# Dr. Bhaskar Balakrishnan Former Ambassador of India

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#### **PERSONAL DATA:**

Born, Nagpur, India, 22 Sept 1947

Citizen of India;

Lived and widely traveled in Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America

Foreign Languages – French, Spanish; limited knowledge of Arabic, German, and Greek Indian languages - Malayalam, Hindi

### **EDUCATION:**

- Stonybrook University, Stonybrook, N.Y. and M.I.T. USA; 1968-72; Ph.D. in Physics
- Delhi University, Delhi, India ; 1966-68; M.Sc. (Physics)
- Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India; 1963-66; B.Sc. (Hons in Physics)

# **CURRENT POSITION:**

**Science Diplomacy Fellow,** 

Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003, India Website: <a href="http://fisd.in">http://fisd.in</a> Email: <a href="mailto:b.balakrishnan@ris.org.in">b.balakrishnan@ris.org.in</a>

### **POSITIONS HELD:**

- Member, National Security Advisory Board, Govt. of India, 2013-2015
- Member, Planning and Monitoring Board, and Adjunct Faculty, JSS University, Mysore
- Ambassador, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi: Career assignments from 1974 to 2007: -
- Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India: Department of Physics, Panjab University, Chandigarh, 1972-74:
- Research Assistant, Department of Physics, M.I.T., Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1970-71
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Physics, Stonybrook University, New York 1968-70, and 1971-72:

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

- Adjunct Faculty Member, JSS University, Mysore, since Dec 2008, delivered lectures
  on topics such as Biotechnology development, IPRs and drugs, Climate Change, Health
  situation in S.Asian region, Nanotechnology, Health Diplomacy, and Reforms in Indian
  Higher Education. Member of Planning Board and Advisory Committee of JSS
  University, Mysore (2012-2017)
- Adjunct Faculty at Foreign Service Training Institute, New Delhi, Conducted training
  courses for Indian diplomats and for diplomats from Mauritius and South Pacific Island
  countries. Courses covered Writing, reporting and communication skills, negotiating
  skills, speechwriting skills, nuclear weapons and NPT, Climate change, Law of the Sea,
  Development financing, Europe and Middle East issues, etc.
- Member, National Security Advisory Board 2013-2014

PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS: (see website for full list)

Role of Technology in India's Foreign Relations, Indian Foreign Affairs Journal Vol. 6, No. 1, January–March 2011, 70-86,

 $\underline{http://association diplomats.org/Publications/ifaj/Vol6/6.1/ARTICLE\%204.pdf}$ 

Indian Foreign Policy and Diplomacy: The first months of the new government, Indian Foreign Affairs Journal Vol. 9, No. 3, July–September 2014, 205-239, <a href="http://www.associationdiplomats.org/publications/ifaj/Vol9/9.3/9.3%20-%20DEBATE.pdf">http://www.associationdiplomats.org/publications/ifaj/Vol9/9.3/9.3%20-%20DEBATE.pdf</a>

India's Engagement with the Pacific Islands, Indian Foreign Affairs Journal Vol. 10, No. 4, October–December 2015, 353-367,

 $\frac{http://association diplomats.org/Publications/ifaj/Vol10/10.4/IFAJ\%20-\%20Oct-Dec\%202015\%20-\%20ARTICLE\%202\%20-\%20BBalakrishnan\%20(F).pdf$ 

Forum for India Pacific Islands Cooperation moves ahead, IDSA Comment, August 25, 2015, https://idsa.in/backgrounder/south-pacific-and-indian-foreign-policy\_noak\_100516

#### **BOOKS**

"Technology and International Relations- Challenges for the 21 st Century", Vij Publications, New Delhi, India, October 2017, See <a href="http://techandir.wpordpress.com">http://techandir.wpordpress.com</a> for details

# **EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS:**

- Trade Promotion and Economic cooperation work during 1978-80, 1986-95, 2001-2007 in various markets –total of 16 years, including economic trends and analysis, identification of business and market opportunities, commercial dispute settlement, handling of debts, tenders and procurement operations, trade fairs and promotional events, etc.
- Set up and headed the new Division for Investment and Technology Promotion, Ministry
  of External Affairs, 1999-2001 with focus on promotional activities for investment,
  technology, development of knowledge based economy, and energy security, and closer
  collaboration with State governments, and business organizations. Published multisectoral investment guides and promotional materials on India.
- Member Foreign Investment Promotion Board, Govt. of India, and Foreign Investment Implementation Authority, 1999-2001.
- Participated in Preparatory Committee for the establishment of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, 1992-95; Member Genetic Engineering Approval Committee, Govt. of India, set up to implement the bio-diversity convention, and to regulate use of GMOs, 1999-2001; Member Steering Committee for Bio-Medical Research Projects, Govt. of India, 1999-2001
- Coordinator for IT and IT security, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, 1999-2001. Participated in National Security Forum on International Cooperation to combat Cyber crime and Terrorism, Stanford University, Dec 1999; Member, Information Security Task Force, National Security Council Secretariat, Govt. of India, 2000-01
- Special Assistant to Director General, UNIDO, 1995-98; responsible for cost cutting measures following US withdrawal; recruitment of consultants and experts; support for Director General's missions.
- Participation as member of Indian delegation to conferences:on international humanitarian law; UN Committee on Science and Technology; UN Commission on Human Rights; UN Conference on the Law of the Sea; Conference of the Committee on Disarmament; ECOSOC; ILO General Conferences; ILO Committee on Freedom of Association; WHO Assembly; World Conference to combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; UNIDO General Conference and Industrial Development Board.

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