

## **Webinar celebrating the legacy of Prof. G. N. Ramachandran**

NIPER S.A.S. Nagar had organized a webinar on Sept. 24, 2022 (Saturday) to celebrate the birth centenary of one of the most brilliant minds of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the renowned biophysicist, Prof. G. N. Ramachandran (1922–2001). Prof. Ramachandran carried out his research work entirely in India and his understanding of peptide and protein structures is the matter of standard biochemistry textbooks the world over. The webinar had four eminent scientists as speakers: (i) Prof. George D. Rose from Johns Hopkins University, who spoke on “Gopalsamundram Narayana Ramachandran (GNR) and the eponymous plot : An enduring legacy”, (ii) Prof. T. P. Singh from AIIMS New Delhi, whose topic was “Foundation of modern protein structure research was laid by the path breaking discoveries of Professor G.N. Ramachandran : Structure based applications of innate immunity proteins against invading microbes”, (iii) Prof. B. Jayaram from IIT Delhi, who talked on “Experimental higher order Ramachandran Maps anticipated the advent of accurate protein tertiary structure prediction protocols such as Alphafold”, and (iv) Prof. Manju Bansal from IISc Bangalore, whose topic was “‘Always avoid the beaten path’: GNR'S advice that I have tried to follow”. The speakers discussed different facets of Prof. GNR's life and work, as a PhD supervisor as well as his discovery of the collagen structure and the phi-psi plot. His contribution to science lesser known to structural biologists was also discussed. The speakers also highlighted how the foundation that his work has laid down has accelerated the field of drug discovery and protein-ligand binding.