

DR RAJAN SAXENA

Vice Chancellor,
NMIMSDr Suresh Ghai Memorial Award for Outstanding
Management Leadership

Dr Rajan Saxena is the Vice Chancellor and Distinguished Professor of Marketing, NMIMS University. Prior to this, he has been the Director of IIM, Indore; S P Jain Institute of Management & Research (SPJIMR) and the Dean of Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies, Mumbai. He has over 41 years of experience in management education, research, consulting and institution building. He is an alum of Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi, from where he did his Bachelor and Master's programmes in commerce. He was awarded his PhD by Delhi University. He has taught at reputed institutes nationally and internationally. Among these are XLRI-Jamshedpur, SPJIMR, Mumbai, IIM Calcutta, NMIMS and IIM Indore. He has also taught in University of Calgary, Canada and has been a British Council visitor at the University of Sterling, UK, where he also taught in the entrepreneurship programme. He is a Visiting Professor at Pace University, New York.

Dr Saxena's interests are marketing strategy, services marketing and customer relationship management. He has consulted over 50 Indian and multinational companies. He has published 60 articles in Indian and foreign journals. His book titled *Marketing Management* by Tata McGraw-Hill is in the fourth edition and is one of the widely used text books. He has received several awards. In 1990 he was the first management teacher in India to be recognized by Bombay Management Association as the Best Teacher of Management.

Acknowledging the **GURUS**

Even though it comes way down in the preference list for professions to choose from, those who decide to enter it work relentlessly to make the world a better place. On the occasion of Teachers' Day, Higher Education Forum felicitates 21 distinguished members of the teaching community for their exemplary work in their chosen fields

It was an august gathering on the occasion of Teacher's Day, when the stalwarts of the Indian education industry descended on H R College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai for the annual Teachers' Day felicitations event organized by Higher Education Forum (HEF). HEF is one of the largest online education communities with over 4000 members worldwide.

Twenty one teachers and academic leaders representing different areas of expertise were felicitated for their outstanding contribution to their chosen field, in various areas of education, teaching and research.

The event started with lighting of the lamp, Dr Rekha Bahadur, Vice Principal of H R College aptly quoted Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan while delivering the welcome address, saying, "The future of India lies in her classrooms."

Founder and Convener of HEF, Dr A K Sen Gupta passionately stated the necessity of recognizing the effort of this community, which he terms as the most important stakeholders in the education sector. He also stated that as a choice, teaching as a profession comes way at the bottom of the list. He ended his speech with the thought that, "Teachers need to take a pledge that building the future is their responsibility."

Dr Vinod Tibrewala, Chancellor of Shri J J T University (JITU) opined



Winners all: The awardees and the dignitaries at H R College

that the youth needs to be taught how to earn their bread and butter with dignity. Guest of Honour Jagdeep Kapoor, CMD, Samsika Consulting, narrated an interesting anecdote dating back to his school days that taught him his first lessons in fruitful collaboration. He left the audience with some food for thought, marketing mantra of his – "Jo dikhta hai, woh bikta hai," indicating that in this day and age, visibility is essential for success.

The other Guest of Honour, renowned management guru Prof Sharu Rangnekar stressed the need of learning versus education, which is termed as overrated if it did not fulfill the basic need of teaching the students values of life. Picking up on the Sanskrit definition of educa-

tion, which means liberating someone from something that is to something new, he said, it was time to think about such experiences which encourage students to think.

Without much ado, and keeping well on the time track, the awardees

were then introduced by senior members of the Higher Education Forum, Prof Parag Amin, and Prof Nishi Kaul, as the special guests handed out the awards.

As is tradition with such events, the five special awards were saved for the last, which were introduced were Dr Sen Gupta himself. Each of the awardees was an institution in

himself, Dr Sen Gupta mentioned, and rightly so.

The first of these was given to Dr D Y Patil, Director and Professor at Bharati Vidyapeeth's Institute of Management Studies & Research, Navi Mumbai for Academic Achievement. Next were the three Lifetime Achievement Awards to Former Professor Director of Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management Studies, Mumbai, Dr Guruprasad Murthy; renowned scientist and former Secretary of the Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, Dr Prabhakar Lavakare; and renowned educationist and Former Director, IIT Bombay, Dr Ashok Misra.

Dr Murthy expressed his gratitude and said that the award made him feel as young as ever. Dr Lavakare

expressed deep passion for teaching, despite not being a teacher. Dr Misra dedicated the award to his students, since he feels it is their reaction to the teacher's effort that matters. He spoke of trying to find a way to harness the finances to provide partnerships between colleges and the parallel system of coaching classes.

The grand finale saw the bestowing of the newly instated memorial award, the Dr Suresh Ghai Memorial Award for Outstanding Management Leadership, which was awarded to Vice Chancellor of NMIMS, Dr Rajan Saxena. In his inimitable style, Dr Saxena left the audience spell bound with the few words he spoke. He fondly remembered Dr Ghai, the former Director General of KJ Somaiya Institute of Management Studies & Research, Mumbai, whose untimely demise left the industry without a great thinker. Dr Saxena also thanked and remembered with names the teachers who have left a lasting impact on him.

