



GOVERNANCE AWARDS

2014

13-12-2014

EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Amitabh Kumar, IRS

For changing the orientation of tax administration from enforcement to tax payer service and for introducing several innovative schemes in the field of tax administration.

A 1987-batch officer of the Indian Revenue Service, Amitabh Kumar did an MBA from Southern Cross University, Australia, Advance Management from Maxwell School of Public Policy, USA and Leadership & Change Management from Wharton Business School, USA besides being an alumnus of University of Delhi. He received 3 commendation certificates from MOS Finance (the most by any IRS officer) on the occasion of 150 years of the Income Tax Department in 2011-12. Besides, his contribution to public service has been recognised almost every year since 2007 by CBDT.

He is credited with having launched a Tax Return Preparer Scheme (TRPS) that involved online training to unemployed graduates to enable them to prepare tax and TDS returns (at a very nominal cost) for those who could not do it themselves. The scheme has so far provided employment to nearly 10,000 graduates and helped more than 50 lakh taxpayers in filing returns. The scheme found reference as one of the 9 most innovative schemes in Asia in the book *BYOB*, published by the Department of Administrative Reforms, Government of India.

His scheme of Aayakar Sewa Kendra, to act as a single window interface between taxpayers and the Income Tax Department, identified 18 services provided by the field formation of the department, giving definite timelines for delivery of these services. He also introduced the concept of Tax Payers Lounge to showcase all taxpayer services such as PAN application, e-filing, e-payment, viewing of refund status online, viewing of taxpayer status online, TRPS and so on, under one roof. The Tax Payers Lounge has been awarded for four consecutive years by the ITPO for presentation, use and popularity.

Amitabh Kumar is posted as Director, Income-Tax (HRD), CBDT in the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India.



THE
JURY

Prabhat Kumar
Former Cabinet
Secretary of India

Anil Razdan
Former Secretary,
Power

Vishnu Bhagwan
Former Chief
Secretary, Haryana

M B Kaushal
Former Secretary,
Internal Security