

PROFESSOR MAMTA MOKTA

A distinguished academician, presently serving as a Member of the Himachal Pradesh Public Service Commission (HPPSC), Professor Mamta Mokta possesses an outstanding academic and professional record spanning more than three decades. She completed her Bachelor of Science (Medical) in First class from St. Bede's College, Shimla in 1988, followed by M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. in Public Administration from Himachal Pradesh University. She secured the first position in the Master of Arts examination and was awarded the University Gold Medal in 1990 for the highest academic distinction. In addition, she earned Post Graduate Diploma in Journalism and Mass Communication (2005) in First class and a Post Graduate Diploma in Disaster Management (2006) First class Class from IGNOU.

Her professional career began in 1992 with the Department of Higher Education, Government of Himachal Pradesh, where she served as Lecturer (College Cadre) at Rajkiya Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Shimla for thirteen years. In 2005, she joined Himachal Pradesh University as Associate Professor and was promoted to Professor in 2009. She served the University for nearly two decades and brings with her an extensive teaching experience of 33 years at the undergraduate, postgraduate, and research levels.

During her tenure at Himachal Pradesh University, she held several important academic and administrative positions, including Chairperson of the Department of Public Administration on five occasions, Director, Centre for Women Studies and Development (2013–2018), Director, Institute of Himalayan Studies, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences (2021–2023) & Dean Students' Welfare (2024–2026). Her leadership significantly strengthened academic programmes, research initiatives, and student welfare mechanisms within the University.

Dr. Mokta has written and edited 8 books and 17 activity reports. She has made substantial contributions to scholarship through the publication of more than 85 research papers in reputed national and international journals, edited volumes, and conference proceedings. Her research addresses contemporary themes such as good governance, administrative ethics, gender justice, social inclusion, public policy analysis, and inclusive governance, contributing meaningfully to academic discourse and policy debates. She has successfully completed five sponsored research projects funded by agencies including the UGC, Police Department, Health Department, and the Integrated Institute of Himalayan Studies. Sixteen scholars have been awarded the Ph.D. degree under her supervision.

An active participant in academic forums, she has presented over 100 research papers at national and international conferences and has delivered keynote addresses and invited lectures on numerous occasions. She has also played a pivotal role in organizing academic activities, having coordinated nearly 30 conferences and seminars and 20 workshops at departmental, university, state, and national levels, besides contributing to several major academic events of the University.

Her areas of specialization include public policy and governance, administrative reforms, ethics in governance, innovative governance practices, sustainable and inclusive development, and effective public service delivery. She has actively engaged with the wider public through radio and television programmes, including interviews, poetry

recitations, budget discussions, panel deliberations, and thematic talks broadcast on All India Radio Shimla and Himachal Doordarshan.

As invited resource person in various workshops and training programmes She has delivered 235 lectures in various institutions such as the Himachal Institute of Public Administration, Central Board of Workers' Education, Police Welfare Training Programmes, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Himachal Upbhokta Sanrakshan Parishad, Cooperative Training Institutes, and the Madan Mohan Malviya Centre of Himachal Pradesh University. She is associated with several professional bodies as an Executive Member of the International Political Science Association, New Public Administration Society of India, and the Indian Institute of Public Administration, and has also served as Research Associate at the Indian Institute of Advanced Study.

Beyond academia, she has played a multifaceted role in community engagement by organizing anti-drug campaigns, gender sensitization programmes, sanitation drives, blood donation camps, consumer awareness initiatives, Jan Sunwais, and community health camps. Her work at the grassroots level reflects a strong commitment to social responsibility and collaboration with civil society and government organizations. She is also a poet, and her first collection of poems titled "*Mamta ki Chhaon Mein*" has been published.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to public administration, teaching, and research, she has received several prestigious honours, including the **V. Bhaskara Rao Lifetime Achievement Award (2025)** from the New Public Administration Society of India, the **Eminent Professor Award (2025)** at a National Seminar organized by Kurukshetra University, the **Swami Vivekanand Women Pride Award (2025)**, and the **Nation Builder Award (2024)** conferred by Rotary District. As a dedicated teacher, committed researcher, and responsible academic leader, she continues to uphold the highest standards of intellectual integrity, academic excellence, and service to society.