

## **Discussion on the Discovery of Gravitational Waves by Dr K G Arun, Member, LIGO Scientific Collaboration & Felicitation of Dr K G Arun by BSS and Loyola Physics Association**

23 August, 2016: A felicitation program honouring Dr K G Arun of Chennai Mathematical Institute and Member, LIGO Scientific Collaboration was organised on August 23, 2016 at Loyola College, Chennai. This was jointly organised by the Breakthrough Science Society, Tamilnadu Chapter and the Loyola Physics Association.

Dr Uma Ramachandran, President, BSS Tamilnadu, presided. Dr Jerome Das, Department of Physics, Loyola College welcomed the enthusiastic gathering of students and teachers from 10 city colleges. Shri Joseph Prabagar, Department of Physics, Loyola College gave an introduction in Tamil about gravitational waves.

Felicitations were offered by Dr R Venkatesan, Member, Advisory Committee, BSS TN and Shri George Joseph, Secretary, BSS TN. In his talk, Dr Venkatesan emphasised the need to learn the history of science and the lives of great scientists in the teaching and learning of science. Dr K G Arun delivered an insightful lecture entitled "Listening to the Cosmic Whispers - The Dawn of Gravitational Wave Astronomy". He presented an overview of the LIGO experiment, its historical background, the salient features and the challenges faced. At the end of his lecture, in the interactive session, several students asked questions.

The program came to a close with the presentation of a memento to Dr Arun by Prof Ramu Manivannan, Member, Advisory Committee, BSS Tamilnadu.





