

Colloquium

On

“Biomembranes: Where Physics, Chemistry,
Biology and Medicine Meet”

by

Prof. Amitabha Chattopadhyay

Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad

Abstract: Biological membranes are complex assemblies of lipids and proteins that allow cellular compartmentalization and act as the interface, through which cells communicate with each other and with the external milieu. The biological membrane therefore constitutes the site of many important cellular functions involving transfer of information from outside to the interior of the cell. In physical terms, membranes can be treated as a complex oriented fluid which is a weakly coupled, non-covalent and anisotropic assembly of molecules in two-dimensions (and can therefore be treated as soft matter). Membranes are heterogeneous in the context of a wide range of spatiotemporal scales. A unique aspect of such an assembly is its dynamics spanning a large range of time scales, which supports a wide variety of biological processes, necessary for cellular function. Monitoring membrane dynamics with all its complexities continues to be a challenge in contemporary membrane biophysics. A fundamental issue of biological relevance is how cell membrane dynamics could be related to cellular signaling. Another important emerging area is the role of cellular membranes in the entry of pathogens to host cells. I will provide a broad overview of these issues in this lecture with examples taken from literature as well as work from my laboratory.

Day and Date : **Tuesday, September 01, 2015**
Time : **4.00 pm**
Venue : **PF-AG 14, Seminar Room, Prefab**

All are Welcome