

**One-day International On-line Webinar, "Current Pandemic and Beyond: A Physicists Response" at Manipal University Jaipur, Jaipur 303007, Rajasthan**

**Date: June 02, 2020      Time: 9:15 am- 1:00 pm      on MS team**

The Department of Physics, Manipal University Jaipur (MUJ) organized an online conference "Current Pandemic and Beyond: A Physicists Response" on June 02, 2020. In the inaugural session at the beginning of the webinar Dean, Faculty of Science, MUJ; Prof A K Mukhopadhyay welcomed Ms. Mugdha Sinha, IPS and Secretary, Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of Rajasthan (GOR); Prof H R Kamath, Registrar, MUJ, all invited speakers, students, faculty and research scholars for their active contribution to and participation in the webinar. Prof. Dr Ms. Lalita Ledwani, Director, School of Basic Sciences (SBS), MUJ expressed her sincere gratitude to Madam Mugdha Sinha for her kind presence in the webinar despite her extremely busy and hectic schedule. and elaborated on the unique academic and research facilities available at five different Departments of Physics, Chemistry, Biosciences, Mathematics and Statistic and Computer applications at SBS, MUJ. Dr P Kumar, Head, Department of Physics, SBS, MUJ and Convener of the webinar explained in very lucid manner what the webinar was all about. In her opening remarks Madam Mugdha Sinha, Secretary, DST, GOR emphasized the need for development of self-reliant India and what the GOR was doing to help the people affected by the pandemic. Emphasizing the role of R&D to support the people affected across Rajasthan and especially in Jaipur, she stressed upon collaboration between the DST of GOR, Industry and the academia at MUJ and other universities to deliver fruitful results that can help better the fight of people against the pandemic due to COVID-19. In his inaugural address Prof Dr H R Kamath, Registrar, MUJ briefly mentioned the rise of MUJ to the first NAAC A+ grade state private University within a short span of only about nine years. Further, he elaborated about all the faculties at MUJ, the different UG and PG courses offered at MUJ as well as about the various scholarships available for meritorious students at MUJ. He wished the webinar all success in his short but excellent inaugural address. In the technical session, Prof. Varghese from University of Houston, USA; Prof. Reaz from the National University of Malaysia; Prof. Murthy from IBAD, Bengaluru, Prof Kumar from IISc, Bangalore and Prof. Ranjan from University of Johannesburg, South Africa presented invited talks and highlighted the R&D perspective of Physicist's response in fighting the pandemic caused by COVID-19. All technical sessions were followed by lively interaction between the respective speakers and the audience, especially students. There were about 210 registered participants who were very happy to receive the scope of learning in a very timely topic delivered by this on-line webinar. The webinar ended with vote of thanks

offered by Dr Satyapal Singh Rathore, Faculty of the Department of Physics and Coordinator of the webinar.

