

Dr. Rajul K. Gajjar

Ex. Vice Chancellor, Gujarat Technological University (GTU)

Dr. Rajul K. Gajjar is an eminent academic leader and a distinguished figure in the field of engineering education, with over **four decades of experience** in academia, research, and administration. She has significantly contributed to the advancement of engineering and technical education in India.

She holds a **Doctorate in Structural Disasters from M.S. University, Baroda**, along with her **UG and PG degrees from L.D. College of Engineering**. Throughout her career, Dr. Gajjar has been a driving force behind **academic excellence, research, innovation, industry collaborations, and skill development**.

Academic and Research Contributions

Dr. Gajjar has an extensive research background with **over 66 National and International Research Publications, four authored books, and three granted patents** to her credit. She has supervised **more than 30 PG and 8 Doctoral students** and led **over 38 high-impact projects**, covering areas such as **international collaborations, Centers of Excellence, research innovation, accreditation, and ranking frameworks for excellence in engineering education**.

Her contributions to research and innovation are evident in GTU's outstanding achievements, including **publishing 160+ patents, 1,700 registered Ph.D. scholars, and publishing 683 research articles in SCI journals**. Under her leadership, GTU has received **₹18.5 crore in IP funding**, reinforcing the university's position as a research-driven institution.

Leadership and Administrative Roles

Before assuming the role of Vice Chancellor at GTU, Dr. Gajjar served as the **Principal of L.D. College of Engineering** and other **Government Engineering Colleges in Gujarat**. She also held key administrative positions such as **Additional Commissioner of the Education Department, Government of Gujarat** and **Officiating Vice Chancellor of the Teacher's University**.

Transformative Initiatives at GTU

Under her visionary leadership, GTU has achieved **several national and international accolades**:

- **Securing a 5-Star Rating in the Gujarat State Institutional Rating Framework (GSIRF).**
- **Ranking among the top 100 universities under the 'State Public University' category and top 50 under the 'Innovation Category' in NIRF 2024.**

- Spearheading GTU's **entrepreneurial ecosystem through GTU Ventures**, nurturing **over 750 startups**.
- Strengthening **industry-academia partnerships through GTU SKILLS (Syama Prasad Mookerjee Kendra for Industry & Lifelong Learning Skills)** to bridge the gap between academia and industry.
- Leading **GTU's global engagement programs**, fostering collaborations with **Canada, Germany, Australia, and the USA**, and promoting **International Experience Programs (IEP), Dual Degree Programs, and Global Internships**.

Recognitions and Awards

Dr. Gajjar's contributions have been widely recognized at the national level:

- Honored with the prestigious **ISTE Fellowship** at the **54th ISTE National Faculty Convention** for her contribution to technical education in the country
- **Eminent Civil Engineer Award** by the Institution of Engineers India
- **Leadership Award** by NASSCOM
- **Best Innovation Practices Award** by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat
- **International Recognition at Vibrant Education Summit** by the Hon'ble HRD Minister.
- **Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Citation Award for Leadership in Academic Excellence and AI** by ReThink India.

National & Global Contributions

Dr. Gajjar actively serves on **National Committees for NEP 2020 Implementation**, focusing on **industry-integrated experiential learning, digital transformation, and multidisciplinary education**. She closely collaborates with **NBA, AICTE, professional bodies, and research organizations** to shape India's higher education landscape.

With extensive **international exposure in the USA, Canada, Australia, Hungary, Austria, Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand**, she continues to champion **global academic collaborations, innovation-driven policies, and future-ready education models**.

Her leadership and vision are paving the way for **GTU's transformation into a globally recognized center for academic and technological excellence**.