

Mr. Balkrishna Shetty
Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Sweden



Mr. Balkrishna Shetty was born on 15 June 1950 in India. He did his B.Sc Honours in Mathematics from Presidency College, Calcutta (1970) and M.Sc. (Mathematics) from Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (1972). After a period of research in Mathematics at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, he joined Indian Statistical Service in 1973 and was Assistant Director, dealing with Industries and Trade Statistics in Central Statistical Organisation, Government of India, New Delhi.

He joined Indian Foreign Service in 1976. After two years of training in India, he was posted at the Permanent Mission of India, Geneva (1978-1981) to learn French, and thereafter to work in the Mission as Second Secretary. He was transferred to High Commission of India in Bangladesh as Second Secretary (Press and Culture) and subsequently as First Secretary, dealing with Economic and Commerce matters (1981-1984).

He returned to India and was posted as Under Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Commerce, New Delhi from 1984-1986, dealing with State Trading issues as well as regulation of Indian investments abroad. He was appointed Deputy Director General(Administration) at the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi from 1986-1988, and was, inter alia, involved with the Festival of India in Soviet Union.

He was posted to Indian Embassy in Moscow from 1988 to 1991 as First Secretary (Political) and subsequently as Counsellor (Political) during the perestroika and glasnost years. He was Deputy High Commissioner at the High Commission of India, Singapore from 1991-1995 looking after, inter alia, economic, commercial and investment issues.

During 1995-1997, he returned to India and headed the Technical Cooperation Division as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi, dealing with bilateral, economic and technical cooperation and international disaster relief. He thereafter joined the Foreign Service Institute as Director in charge of Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD).

Between 1997-2001, he was posted at the Embassy of India, Paris, as Minister (Economic), dealing with all bilateral economic matters and relations with Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). He was appointed as Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal and was concurrently accredited to Cape Verde Islands, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania and to The Gambia from 2001-2005. He was associated with the establishment of TEAM-9 (Techno-Economic Cooperation for Africa-India Movement), a regional economic cooperation mechanism between India and eight West African countries. From September 2005 to January 2009, he was Ambassador of India to Bahrain.

He is currently Ambassador of India to Sweden and Latvia.

Mr. Shetty is married with two children. He plays tennis and golf.

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