

Dr. Mini Shaji Thomas

Director, National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli

Dr. Mini Shaji Thomas is the Director of National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, an Institution of National Importance, one of the top Technical Institutions in India, offering 10 UG, 28 PG and Ph.D. programmes with around 6400 students in the campus.

Under her leadership NIT Tiruchirappalli developed a 5 years strategic plan to be among the top 500 institutions in the world, with specific goals and targets. As part of the implementation, a 190 crore Centre of Excellence in manufacturing, with Siemens as the industry partner is setup in 2018. The Institute is ranked among the Top 10 in Engineering in the NIRF India ranking 2019.

Before joining NIT, Dr. Thomas was the Founder Director of the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE) and Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

Dr. Thomas was a faculty member at Delhi College of Engineering, Delhi (now DTU), and at the REC (now NIT), Calicut, Kerala before joining Jamia. She graduated from University of Kerala (Gold Medalist), completed her M. Tech from IIT Madras (Gold Medalist, Siemen's prize) & Ph.D. from IIT Delhi, India, all in Electrical Engineering.

Dr. Thomas has set up the first of its kind SCADA laboratory and Substation Automation (SA) Laboratory at JMI, with Industry involvement. She, as the founder coordinator, drafted the curriculum, started a unique, first full-time, M Tech program in the Faculty of Engineering & Technology, JMI, in 2003 in Electrical Power System Management, with industry participation. For these contributions, Dr. Thomas won the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Educational Activities Board (EAB) Meritorious Achievement Award 2015 for 'Design and Development of curriculum and laboratory facilities for professionals and students in the electric utility industry". She is the author of the text book 'Power System SCADA and Smart Grids' by CRC Press, Taylor and Francis, USA. She is a 'Distinguished Lecturer' of IEEE Power & Energy Society and has 140 Research publications to her credit.

She is a certified trainer for 'Capacity building of Women managers in higher education', by UGC and has conducted many training sessions for Women empowerment.

Dr. Thomas has travelled extensively, delivered lectures in prestigious universities and has interacted with technical experts from all over the world.