

OBITUARY

The Tuberculosis Association of India (TAI) is saddened to announce the demise of its past President Dr Dhanpat Rai Nagpaul in New Delhi, on 2nd January 2017. He was 96.

Dr. Nagpaul was closely associated with the Tuberculosis Association of India (TAI) as Vice-Chairman (1992-99) and its President (1999-2003). He was also the Editor of the official journal of TAI – Indian Journal of Tuberculosis (1990-2002). The TAI bestowed upon him the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012.

He was Director of the National Tuberculosis Institute, Bangalore, India (1963-76). Dr Nagpaul is one of the main architects of the National TB Control Programme - the forerunner of the present Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme. The Eighth Expert Committee of WHO (1964) standardized and promoted the National TB Programme model among member countries. In recognition of his contributions in tuberculosis the Government of India conferred Padamshree to Dr Nagpaul in 1975.

Dr Nagpaul was the WHO Medical Officer to Philippines where he guided the organization and operationalization of the National TB Institute; and TB Adviser to WHO's WPRO region.

Born and brought up in Leiah, District Muzuffargarh, Punjab (now in Pakistan), he graduated from Lahore Medical College, Lahore, and obtained Tuberculosis Disease Diploma from Cardiff University, UK and MPH from Johns Hopkins, USA.

He was a preacher and teacher. Mentor to generations of TB professionals and a model Editor.

He is survived by two daughters (both practising doctors in USA) and a son (doing business in Delhi).

Our deepest sympathies and thoughts are with Dr Nagpaul's family and many friends.