

GOUGING THE GOD PARTICLE

23rd of July, 2019 was quite the magical day for the science students of classes XI and XII of PSBB KKN. In an age of rapid, mind-boggling and machine-driven science and tech, we got to scratch the surface of the God particle.

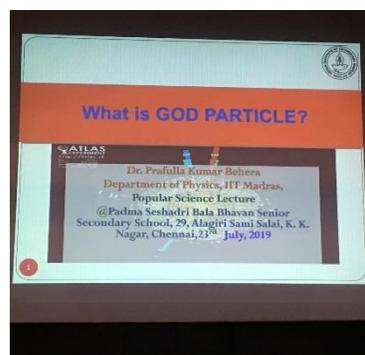
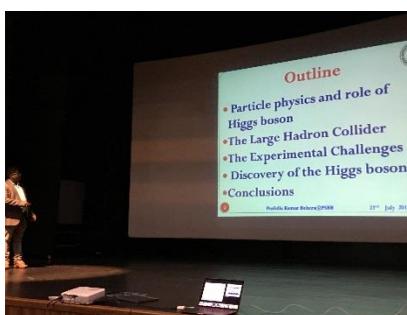
The Higgs Boson particle, dubbed the God particle, which has fascinated scientists and science lovers all over the world, has only recently been discovered in the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN, Switzerland. And the students of PSBB got to listen to a lecture by Dr. Prafulla Kumar Behera, particle and high energy physicist, who worked in the ATLAS experiment that led to the discovery of the SM Higgs Boson.

From the start to the end, Dr. Behera had the audience in the YGP Auditorium rapt with the knowledge he presented and his prowess in his subject. It was truly humbling to be the student of a professor in the Dept. of Physics, IIT Madras, even if it was only for the 2 hours the lecture ran for. The doctor expounded his experience of working at the Large Hadron Collider at Switzerland for the discovery of the Higgs Boson, which saw the whole world congregate to take a giant step in the field of science.

Dr. Behera gave us an introduction to the topic in a simple, straightforward manner, which made it all the more interesting and exciting. Given the topics were completely new to us, it is worth mentioning that Professor Behera kept his explanation lucid thus ensuring our attention and triggering our curiosity. He spoke at length on subjects of Particle Physics, the Big Bang theory, the significance of the Higgs Boson and his contribution to the experiment at the LHC.

His accounts were very informative and were a real treat to us students. Prof. Dr. Behera threw the floor open to questions from the audience after the lecture and answered the inquisitive queries of the students with great enthusiasm. He also encouraged the students to pursue careers in science and aim to work in such niche fields, promising us of the immense scope of all the things unexplored in the universe, for us to study and work on in the coming years.

On the whole the lecture was very educative and engaging and threw light on one of the lesser known but fascinating subjects in physics. The lecture left us all humbled at our place in the world. We truly felt a miniscule fraction closer to understanding the universe, and proud to be part of a community on the cusp of an unparalleled scientific revolution.



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