

Item from AMRITA University web site, dated October 6, 2006

### Dr. N. Narayana Rao joins Amrita fraternity as Distinguished Amrita Professor of Engineering



In a solemn function in Amriteshwari hall on October 6, 2006, Dr. N. Narayana Rao gave a talk to the School of Engineering faculty members. Dr. N. Narayana Rao is Edward C. Jordan Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. During the course of his talk, Dr. Rao narrated the journey so far from modest beginnings to where he now stands as a world renowned professor and author.

Brahmachari Abhayamrita Chaitanya, Chief Operating Officer, gave the welcome address and Dr. Venkat Rangan, Vice Chancellor of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, introduced Dr. Rao to the audience. In his brief talk, Dr. Venkat Rangan narrated the events that ensued from signing the Indo-US initiative with leading universities that resulted in the first series of full length courses on three engineering topics. Dr. Rao delivered the first of the series of Indo-US E-Learning lectures on "Engineering Electromagnetism."



In his talk coupled with a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Rao elucidated on a series of events guided by the providential course that led to his homecoming to Amrita campus. In his insightful and inspirational talk, Dr. Rao also elucidated on two terms he coined - "Grattitude" (Gratitude + Attitude) and "Workship" (Work + Worship). Dr. Rao said that his lifelong search found its path finding culmination in his coming to Amrita campus, a search that was driven by Science, Spirituality and Service. Ruminating on his meeting with AMMA at Amritapuri, Dr. Rao described Amritapuri as the Indian capital of Compassion. Towards the end of the talk, Dr. Rao recited a poem he composed celebrating his homecoming to Amrita campus. His "IndiAmerican" poem expressed so well the richness of intellect he gained during his

pursuit of science spread well over four decades in America and the richness of heart he inherited as an Indian.



Towards the end of his talk, Dr. Rao donated a set of all the editions of his book "Elements of Engineering Electromagnetics" to Brahmachari Abhayamrita Chaitanya and remarked that more books from his collection will eventually reach the Amrita campus. Prior to this, Dr. Rao had donated over 60 copies of the Indian edition of his book to the participating students, who attended his lecture series on "Engineering Electromagnetism!"