

## **Webinar on “Emerging viral infections: New frontiers and challenges”**

- Topic:** Emerging viral infections: New frontiers and challenges
- Speaker:** Dr Atanu Basu (Joint Director, Electron Microscopy and Pathology Group, National Institute of Virology, Pune)
- Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2021 (Saturday)
- Time:** 5:30 PM

### **Biography of the speaker:**

**Dr Atanu Basu** is presently Joint Director & Head, Electron Microscopy and Pathology Group, National Institute of Virology Pune, India. His research interest are: Pathogenesis and development of therapeutics for viral hemorrhagic fevers, Electron microscopy and structural virology, High Containment Research and Biosecurity. His group has developed a state-of-art Biosafety level maximum Containment Complex at NIV Pune that is now fully functional and is a national asset. This facility is the backbone for both translational and basic research on extremely infectious viruses of public health importance in India.

In the beginning of the pandemic, with just a handful of reported cases during March 2020, India deposited two sequences with the Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data (GISAID). At NIV Pune, Dr. Basu’s lab produced the first transmission electron microscope image of the virus in the country—with the classic spikes we are now familiar with. The work, published in the Indian Journal of Medical Research, paved the way for research on drugs, vaccines and diagnostic tests in labs and pharma companies across the country.

Dr Atanu Basu is Fogarty Fellow, Fellow EMSI. Dr Basu is a recipient of Robert Koch Oration Award (Robert Koch Institute Berlin Germany), Gold Medal Calcutta University. He is Adviser on Biosecurity International Federation of Biosecurity, Task Force member, Biosecurity, Govt. of India. Dr. Basu is member of several societies which includes American Society of Virology, European Society of Microscopy and International Society for infectious diseases.