

FOREWORD

The XIII Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) Symposium on High Energy Physics was held during December 26–30, 1998 in Panjab University, Chandigarh under the auspices of DAE, Government of India. The organization of the conference was a joint effort of DAE and Panjab University.

There were 22 plenary talks and about 150 contributed papers covering electroweak physics, tests of quantum chromo-dynamics, top and heavy quark physics, B-physics and CP violation, astro-particle physics and cosmology, quantum field theory, SUSY gauge theories, black holes, neutrino physics, quantum gravity and heavy-ion physics etc. With the approval of new experiments at LHC, the stage is set for pursuing the ambitious goals of new physics in 21st century. New generation of experiments at RHIC will aim to open up new horizons on the frontiers of quark-gluon plasma and heavy-ion physics.

Prof. Yash Pal, the former Chairman of University Grants Commission and a distinguished Alumni of Panjab University delivered the key-note address of the symposium. About 150 delegates from various universities and institutes in India, including many renowned high energy physicists like Prof. Bikash Sinha, Director, Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre and Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Calcutta, Prof. S N Ganguli, Dean, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai participated in the symposium which focussed on the recent developments in high energy physics. Another highlight of the symposium was that the delegates had the privilege of listening to Dr. R Chidambaram, Chairman, Department of Atomic Energy, who delivered the M R Sahn Memorial Lecture on “R&D Challenges in Nuclear Technology” in the Department of Physics, Panjab University on 28 December, 1998. In addition, a few delegates from USA and Switzerland also attended the symposium and delivered talks.

We would like to thank the members of the National Organising Committee and the Program Advisory Committee for their advice and help in finalising the academic programme and the organisation of the symposium. The overwhelming cooperation received from the faculty, research staff, non-teaching staff, technical staff and students of the department of physics is gratefully acknowledged.

We wish to place on record our gratitude and thanks to Prof. M M Puri, Vice-Chancellor, Panjab University for his keen interest in promoting this scientific endeavor, administrative and financial help for the smooth organisation of the symposium.

Our thanks are also due to the editorial board and editorial staff of *Pramana* for making this publication possible.

The financial support from DAE, Government of India and Panjab University, made the symposium a success.

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(Guest Editors)

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