



हैदराबाद विश्वविद्यालय University of Hyderabad

Cordially invites you to

Dr. Yellapragada Subba Row Memorial Lecture

Entitled

Covid Pandemic: The Journey so far

by

Dr. Priya Abraham
Director, ICMR, Pune

on

**Tuesday, 16th August,
2022 at 11:00am**

Venue

**S-6, Second Floor
Dr. Zakir Hussain Lecture Hall**

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor will preside

Dean
School of Medical Sciences

Dr. Priya Abraham is currently the director of the ICMR- National Institute of Virology (NIV) in Pune, which not only identified the first Covid 19 case in India, but also has made huge contributions to the genomic studies of SARS-CoV2 in India during this critical juncture of the pandemic. Under her leadership, the NIV contributed to the first two SARS-CoV2 genome sequences from India, which was shared with the Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data (GISAID)

Dr. Abraham graduated from Christian Medical College in Vellore and served as the Head, Department of Clinical Virology, at Christian Medical College, Vellore. She has also served on Technical working groups for WHO. Additionally, Dr. Abraham has been involved in national surveillance studies of viral infections, specially the blood borne hepatitis viruses.

Dr. Abraham's first interest was Pediatrics and Infectious diseases, but viruses have grabbed her more attention in recent years due to Covid-19 pandemic. She says, "Virology is where the greatest challenges and triumphs have taken place, and it has helped in the expansion of our understanding of medicine, science, agriculture and several related fields. Virology is spectacular, and by understanding the biology of viruses, one gets to understand the biology of the cells in which viruses grow. This also helps us find cures to other diseases, such as cancer." She goes on to highlight that all the major pandemics in the history of humankind except plague and cholera have been caused by viruses. She also quotes, "Knowing our environment and ecology, we should have the capacity to forecast what is most likely to hit us. And also to find the prime drivers that could hasten the process of virus or microbial agents that could cause these huge outbreaks."

With the experience of handling more than two pandemic waves, Dr. Abraham would be delivering the prestigious Dr Yellapragada Subba Rao Memorial oration on the challenges and opportunities presented by the pandemic.