

MEMBER - DR. INDIRA RAJARAMAN

Dr. Indira Rajaraman holds a BA (Honours) degree from Delhi University, 1966; MA from Cornell University, USA, 1968; and Ph.D from Cornell University, USA, awarded at the mid-year Commencement in January 1974. Her major specialisation was development economics, and minor specializations were economic theory and public finance.

She taught for eighteen years on the Economics faculty of the Indian Institute of Management in Bangalore, from February 1976 to April 1994. From April 1994 she held the RBI Chair at the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy in Delhi, until her superannuation at the statutory age of sixty in August 2007. In 2002-03, she held the NABARD Chair for a year on deputation at the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi. She continues at NIPFP in an honorary capacity as Professor Emeritus.

During the last fifteen years her research has spanned three broad subject areas. The first is the Indian fiscal federation from a macro perspective, including political economy and debt sustainability issues, the fiscal impact of trade policy reform and legislated fiscal correction. The second is studies of tax and non-tax handles in the fiscal domain of states, such as user charges on irrigation, and liquor taxation. The third category covers the fiscal domain at the level of local government; her book on this issue was abstracted in the Journal of Economic Literature. Her writings have appeared in the Journal of Policy Modeling, Journal of Development Economics, and other journals and books published by Elsevier, Springer Verlag, Oxford University Press, John Wiley, the Brookings Institution, and the Indian Econometric Society. Her work has been cited in the Handbook of Public Economics.

Dr. Rajaraman has delivered academic talks at a number of institutions such as the IMF in Washington, and the Kennedy School at Harvard University. She is an acclaimed teacher, and writes on policy issues in the financial press. She has testified before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance on pending financial legislation. She was a member of the Board of Governors of the General Insurance Corporation during 1997-2001. She was a Member of the Advisory Panel on Transparency Standards for the Committee on Financial Sector Assessment set up jointly by the Government of India and the Reserve Bank in 2007. She was Chairperson of the Public Expenditure Review Committee of Kerala, Member of the Economic Policy Reforms Council of Rajasthan, and a Member of Working Groups on Assessment of Central Resources for the Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plans.

Dr. Indira Rajaraman is currently Member, Thirteenth Finance Commission of India.