Prof Vikram Parekh, Dean – Marketing of SIES College of Management Studies and a senior member of HEF delivered the vote of thanks.

The event was attended by over 150 delegates comprising faculty members, corporate representatives, awardees, and their family members, awarders and delegates. Ad guru and theatre personality Alyque Padamsee and former Sheriff of Mumbai Dr Kiran Shantaram also graced the occasion.



The inaugural session (L-R): Jagdeep Kapoor, the audience enjoys a moment, and Dr A K Sen Gupta

THE SPECIAL AWARDEES

DR GURUPRASAD MURTHY

Former Professor Director of Jamnalal Bajaj Institute
of Management Studies, Mumbai
HEF Lifetime Achievement Award (in association
with Shri J J T University)

Dr Guruprasad Murthy has several academic qualifications to his credit. These include MCom from Mumbai University; a Graduate of ICAME (Stanford, USA); PhD, LL.M (Criminal Law), and Associate Certified Fraud Examiner (ACFE), USA. He has been Professor Director of Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management studies and Principal, R A Podar College of Commerce and Economics in the past. He is the founding Director of Dr V N Bedekar Institute of Management Studies, (Thane), where he presently is Professor Director-General. He is also a visiting professor in different management institutes, including S P Jain Institute of Management and Research, Mumbai and others across the globe.

An eminent management expert and noted authority in finance and accounting, Dr Murthy is a well-known author, researcher, teacher and management consultant. He is a prolific writer and has several books and research papers to his credit. He has won many national and international awards for his contribution to management. He has been conferred with the Life Time achievement Gold medal by Indian Solidarity Council, New Delhi and The Rashtriya Vidya Saraswati Puraskar award by International Institute of Education and Management Delhi for outstanding achievements in the chosen field of activity.

DR PRABHAKAR J LAVAKARE

Renowned Scientist and former
Secretary of the Science Advisory Council
to the Prime Minister
HEF Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr Prabhakar J Lavakare completed his MSc (Physics), from the University of Bombay. He was a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Student Fellowship and pursued his MA at the University of Rochester in the US, and completed his PhD in Physics from the same university. Dr Lavakare has been a research scientist at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay; a Special Assistant to Chairman, Electronics Commission, Government of India; Executive Secretary, Indian Pugwash Society; Adviser/ Science Administrator, Department of Science and Technology, India; Secretary, Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India; Consultant to UNDP and UNESCO on Science, Technology and Development; in the past. He has held many other positions as well. He is also the Founder Member and Patron, Education Committee of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

Dr Lavakare's professional interests include: scientific research; science policy formulation for national development; science administration and management; international collaboration; educational and cultural exchanges and promotion of international education and management. He has published over a hundred papers and articles, edited four and authored two books for the National Book Trust.

DR ASHOK MISRA

Renowned Educationist and Former Director,
IIT Bombay
HEF Lifetime Achievement Award (in association
with Shri J J T University)

Prof Ashok Misra is the Chairman-India and Head of Global Alliances of Intellectual Ventures. Prior to this, he served as the Director at IIT Bombay, from 2000 to 2008. He also worked at IIT Delhi from 1977 to 2000; and at Monsanto Chemical Co from 1974 to 1977.

He completed his BTech from IIT Kanpur, MS at Tufts University and PhD at the University of Massachusetts, in the US. He was awarded the Doctor of Science by Thapar University, Patiala. He is a Fellow of National Academy of Sciences India and was its President from 2006 to 2008 and a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering.

Prof Misra is on the Board of Directors of Reliance Industries Ltd and was on the board of National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. as well as Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. He has been on the Boards of several national and international institutions. He has received several awards including SS Bhatnagar Memorial Award at the 94th Indian Science Congress; Distinguished Alumnus Awards from University of Massachusetts, IIT Kanpur and Tufts University; Distinguished Service Award from IIT Delhi and National Systems Gold Medal to name a few. He has co-authored a book, has six patents and published over 150 international publications.

DR D Y PATIL

Director, Bharati Vidyapeeth's Institute
of Management Studies & Research,
Navi Mumbai
HEF Special Award for Academic Achievement

Dr Dattajirao Y Patil is the Director and Professor at Bharati Vidyapeeth's Institute of Management Studies & Research, Navi Mumbai, since 1996. He is also a member of the Management Council and Senate at University of Mumbai; Joint Director, Bharati Vidyapeeth Educational Complex, Navi Mumbai; member of Management Council - Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune; and Secretary - Forum of Management Institutions, University of Mumbai. He completed his BSc from Shivaji University, Kolhapur; MBA (Marketing) from Pune University, Pune; and PhD from Pune University, Pune.

Dr Patil has offered research guidance to 14 students in several areas of management, and has published many research papers on topics ranging from knowledge process outsourcing to supply chain management and internalization of management education to total quality management in business education. Apart from that, he has been crucial in organizing many conferences and short-term courses. These range on topics across the board, including 'Brand India: A Global Destination'; 'India Inc: A Decade Ahead'; 'National Workshop on Research Paper Writing' among many others.

He is also a member of a number of professional associations and the recipient of many awards.