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Rapporteurs Committee

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Session 1: Inaugural Address

- **Theme**: Crisis of compromised ethics and human rights in Public Health Emergency/Access, Rights and Justice in Public Health Emergency
- **Speaker**: Dr Gagandeep Kang (Leading Virologist)
- **Topic**: Ten Months Of The Pandemic: The Scientific And Humanitarian Challenges
- **Main Points**: Comparison between 1918 influenza pandemic and the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic
- **Scientific Challenges**: Need for appropriate data and development of new drugs and not just the vaccine
- **Humanitarian challenges**: Consequences of the lockdown
- **Science and trust need to work together for future pandemics**
Session 1: Keynote Address 1

- **Speaker**: Dr Sundar Sarukkai
- **Topic**: The moral crisis of public health
- The talk provided a broad overview on the moral and ethical challenges in dealing with the concept of public health during the Covid-19 pandemic with a special focus on the nature of the term “public” in “public health itself.
- Public Health is political by nature and “questions of morality and ethics in public health are not a set of epistemological claims but are political processes.”
- A stronger ecosystem needs to be built only when there is empathetic citizenship within it.
Speaker 2: Adv. Mihir Desai

Topic: Human rights and social justice in a pandemic

Tension generated between civil liberties and the Human Rights of Indians during the pandemic

Provided a brief overview regarding the laws and Acts that are in use during a crisis

A person’s civil rights are curtailed the government must make sure that his Human Rights are not affected
**8th National Bioethics Conference**

**Session 2: Panel Discussion**

**Theme:** A defining feature of Covid-19 in India has been the hurdles faced by ordinary citizens in accessing care.

**Moderator:** Dr. Sanjay Nagral

**Panelists:** Dr Sandeep Budhiraj, Dr Bhavin Jhankaria, Malini Aisola, Rajiv Nath, Sucheta Dalal, Adv Talha Abdul Rahman

**Issues and Questions discussed:**
- Decision to cap prices on N95 masks, PPE in health care
- Should the cost of protection of healthcare workers be borne by the patient?
- Regulation of private sector in healthcare
- Who are the gatekeepers of the medical profession?