

Our 21st President

Dr. Narendra Kumar Verma was sworn in as the 21st *President* of the Indian Geological Congress (IGC) on July 19, 2018 for tenure of two years (2018 & 2019). He is the 6th *President* of this association to be chosen from ONGC – the country's petroleum sector top-notch group of industries. The entire Executive Council shared the happiness on the installation.

Presently, **Dr. N. K. Verma** is MD, CEO & Whole-Time Director, ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), the position to which he was elevated on August 27, 2014. ONGC Videsh operates exclusively outside India and currently has a portfolio of 41 live projects of oil and gas assets, spread over 18 countries. He was promoted to the current position from the post of Director of Exploration and Whole-Time Director in the same organization, preceded by his erstwhile position as Director of Exploration in Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC).

As Director of Exploration, OVL, Dr. Verma is credited for the development and implementation of exploration strategy and business development of the company for a reckoned duration only of about 15 months. Even during this short duration, he amazingly demonstrated outstanding competence in the challenging job in the domain of oil exploration due to background of his high level education & vast and diversified experience in research and at site for nearly three decades of engagement in overseas exploration & Frontier basin, Mumbai offshore and Assam-Arakan basin, and as Head of Interpretation Group at the Geodata Processing and Interpretation Centre (GEOPIC) of ONGC.

Chronicle of his brilliant overseas service is also traced from his involvement as assessor of the blocks/basins in offshore areas of Vietnam, Indonesia, Myanmar, Qatar, Iran (including outland terrains), Middle and North Caspian.

Creditably, in addition to his normal duties in OVL, Dr. Verma also supplements his credentials by working as Director of Imperial Energy Corporation, PLC. Earlier, he also served as Government Nominee Director, ONGC until April 3, 2017 and Chairman, ONGC TERI Biotech Ltd. (2013-14).

N. K. Verma is highly qualified techno-administrator and manager in India oil industry. With M.Sc. (Geology) Special, earning Silver Medal from Lucknow University, Ph.D. Geology from Kumaon University, M.Tech. (Petroleum Exploration) with Gold Medal from IIT (ISM) Dhanbad; he subsequently acquired MBA (Finance) from IGNOU, Delhi; one-year Global Business Manager Program from IIM, Kolkata and one-year Business Leader Program from ISB, Hyderabad. All these acquisitions along with his wide practical experience have been his valuable possessions to ascend to the professional ladder, presently on the rank of MD & CEO in OVL. Because of his outstanding performance in various positions he held, Dr. Verma continued to earn awards & distinctions one after another. Of these, notable ones are as follows :

- National Mineral Award 2001 from Government of India for outstanding contributions, especially in petroleum exploration in Mumbai offshore.
- One of the Vice Chairs of the Bureau of the Elite Expert Group for Resource Classification for United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) during 2014-2018.
- Ph.D. (*honoris causa*) in Petroleum Engineering by Graphic Era University for his esteemed contribution in the field of petroleum exploration.
- Business Leader of the Year – Exploration, CHEMTECH Leadership & Excellence Award 2016.
- Golden Global Achievement Award by Institute of Economic Studies.
- Lifetime Fellowship of Indian Geophysical Union.

He has published 30 technical papers and 40 technical reports at national and international forums. We are sorry that we are handicapped for want of space and time to go into more details of his CV. We, however, wish him long & fruitful life and the fraternity of geosciences, as a whole, long for his resources and wherewithal for creating a fraternity complex, a geo-fraternity home, under the aegis of the Indian Geological Congress, a neat & clean society throughout its lifetime, for bolstering geoscience-related activities/events, intellectual pursuits and geo-ethics. It should also serve as a gateway to future investigators to the west & northwest Himalaya. The project is a dream plan of the IGC, but couldn't materialize yet owing to immutable set forth targets.



Dr. Narendra Kumar Verma

Managing Director & CEO,
ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL)