



Indian Diaspora Council

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Shared heritage, aspirations and interests

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PRESS STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

November 13, 2016 (EST-USA)

RATAKONDA DAYAKAR APPOINTED IDC'S LIAISON TO GOV'T. OF INDIA

The **Indian Diaspora Council (IDC)** is pleased to announce the appointment of **Former Amb. Ratakonda Dayakar** as Indian Diaspora Council's Liaison to Government of India.

This appointment takes effect immediately. The term of this appointment is for a period of three (3) years, is voluntary and can be renewed upon approval of the Board of Directors of the Indian Diaspora Council. The Indian Diaspora Council's Liaison to Government of India reports directly to the president of Indian Diaspora Council.

The portfolio of IDC's Liaison to Government of India shall include: Active interaction, liaison and engagement with the Government of India on behalf of Indian Diaspora Council for matters relating to non-resident Indians (NRIs) and persons of Indian origin (PIOs); for on-going and planned Indian Diaspora Council projects, events and programs in globally; promote and advance the interests of Indian Diaspora Council with the Government of India; advance Indian Diaspora Council's recommendations, suggestions and proposals to the Government of India and solicit collaboration and support where appropriate.

Current major IDC project: March 20, 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the official abolition of Indian Indentureship, an era spanning 1834-1917. The history and consequences of Indian Indenturedship are deeply embedded with importance, meaningful history and reflections to millions of descendants living in many countries which were the recipients of Indian Indentured labourers. The Indian Diaspora Council (IDC), in collaboration with several organizations and institutions in various countries, is coordinating a series of high profile global events to mark the centennial of abolition of Indian Indenturedship. The global convention will be held in March 2017 while there will be a series of global events leading up to that March 2017 convention.

Amb. Dayakar, currently residing in Delhi, was Career Diplomat; he joined Indian Foreign service (I.F.S) 1976 and retired 2010; was Secretary in Indian Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq 1978-82; First Secretary in Embassy of India, Doha, Qatar 1982-85; Dep. Secretary in Gulf Division in Min. of External Affairs (MEA) New Delhi 1985-88; Counsellor (Press & Information) in Embassy of India, Washington D.C. 1988-91; Consul General of India, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam 199-94; Director (West Asia and North Africa) and (Gulf) MEA New Delhi, 1994-96; Joint Secretary (Gulf & Haj), MEA, New Delhi 1996-98; Ambassador of India, Baghdad 1998-2002; Joint Secretary (NRI and PIO Division) MEA New Delhi 2002-04; Joint Secretary (Gulf Division), MEA, New Delhi 2004-05; Ambassador of India, Amman, Jordan 2005-2008; Additional Secretary, MEA, New Delhi 2008-2010; Life Member of Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi.

As Joint Secretary (NRI-PIO), Amb. Dayakar was the nodal officer and the point person in Govt. of India in handling all Diaspora matters. Played key role in implementing the recommendations of High Level Committee on Indian Diaspora by Dr. L. M. Singhvi. Played a central role in organizing the first and second Pravasi Bharatiya Divas events in 2003 and 2004 respectively that set benchmarks for subsequent series. Handled Pravasi Samman Awards' rules and regulations. Visited Diaspora countries in the Gulf, East Africa, and the Caribbean for first hand assessment of their cultural aspirations, their sentiments for India, craving for some sort of bonding with the places of their origin, their interest in economic opportunities in India and desire for dual citizenship etc.

For more information, please contact Ashook Ramsaran, president of Indian Diaspora Council @ ashookramsaran@gmail.com
Indian Diaspora Council (IDC) is an international non-profit organization of shared heritage, aspirations and interests.