

Mr. Pradeep Kumar, IAS Former Secretary, MHA, Gol

Dr. Pradeep Kumar, a senior member of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS, Retd.), brings with him over 36 years of distinguished experience in public administration. He superannuated as Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, after serving in key positions across both the Government of Uttar Pradesh and the Union Government. His career reflects a rare blend of field-level governance expertise and high-level policy formulation.

Dr. Kumar has held several pivotal roles, including Principal Secretary, Forest and Environment, Government of Uttar Pradesh, and Chairman, UP Pollution Control Board, where he developed a deep engagement with environmental management and sustainability. He later served as Advisor, Environment and Forests, Planning Commission of India, guiding the preparation of national and state-level development plans in this critical sector. His interest in natural resource governance also extended to the mining sector, where he served as Special Secretary, Ministry of Mines, and represented the Government on the boards of the Geological Survey of India and NALCO.

His expertise further spans financial management and foreign investment promotion which he developed in various positions including that of Secretary, India Investment Centre, and Director, Department of Banking, Ministry of Finance. He also served as Financial Advisor, Ministry of External Affairs, and as Government Director on the boards of several public sector banks, as well as nominee Director of BIFR on the boards of multiple companies.

Currently, Dr. Kumar serves as Honorary Advisor to a reputed BPO and is actively engaged in social development through an NGO he runs with his daughter, a senior clinical psychologist, focusing on behavioural change in education, environment, health, and lifestyle. A proponent of sustainable living, he also practices organic farming.

An academic voice on sustainability, Dr. Kumar is the author of the book Medicinal Plants in India: Conservation and Sustainable Utilisation in the Emerging Global Scenario.

