



Indian Psychiatric Society Andhra Pradesh State Branch

DR. D.S. RAJU MEMORIAL ORATION AWARD

Conferred upon



DR. PRATIMA MURTHY

On behalf of the Indian Psychiatric Society – Andhra Pradesh State Branch, it is a matter of immense honour and privilege to present the Dr. D.S. Raju Memorial Oration Award to Dr. Pratima Murthy, former Director and Senior Professor of Psychiatry at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru, in recognition of her extraordinary contributions to psychiatry, addiction medicine, mental health policy, research, education, and institutional leadership.

Dr. Pratima Murthy has had a distinguished academic and professional career spanning over three decades. She completed her MBBS from Bangalore Medical College in 1985 with distinction, followed by her Diploma in Psychological Medicine and MD in Psychological Medicine from NIMHANS, earning several academic honours for excellence. She further enhanced her expertise with a Diploma in Psychiatry from the Victoria University of Manchester, UK, where she was recognized as the best-performing psychiatrist among participants from developing countries.

After serving in clinical positions in Manchester, she returned to NIMHANS in 1993 and rose through every academic rank to become Senior Professor, Head of the Centre for Addiction Medicine, Head of the Department of Psychiatry, and Director of NIMHANS (2021–2026). Her visionary leadership strengthened NIMHANS as a globally respected centre of excellence in mental health, neuroscience, research, education, and patient care.

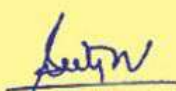
An internationally acclaimed authority in addiction psychiatry, Dr. Murthy has pioneered innovative approaches to the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders. Her work has shaped national mental health and substance use policies, and she has served as an advisor to the World Health Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. She has played a pivotal role in landmark national initiatives, including Tele-MANAS, and has advanced a rights-based approach to mental healthcare through her work with the National Human Rights Commission. She also established the NIMHANS Heritage Museum, preserving over 160 years of the institution's remarkable legacy.

A prolific scholar, Dr. Murthy has authored more than 450 peer-reviewed publications, along with numerous books, monographs, and edited volumes that have significantly influenced addiction medicine, psychiatric research, and public mental health. Her contributions have informed policy, enriched clinical practice, and inspired generations of mental health professionals.

Her outstanding achievements have been recognized through numerous prestigious honours, including the Tilak Venkoba Rao Award, Raja Ramanna Award for Excellence in Science, WHO Regional Director's Award for Tobacco Control, Rotary Lifetime Achievement Award, DLN Murti Rao Award of the Indian Psychiatric Society, honorary doctorates from Sri Sathya Sai Health University and Dr. YSR University of Health Sciences, the India Today Top 100 Women recognition, the Devi Award, and the Forbes India W-Power Award.

Through her exemplary leadership, pioneering research, dedicated teaching, and unwavering commitment to patient care and mental health advocacy, Dr. Pratima Murthy has made an enduring impact on psychiatry in India and beyond.


Dr.T.V. Pavan Kumar
Secretary - IPSAPSB


Dr.GVS Murty
Awards Committee Chairman
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