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Dr Satya Paul Agarwal is a renowned neuro surgeon, academician and a public health administrator. He is the Secretary General of Indian Red Cross Society since November 2005 and is currently the Chair of the IFRC Advisory Body on Sustainable Development and Health. In the past He has successfully discharged responsibilities of several high offices including that of the Director General of Health Services, Government of India from 1996 to 2005. Dr Agarwal is also the President of Tuberculosis Association of India (TAI) an NGO with pan India presence.

As public health administrator, he played a pivotal role in execution of various disaster relief operations and control of disease outbreaks/epidemics. Dr Agarwal is a prolific writer, and in addition to numerous chapters and articles, he has authored and edited several books.

In recognition of his dedicated service to the nation, Dr Agarwal has been awarded many prestigious awards including the Life Time Achievement Award for TB 2005, Dr B.C. Roy National Award for the "Eminent Medical Person" in 2002, and was conferred with D.Sc., by Panjab University in 2007 The Henry Dunant Medal — the highest honour was bestowed by Red Crescent Movement for the work following Tsunami in 2004. Conferred Padma Bhushan Award which is one of the country's highest civilian awards and is given for distinguished service of high order in January 2010.