

CITATION

Dr Devdas Menon received his B.Tech. (Civil Engineering) from IIT Madras in 1980, and M.Tech. in Structural Engineering from IIT Delhi in 1983. He completed his doctoral research at IIT Madras in 1994. After a few years of industry experience and a teaching career at NIT Calicut, he joined the Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Madras, as a faculty member in 1998. He has been serving as Professor since 2004.

His primary research interests are in the area of structural concrete design, as applied to buildings, bridges and special structures. He has also carried out innovative research and development in affordable building systems, and in biomechanics orthopaedic devices. The recent work done by his team on glass fibre reinforced gypsum, resulting in the construction of a two-storeyed demo building in the campus, in just one month, has received much attention and acclaim as a potential solution to the problem of rapid and affordable mass housing in India.

Dr Devdas Menon has published extensively, and is known for his textbooks on *Reinforced Concrete Design*, *Structural Analysis* and *Advanced Structural Analysis*. He has always been one of the most sought-after teachers in the Department. He has also contributed to NPTEL through video / web courses on *Advanced Structural Analysis* and *Prestressed Concrete Structures*, which are extremely popular. He has contributed to the development of national standards, and is presently the Chairman of the Bureau of Indian Standards CED 38 Committee on *Special Structures*. He is also well-known in the industry as a structural design consultant.

In addition to his contributions to teaching, research and development in civil engineering, Prof. Devdas Menon has a special interest in holistic education. He is the author of a popular book titled "*Stop sleepwalking through life!*", published in 2004 by Yogi Impressions. He has also been conducting workshops for students, teachers and corporate organizations on finding meaning and fulfilment in life through self-awareness and inner transformation. His lectures on this topic have been very popular with students as well as alumni, and have transformed the ways in which students look at their education and career paths. These lectures, which are available on YouTube, have attracted the attention of non-IIT viewers as well. Prof. Menon has also designed and teaches two unique courses on *Self Awareness* and *Integral Karmayoga*, which have gained popularity among students from various disciplines across the Institute.

Prof. Devdas Menon has been instrumental in changing the outlook of the student population at large. He has initiated and served as the Faculty Advisor of the *Reflections* forum of the Institute since 2003, and has organized the lecture series and magazine, *Reflections*, which worked towards bringing out various unexplored horizons that lie within and lead to a better living. In 2013, the IIT Madras Alumni Association conferred on him their annual award for *Distinguished Service to the Institute*.

Dr Devdas Menon is an excellent role-model of a teacher who is passionate about teaching and hence is adored and admired by his students. The Institute is proud to confer upon him the ***Srimathi Marti Annapurna Gurunath Award for Excellence in Teaching*** for his demonstrated proficiency and innovativeness in teaching.

55th Institute Day
April 17, 2014

(signed)
Director, IIT Madras