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Born in 1941, Mr Sudhir Devare was educated in natural science from Bombay University. He joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1964 and served in India's Missions in Moscow, Washington, Sikkim and Yangon. While serving in the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations in Geneva, he was the alternate delegate to the Committee on Disarmament.

Mr Devare served as Consul General in Frankfurt, Germany and was India's Ambassador to the Republic of Korea (1985-89), Ukraine, Georgia and Armenia (1992-94), where he was the first Indian Ambassador to these newly independent countries, and Indonesia (1994-98).

From 1998 till his retirement from the I.F.S in June 2001, he was the Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi. As Secretary, he dealt with India's bilateral as well as multilateral economic relations and was closely associated with the 'Look-East' policy and the evolving relations with the Asia-Pacific. Mr Devare was the Leader of the Indian delegation at the senior official meetings of India-ASEAN Dialogue Partnership, ASEAN Regional Forum, BIMST-EC, Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation, G-15, G-77, and others.

Mr Devare was a Member of the National Security Advisory Board of India in 2002-03. He was a Visiting Professor at the Jawaharlal Nehru University in 2002 and was the Vice-Chairman of the Research and Information System of Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi.

Mr Devare is a Visiting Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore. His book, *India and Southeast Asia: Towards Security Convergence*, was recently published in Singapore and New Delhi. He has also contributed articles to newspapers, journals, and other publications.