

## Foreword

The fundamental constituents of matter are thought to be quarks and leptons, which interact by exchange of gauge bosons. The hadrons (baryons and mesons) are colour neutral objects made of quarks interacting via strong interaction mediated by gluons. There is, however, still no clear understanding of the internal structure of the hadrons and their properties. Various probes such as photons, electrons, muons and hadronic particles have been employed to explore the properties of hadrons. Recent discoveries of pentaquarks have opened up new avenues for theoretical and experimental studies in this area. New experimental facilities have come up in recent years, which will help in providing fresh insights into the nature of the strong interactions. The theory of Quantum Chromodynamics, which is accepted as the theory of quarks and gluons, can be tested more rigorously by careful measurements using these facilities.

The present workshop on Hadron Physics has dealt in different aspects such as medium modification of hadron properties, hadronic structure and excitations and the underlying theoretical models. Our country does not have any accelerator facility at present for carrying out these studies. The 2.5 GeV electron synchrotron at CAT, Indore, once it becomes operational, has the potential for exploring the field of intermediate energy hadron physics. The present workshop has covered the experimental and theoretical scenarios in the frontier area of hadron physics. The workshop proceedings will be a very helpful source of information for the researchers in this field.

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