

## National Symposium on Very High Energy Gamma – Ray Astronomy (NSGRA-2013): a report

The National Symposium on Very High Energy Gamma-Ray Astronomy was organized jointly by the Astrophysical Sciences Division, BARC and the Department of High Energy Physics, TIFR during 25-27 November, 2013 at the Training School Hostel, BARC, Mumbai. About 90 delegates from various national institutes and universities participated. 12 invited talks on various aspects of multi-wavelength observations were organized during the morning sessions and 30 contributed papers were presented in the afternoon sessions. 10 posters on various aspects of ground-based gamma-ray astronomy were also displayed. On the last day special sessions were organized to discuss the status of the MACE and HAGAR gamma-ray telescopes. A panel discussion was also organized to discuss the need for Indian participation in the Cherenkov Telescope Array

(CTA) project – a VHE observatory being set up by an international collaboration of 170 institutes from 27 countries. Prof. S. Ananthakrishnan, Pune University, Prof. P. Sreekumar, Director, IIA, Bengaluru, Prof. V.C. Sahni, BARC, Prof. P.R. Vishwanath, Ex TIFR, Prof. B.S.Acharya, TIFR, Dr. V. Chitnis, TIFR, Shri. Y.S. Mayya, BARC, Shri R. Koul, BARC, Dr. R.C. Rannot, BARC, Dr. A.K. Mitra, BARC, Dr. A.K. Tickoo, BARC and many other delegates participated in the discussions. It was the considered opinion of the delegates that participation in the CTA project would be beneficial to the astronomy and astrophysics community of the country. It was suggested that the details of possible in-kind contribution to the CTA be worked out and a project report be submitted to DAE for funding. The symposium was funded by BRNS and TIFR.



A group photograph of the participants of the NSGRA-2013