

S. Narayan

Dr S. Narayan has nearly four decades of public service in development administration in the state and central governments, starting in 1965. His last appointment was the Economic Adviser to the Prime Minister (2003-2004). He was responsible for the implementation of economic policies of over 30 ministries including Finance, Commerce and Industry, Petroleum, Agriculture, Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, and Power.

Prior to his appointment as Adviser, he was the Finance and Economic Affairs Secretary, and Secretary in the Departments of Revenue, Petroleum, Industrial Development and Coal since 1997. As the Secretary for Petroleum and Natural Gas, he was responsible for policy formulation and implementation in the hydrocarbon sector, particularly, dismantling the Administered Price Mechanism and disinvestments. In the Ministry of Finance, Dr Narayan's responsibilities included the formulation of macro-economic policy for the government, tariff and taxation policies as well as initiatives for modernising the capital markets. Reforms in the banking sector and the financial Institutions were a major focus of this responsibility. He was one of the key players in formulating the national budget between 2000 and 2004. His special interests include public finance, energy policy, governance issues and international trade.

As the Secretary for Rural Development in Tamil Nadu for several years between 1989 and 1995, Dr Narayan was responsible for launching the micro-credit group initiatives for the rural sector. This initiative has now blossomed into over 300,000 groups in Tamil Nadu. He also initiated several sustainable development programmes, including social forestry, water management and self-employment for the economically disadvantaged. He also worked in an inter-governmental institution in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from 1992-1995 looking at rural development programmes in 11 South Asian and Southeast Asian countries.

Dr Narayan was a visiting fellow at several academic institutions including the National Academy at Mussoorie. He contributes regularly to newspapers, including the Financial Express, Hindustan Times and Economic Times, on issues relating to public policy, governance, public finance, trade and energy.

Dr Narayan obtained his PhD from the Indian Institute of Technology in New Delhi. He has a MPhil (Development Economics) from Cambridge University and Master of Business Management (Finance) from the University of Adelaide. He graduated with a MSc (Physics) from the University of Madras (Madras Christian College).

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