, Dean, HBNI unfurled the National Flag followed by singing of National Anthem by HBNI functionaries and staff present on the occasion. In his address to the staff, Prof. Naik presented a glimpse of the HBNI achievements and also talked about the important initiatives taken by the institute for implementation of National Educational Policy-2020. The important among them is HBNI-Industrial linkage policy which will enable students to have a taste of industrial research through collaboration and internship schemes.



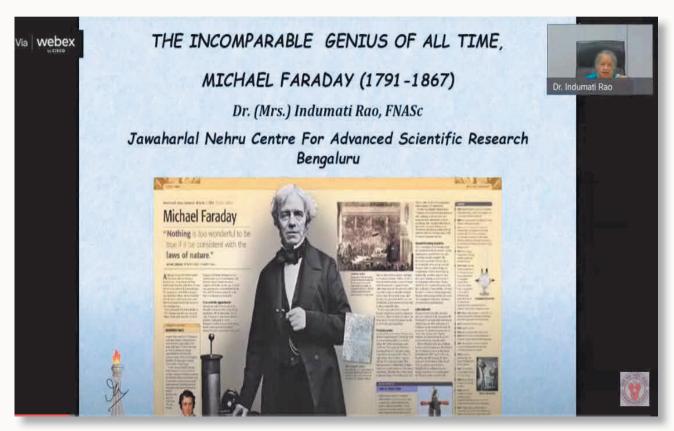
Prof. P. D. Naik, Dean HBNI saluting the National Flag after unfurling it

#### **National Science Day Celebration**

"National Science Day" is celebrated in India to commemorate the discovery of the Raman effect by Sir C. V. Raman on February 28, 1928, for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930. HBNI celebrated National Science Day on February 28, 2022 by organizing a webinar by Prof. (Mrs.) Indumati Rao, FNASc, Educational Technology Unit, JNCASR on the topic, "The Incomparable Genius of All Time, Michael Faraday (1791-1867)." Michael Faraday was one of the great pioneers of chemistry who contributed new knowledge and



created new directions. In her Talk, Prof. Rao covered the incredible journey of Faraday from a boy with a minimal formal education of just three years to becoming one of the most prolific and wide-ranging experimental scientists elaborating on his important experimental discoveries such as benzene (1825), electro-magnetic induction (1831), electro-chemistry (early 1830s), the magneto-optical effect and diamagnetism (both 1845).



Prof. Indumati Rao delivering her talk online on the occasion of National Science Day Celebration at HBNI

#### **International Women's Day Celebration**

The Women Cell of HBNI organized International Women's Day on March 8, 2022 at the central office by organizing a webinar titled "Adventures of a particle physicist and why should I care," by Prof. Archana Sharma, Senior Scientist, CERN Geneva, Switzerland. The webinar was organized in hybrid mode and attended by a large no. of students, staff and faculty of HBNI. Smt. Bharati Suvarna, Assistant Registrar and Convener, Women's Cell, HBNI welcomed the gathering. Prof. Vasudeva Rao, VC, HBNI gave introductory remarks. Prof. Umasankari Kannan, Chairperson, Women's Cell, HBNI introduced the guest speaker of the day, Prof. Archana Sharma, who is globally recognised for her work on gaseous detectors for research in High Energy Physics, which explores what the world is made of.



She is an avid supporter of women pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and also runs an NGO called Life Lab Education and Research Foundation with the main objective to create partnerships with educational institutions for the benefit of the underprivileged: <a href="www.lifelab.org.in">www.lifelab.org.in</a>. In her talk, Prof. Sharma gave insights into the fascinating world of particle physics and how it impacts human lives. She also highlighted the role played by Indian and international women scientists in the research activities being carried out at CERN.







Glimpses of International Women's Day Celebration at HBNI: HBNI Women's cell members and HBNI staff present on the occasion. Prof. Vasudeva Rao, VC, HBNI and Prof. Umasankari Kannan, Chairperson, HBNI Women's, Cell addressing the gathering (from left and right)



Prof. Archana Sharma delivering her talk online on the occasion of International Women's Day



### **Discussion Meeting on Basic Sciences** (DiMBS-2022)

The year 2022 has been declared by the United Nations as the International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development. Towards commemorating the International Year, a Discussion Meeting on Basic Sciences (DiMBS -2022) was organized by HBNI in hybrid mode during April 6-8, 2022 at the DAE Convention Centre, Anushaktinagar. The meeting saw participation from Directors, Dean Academics, Dean-students affairs and faculty members of Constituent Institutions/Off-Campus Centre of HBNI both in online mode and physically.

In the inaugural session of the meeting, Prof. P. D. Naik, Dean, HBNI welcomed the gathering and the invited speakers. In his address, Prof. Vasudeva Rao, VC, HBNI elaborated on the main objective behind conducting the meet which was to provide a platform for interaction and to catalyze the academic/research collaborations between faculty members and students of different Constituent Institutions (CIs)/Off-Campus Centre (OCC) of HBNI. Prof. A. K. Mohanty, Director, BARC complimented HBNI for organizing the discussion meeting, the first of its kind, allowing discussion of research activities and research facilities present in all CIs/OCC of HBNI at a common platform. In his address, he emphasized on the importance and relevance of curiosity driven research which not only leads to the advancement of one's knowledge of nature, but also to applied science and technology breakthroughs leading to important contributions to society. He remarked that basic science and applied science are intimately connected and basic research has played a major role in initiating and strengthening applied research since time immemorial. He also elaborated on the efforts of DAE to strengthen the cause of fundamental research in nuclear energy and areas of science. He concluded by saying that "Sustaining and supporting basic research activities is of crucial importance as future basic research programs can contribute towards solving national and global issues such as hunger, poverty, universal health care, climate change and biodiversity which are all critical to sustainable future of mankind".

The Chief Guest, Dr. R. Chidambaram, Former Principal Scientific Advisor to GoI and Former Secretary, DAE, in his talk titled "Importance of Basic Sciences", gave an overview of contribution of fundamental research in solving most of the problems of mankind be it in the field of medicine, healthcare, communication & electronics, nuclear energy etc.

Dr. Anil Kakodkar, Chancellor, HBNI gave an inspiring talk in which he shared his vision for HBNI and discussed the roadmap for the growth of HBNI as an institute of national and international importance in the coming years.



technical sessions During the period of three days, ten over Dean-Academics and faculty members in the disciplines of Chemistry. Engineering, Life Sciences, Physics, Mathematics and Medical & HealthSciences from various constituent institutions and off campus centre of HBNI gave presentations on the research activities, research facilities and research infrastructure in their institutions.

The meeting was well received by all the participants and all agreed that the meeting was unique and useful and will pave the way for useful collaborations among different CIs/OCC of HBNI. In his valedictory address Prof. R. B. Grover, Emeritus Professor and Founder Director, HBNI remarked that HBNI as a conglomeration of eleven premier institutions has a vital role to play in the national development and for this purpose HBNI should ensure a multi-disciplinary research environment in its CIs/OCC which helps to create not only new high impact knowledge but technology as well.



Dignitaries on the dais during the inaugural session of DiMBS-2022











Prof. P. D. Naik, Prof. Vasudeva Rao, Prof. A. K. Mohanty and Dr. R. Chidambaram delivering their addresses in the inaugural session of DiMBS-2022 (from left to right)





Prof. Anil Kakodkar, Chancellor, HBNI delivering his talk (left) and interacting with audience during DiMBS-2022 (right).





Faculty from different CIs/OCC of HBNI giving their presentations during the technical sessions of DiMBS-2022



Dignitaries on the dais during the valedictory session of DiMBS-2022