



**Jairam Ramesh - Minister of State for Commerce (from January 2006) and Minister of State for Power (from April 2008)**

**JAIRAM RAMESH** is a Congress Member of Parliament representing State of Andhra Pradesh in the Rajya Sabha. He is also a member of the National Advisory Council. He helped put together the National Common Minimum Programme of the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) that came to power in May 2004. Earlier he was part of the Congress election strategy team for the 2004 Lok Sabha elections.

He was former secretary in the AICC, formerly deputy chairman Karnataka Planning Board (2000-2002), former member of the Rajasthan Development Council (1999-2003), former Economic Advisor to the government of Chattisgarh (2001-03).

Jairam was earlier Advisor to the Finance Minister during 1996-98, Advisor to the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission 1992-94 and Advisor to the Prime Minister 1991. He has served in the Planning Commission, Ministry of Industry and other economic departments of the Central government. He has been entrusted with numerous special assignments like, for example in J&K during 1993-95, for reorganizing India's international trade agencies in 1990 and for implementing the technology missions during 1987-89, for reorganizing the CSIR in 1986 and for analyzing energy policy during 1983-85. He was invited to join the official delegation to the WTO meeting in Seattle in 1999.

He has authored a number of key government reports in areas as diverse as energy, technology, capital goods, industrial policy and telecom. He was a key player in the team that formulated and implemented India's economic reforms in 1991 and 1997.

He studied public management at Carnegie Mellon University during 1975-77. He thereafter spent a year at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) studying technology policy, economics, engineering and management as part of the newlyestablished inter-disciplinary technology policy programme. His undergraduate degree is in mechanical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mumbai in 1975. In 2001, IIT Mumbai presented him with the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Shri Ramesh is married, with two children.