

Preface

The Sixth Workshop on High Energy Physics Phenomenology (WHEPP-6) was held at the Institute of Mathematical Sciences (IMSc), Chennai from January 3–15, 2000. As has become customary in the WHEPP series, it brought together a large number of active phenomenologists from all over the country and abroad. There were a total of 82 non-IMSc participants including 20 from outside India.

The four working groups under which most of the activity of this workshop was organized, were the same as that of the last WHEPP. The groups and their coordinators are specified in a preceding page. This year, the National Organizing Committee along with the coordinators took a decision to include both plenary as well as scheduled working group talks in the proceedings, unlike in previous years.

All plenary talks were scheduled in the morning of the first week and working group activity as well as working group talks were scheduled in the afternoon of the first week. The entire second week was devoted to working group activity (except for a spillover of a couple of talks which could not be held in the first week due to the late arrival of speakers). This allowed us to maximize the time available for interaction among the WHEPP participants.

I would like to thank all the speakers for sticking to the deadline of 15 March, 2000 within an error bar of about two and half months. We regret that we did not receive contributions from J-F Grivaz, G Raffelt, Raju Raghavan, Sandip Pakvasa, H S Sharatchandra and Sandip Trivedi. (A version of Pakvasa's talk can be found at hep-ph/9910246 published in a special issue of *Pramana* **54**, 65 (2000).) However this allowed us to relax, occasionally, the page limit on contributions, which had been imposed initially.

Apart from the talks and the working group reports, one important aspect of these proceedings is the inclusion of the Indian Neutrino Observatory (INO) report. The possibility of a Neutrino Observatory located in India had been discussed as early as 1989 during several meetings held that year. Since then this question has come up in many private discussions, off and on. The issue was raised again in the first meeting of the Neutrino and Astroparticle working group during WHEPP-6 and it was decided then to collate concrete ideas for such a detector. The INO report records the result of these deliberations.

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The organization of WHEPP-6 would not have been possible without local support from staff, students and faculty of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences. I would like to thank Prof. R Ramachandran, Director of IMSc for making available all the facilities of the Institute to the WHEPP participants and the Chief Administrative Officer Mr Ramakrishna Manja and his office staff for taking care of all administrative details. I also thank the many faculty members, students and post doctoral fellows of the high energy group of IMSc for helping out not only with the academic aspects of the workshop but also with many of the non-academic jobs that need to be attended to in any workshop of this kind. In particular, I would like to express my gratitude to Rathin Adhikari, Ramesh Anishetty, K R S Balaji, Gautam Dutta, D Indumathi, Pushan Majumdar, M V N Murthy,

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