

BIO DATA

Name - Dr. AVS Ramesh Chandra, Indian Foreign Service (1989 Batch)

Address - Flat 2, Floor 1, Ist A Crossroad, Koramangala 4th Block, Bengaluru -560034, KARNATAKA

Mobile no. - 97177 – 95837

Mail id - sairamesh08@gmail.com

Experience:

I have been with the Ministry of External Affairs for over 35 years since August 1989. I served as the Ambassador of India in Romania (and Moldova and Albania), as the High Commissioner in Uganda (and Rwanda and Burundi), and as the Chargé d'Affaires in Turkey. I also served as Minister (Political) in Moscow (Russia), and as a Senior Diplomat in Embassies / High Commissions / Missions in New York (Permanent Mission of India to the UN), Afghanistan (Interim Consul General of India in Jalalabad), Pakistan (2003-06, as Press Counsellor) and in Central Asia (Uzbekistan).

Retired as a Secretary [Level 17, Apex scale] in the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt of India, on 30 November 2024.

Education:

1987-89 - Masters Degree in Veterinary Science (Dairy Technology)

1982-87 - Bachelors Degree in Veterinary Science

1980-82 - Intermediate (+2), AP Residential Junior College
Nagarjuna Sagar, Andhra Pradesh, India

Academic honours:

- adjudged **Outstanding Student in the State of Andhra Pradesh** for Academic Excellence, Health and Character: Awarded Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Commendation Gold Medal in July 1988;
- held First Rank among 84 students in B.V.Sc; awarded **Lions Club** (District 302) **Gold Medal**, and **“Earn While You Learn Poultry Project”** Gold Medal;
- selected for **Nizam’s Gold Medal** in M.V.Sc, (Dairy technology);
- felicitated in the **First-in-First Felicitation Function** for securing highest marks in College;
- awarded **‘National Merit Scholarship’** from School through B.V.Sc;
- secured **‘Competition Success Review National Merit Prize’ (1985)**;
- awarded Animal Husbandry Department Merit Scholarship (1982-87).

Extra-curricular Activities:

a) Literary awards:

- (i) Silver Medal for “National Security Essay”, Mussoorie (1989);
- (ii) WHO State Trophy for Best English Essay on “Health For All by 2000”, India (1985);
- (iii) Second Prize, All India Inter-University Group Discussions Contest, Kashmir (1986);
- (iv) Won elocution and essay contests at various youth Festivals in India (1983-87);
- (v) Delegate, UNESCO international Youth Year Seminar on “Youth and Human Unity”.

b) Sports:

- (i) Captain, University Basketball team at Inter-University tournaments (1986 & 1987).
- (ii) Member, University Football team at State Inter-varsity Tournament, Anantapur, AP.
- (iii) Athletics-Winner of prizes in sprint events at Inter-collegiate Tournaments.
- (iv) Horse Riding: Won “Director’s Gold Medal” at the National Academy (1989); earlier participated at Republic Day Parades mentioned below.

c) National Cadet Corps (NCC):

- (i) Member of State Horse riding contingent to National Day Parades in 1985 & 86; Fourth place in National Show-jumping (‘Have-a-Gamble’)
- (ii) ‘C’ (highest) Certificate holder with distinction.
- (iii) Comperer, Chief of Army Staff’s Horse Show at New Delhi (1986), Andhra Pradesh State Governor’s Horse Show (1987), and other shows.

A few significant honours received while in the Indian Foreign Service include the following:

- 2015 – As High Commissioner in Uganda, I was instrumental in the **High Commission of India receiving the Best Foreign Mission Award from the Ugandan Government**, and received the Award from the Vice- President of Uganda.
- 2013 - When serving in Turkey, I was awarded the **“Young Leaders Reversing the Clock”** award for my contributions to India-Turkey relations.
- 2008 – While serving in the Russian Federation, I was awarded a special Commendation Award and a Medallion from the Gazprom Company / Tribuna Newspaper / Moscow Local Government for my significant contributions in strengthening Russia- India relations- one of the very few Indian diplomats with

this distinction, and received this award from Mr. Oleg Kuzin, Chief Editor of the daily, in the presence of the then Indian Ambassador Prabhat Shukla.

Publications / Speaking engagements

Author of several Papers presented at International Seminars at Institutions such as the International Institute of Security Studies (IISS), Geneva over the past three and a half decades. I have had a number of Speaking engagements, especially during this past decade or so.

As an IFS Officer (1989 Batch of IFS-A), I served in the following Missions/ assignments over the past 35 ½ years:

December 1990 to September 1991 :

Third Secretary (Language Trainee), Embassy of India, Moscow
(Secured a Distinction (5/5) in Russian language studies from the Moscow State University.)

September 1991 to September 1993 :

Second Secretary (Economic & Commercial), Embassy of India, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

October 1993 to November 1996 :

Consul / Actg. CG, Consulate General of India, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation.

December 1996 to August 1998 :

Under Secretary on deputation to the Ministry of Defence, New Delhi

August 1998 to July 1999 :

Deputy Secretary (Foreign Service Personnel & Cadre), New Delhi.

July 1999 to August 2002 :

First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India to the UN, New York. (India's Delegate to the 5th (Finance & Budget) Committee)

August 2002 to November 2002 :

Deputy Secretary on deputation to Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), UN Secretariat, New York

November 2002 to August 2003 :

Interim Consul General of India, Jalalabad, Afghanistan.

September 2003 to August 2006 :

Counsellor (Press & Info), High Commission of India, Islamabad, Pakistan.

September 2006 - March 2009 :

Counsellor / Minister (Political), Embassy of India, Moscow.

March 2009 to October 2010:

Joint Secretary / Deputy Director General (DDG), Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), Sapru House, New Delhi.

October 2010 - March 2014:

Minister/ Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Ankara

(Charge d'Affaires / Acting Ambassador, Embassy of India, Ankara, during Mar 2011 to Sep 2011)

2014- 2016:

High Commissioner of India to Uganda, with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Rwanda as High Commissioner, and to the Republic of Burundi as Ambassador)

2016-2018:

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of India to Romania (also accredited as Ambassador to Moldova, and Albania.)

2018-2020:

OSD / Acting President, South Asian University (SAU), New Delhi.

2020-2024:

Additional Secretary / Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

Summary:

Professional skills, and expertise, over 35 ½ years are primarily in the area of International Diplomacy, essentially bilateral, but also multilateral diplomacy (United Nations, New York). Strategic policy planning, analysis, and coordination of policy conception, formulation and implementation have been my forte. Experience garnered over the last 35½ years of service is equally in the areas of financial and personnel management in large establishments of the Government of India, both in India and abroad.
