



**GOVERNANCE  
AWARDS  
2015**  
28-11-2015

**EXCELLENT  
CONTRIBUTION AWARD**

*Rakesh Kumar Gupta, IAS*

**For implementing pathbreaking reforms in the UPSC examinations by IT-enabling of the entire examination process and implementing reforms in the Civil Services Examinations**

*A* 1986-batch IAS officer of the Jammu & Kashmir cadre, Rakesh Kumar Gupta has had a distinguished career and held important positions in various government departments. Prior to his current assignment, he served as Chief Vigilance Officer, National Consumer Cooperative Corporation (Govt. of J&K) and Principal Secretary to the Governor (Govt. of J&K), among other positions. As CEO and State Election Commissioner, Govt. of J&K, he handled the critical and challenging job of conducting elections in the state in a very peaceful manner and computerised the electoral rolls in Urdu, using Unicode software.

As Commissioner of Science and Information Technology, Govt. of J&K, he formulated the IT policy for the state. He was instrumental in setting up Community Information Centres in backward areas to increase information technology penetration in rural areas and bridge the digital divide in J&K. As Special Secretary, Social Welfare, Gupta is credited with setting up the council for rehabilitation of victims of militancy. As Power Secretary, he initiated power sector reforms, drafted the Regulatory Commission Act and gave a big boost to non-conventional energy sources.

Gupta graduated with distinction from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi in civil engineering. Additionally, he has an MBA degree from IGNOU and an MA in governance and development from the University of Sussex, UK. As Additional Secretary and Controller of Examinations, UPSC, he is credited with IT-enabling of the entire examination process in the UPSC, initiating and implementing reforms in the Civil Services Examinations and introduction of Ethics papers in the Civil Services (Main) Examinations. He is also well-known for his love for theatre and was a founding member of Dramatech, a theatre group.

In recognition of his contributions, he was conferred the Chief Minister's Gold Medal for Honesty, Integrity, and Meritorious Public Service by the Government of J&K.

Presently he is the Principal Secretary, Department of Forests & Environment, Government of Jammu & Kashmir.



THE  
JURY

**Prabhat Kumar**  
Former Cabinet  
Secretary

**Anil Razdan**  
Former Secretary,  
Power

**Vishnu Bhagwan**  
Former Chief  
Secretary, Haryana

**M B Kaushal**  
Former Secretary,  
Internal Security