

Vice-Chancellor IGNOU



Prof VN Rajasekharan Pillai

Vice-Chancellor

Prof VN Rajasekharan Pillai is the Vice-Chancellor of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi. He is also Chairman of the Distance Education Council (DEC). The DEC looks after the co-ordination of standards, quality, recognition and developmental assistance to all the 13 State Open Universities and other Open and Distance Learning institutions in the country.

He has served as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC) in New Delhi; Director of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore; Vice-Chancellor of the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala; Vice-Chancellor of the Cochin University of Science and Technology; Founder-Director of the School of Chemical Sciences; Dean of Faculty of Science; Controller of Examinations; Director of College Development Council; Founder-Director of the School of Professional Distance Education and Chief, Employment and Information Guidance Bureau of the Mahatma Gandhi University.



Brief Bio-data of Professor D P Agrawal

Professor D.P. Agrawal is Chairman, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), New Delhi. He took over as Chairman on 16-08-2008. Prior to this he worked as Member, UPSC for the period from October, 2003 to August, 2008. Before joining this prestigious position Professor D P Agrawal was the founder Director of ABV Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management (ABV-IIITM), Gwalior, IIITM was set up by Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India in the year 1998 and declared by Government of India, in 2001 as a Deemed University. ABV- IIITM is a unique and apex Institution for producing leadership manpower in the areas of information technology and management in an integrated manner. Under his leadership Institute acquired world class reputation and has created a place in industry. Many initiatives started by him at IIITM, Gwalior have been replicated in the country.

Professor Agrawal has been an eminent teacher, educational administrator and institution builder. He was Professor and Dean at IIT- Delhi from where, in 1994, he took over as Joint Educational Adviser (T) in the Ministry of HRD, Government of India. While in the Ministry of HRD, he planned and developed a number of initiatives at national level in technical education, particularly in the areas of information technology and computer education. He has made substantial contribution for the development of vocational education through advice and guidance. He was instrumental in conceptualizing a number of new institutions.

Professor Agrawal was National Project Director of the World Bank assisted project for strengthening technical education in India. This project covered 19 states and 590 polytechnics.

He has contributed to the development of Centres for Excellence in higher technical and polytechnic education. His initiatives as a Project Director for Indo-UK-REC's Project, lead to REC's become National Institute of Technology.

Professor Agrawal was Managing Director of Educational Consultants India Ltd. (Ed.CIL), a PSU of Government of India. He brought about major changes in work culture of this organisation, including decentralized decision making and transferring functional responsibilities to lower executives.

At IIT Delhi, Professor Agrawal held many key administrative positions including Dean of students. He was very active in academics and research too and supervised over 100 theses at PhD, Masters and Undergraduate levels. He has been a consultant to a number of companies. He has been a member of Editorial Boards of National and International journals. He attracted research funds to IIT, Delhi, for his projects from Defence, DST and CSIR. His research papers have received awards from Institution of Engineers. In addition to being a member of a number of governing bodies of institutions, Professor Agrawal is a fellow member of a number of professional institutions and societies in India and abroad.

Professor Agrawal has contributed significantly to the growth of quality technical education in the country through his close interaction with AICTE. He has been Chairman of Central Regional Committee of AICTE and Chairman of many Boards of AICTE. In past he is known for his out of box thinking related to higher and technical education. He has been the recipients of many awards including "Eminent Engineers' Award from Institution of Engineers. He has been awarded with the Honorary Degree of Jiwaji University, Gwalior, in the 'Convocation Ceremony' held on 29.10.2009.

Professor Agrawal was born on 2nd October, 1949. After graduating in Engineering in 1970 from AMU Aligarh, he obtained M Tech from IIT Delhi in 1972 and later his PhD from IIT, Delhi. He has been a visiting faculty at Imperial College, London, and Cranfield University in the UK. He has lectured in Germany and Czechoslovakia. He has led a number of delegations of Government of India to the USA, Australia, Germany, New Zealand and Canada.
