**Department of Community Medicine**

**Report on Guest Lecture (World AIDS Day 2022)**

Date:02/12/2022

Time: 11 AM to 1 PM

Venue: Lecture Hall-1, AIMS

Audience: MBBS Phase III Part-1 students & teaching faculty

**World AIDS day** is observed on 1st December of every year by the World Health Organization. The objective is to raise awareness, to improve the understanding of HIV transmission among people, to celebrate the achievements done so far towards ending the epidemic and to honor those who have lost their lives battling this fatal disease.

The theme for this year was **“Equalize**”. Discrimination against People Living With HIV (PLHIV) is a major obstacle hindering the progress in preventing and reducing the occurrence new infections. It is a major barrier for accessing and delivering equitable essential HIV care services.

In this regard, Department of Community Medicine had organized a guest lecture to expand our knowledge in management of HIV/AIDS and raise awareness about issues of discrimination while managing HIV cases among our students and faculty.

The program was inaugurated by Dr Venkatesh D, Vice Principal, AIMS. Welcome address was delivered by Dr Radha R, Professor & Head, Department of Community Medicine. This was followed by a brief introduction of the guest speaker by Dr Sheethal MP, Associate Professor, Department of Community Medicine, and felicitation of the speaker by Vice Principal, AIMS. Vote of thanks was given by Dr Manuja LM, Assistant Professor, Dept of Community Medicine.

Scientific session was started off with a brief presentation on ‘Introduction to HIV and Global & Regional Data of HIV/AIDS’ by Dr Amulya N, Assistant Professor, Dept of Community Medicine.

The guest speaker Dr VHT Swamy, Senior medical Officer, Ashakirana Hospital, Mysuru delivered the keynote session. It focused on challenges encountered by treating doctors while handling HIV cases. He emphasized on issues of inadequate sex education among youth of our country, social stigma, discrimination, ethical issues, vulnerable groups and more. Lastly, he threw light on the recent guidelines in the treatment, pre and post exposure of HIV infection.

The program was concluded with a Q&A session.