



“Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award” is presented to men and women from various walks of life for their outstanding services, achievement and contributions in their particular professions. The award intends to spot and recognize the hidden talent in the country.

“Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award” was conferred to Dr. S. S. Ameta, Retired Director, Geological Survey of India, on 18th November 2009 on the eve of 92nd birth day of Late Smt. Indira Gandhi, Ex Prime Minister of India, at the All India National Unity Conference held at India International Center, New Delhi. Dr. Ameta did his M.Tech from Roorkee university in 1970 and Ph.D. from Regional Engineering college, Kurukshetra University. He joined Geological Survey of India on 30.03.1974 as Geologist (Jr.) and retired on 31.03.2008. Dr. Ameta carried out Mineral Exploration for 14 years (1983 to 1998) and established sizable deposits of cement grade limestone in Nanglam area of Bhutan,

copper, lead and zinc in Rajasthan. In Dariba – Bethumbi- Surawas belt he was instrumental in tracing the concealed deposits (150 m to 200 m below surface) for 5 km containing a workable deposit of lead-zinc in North Sindesar Ridge, Lathiyakheri and Sindesar Khurd blocks. For this discovery he was awarded **National Mineral Award for the year 2002.**

Dr. Ameta also arranged and took part in 8 expeditions (1974-80) for geological mapping in remote and virgin areas of the Great Himalayan Range of Kinnaur district, Himachal Pradesh. For 5 years (1980-83 and 2003-05) he carried out and supervised the Geotechnical Investigation of 25 Hydel Power Projects in Jammu, Kashmir, Ladakh, Arunachal Pradesh Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Assam. He was also associated with the earthquake investigation of 19th January and 26th January 2001 at Kinnaur and Bhuj respectively. He was a regular Faculty Member to impart training on various aspects of mineral exploration during 1989-91 and permanent core faculty member since last 15 years and imparted training to the officers (Class I and II Gazetted and senior officers and Foreign Officers of 14 countries). He published 70 scientific papers and prepared about 50 technical reports including geotechnical investigation and mineral exploration. He was also the editor of GSI Records Part-7 (Vol. 130 to 135).

Dr. Ameta is working for the upliftment of the society irrespective of cast and creed as he started scholarship for the student of class 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th on regular basis (every year) at the Higher Secondary School and distributing school uniform to the students. For last 10 years Dr. Ameta is running meditation centre (free of charge) related to Gurudev Siddha Peeth, Ganesh Puri, dist Thane, Maharashtra.

