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## THE CENTRE FOR POSTGRADUATE LEGAL STUDIES in association with CENTRE FOR SOUTH ASIAN LEGAL STUDIES

*Cordially invites you to the Distinguished Public Lecture*

on

### **"Evolution of India's Diaspora Policy: Problems and Prospects"**



#### **SPEAKER**

##### **Ambassador R. Dayakar**

*Former Ambassador of India to Iraq, Jordan and Sweden;  
Chairman, Diaspora Affairs Committee  
Antar Rashtriya Sahyog Parishad (ARSP), New Delhi*

Ambassador R. Dayakar joined Indian Foreign Service in 1976 and retired in 2010. He has worked in the Indian Missions in Baghdad (Iraq), Doha (Qatar), Washington D.C. (USA), Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam) and Amman (Jordan). In Ho Chi Minh City, he was Consul General of India. In Baghdad and Amman, he served as Ambassador of India.

At Headquarters in the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi, he has worked in the Indian missions in the Gulf. Ambassador Dayakar has deep knowledge of issues facing the NRIs in the Gulf. As Joint Secretary (PIOs and NRIs) from 2002 to 2004, he is *au fait* with various issues of concern to the Diaspora. He was instrumental in structuring a framework for implementing key recommendations of the High Level Committee on Diaspora, constituted by the Government of India. He played a key role in organizing the first and second Pravasi Bharatiya Divas and in the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards. He has toured the Caribbean and the Gulf countries extensively on the Diaspora work. He represented Government of India at the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Indians in Guadeloupe and Martinique. He is presently working on a book on *Evolution of India's Diaspora Policy*. In addition to Diaspora, his other areas of interest include Geo-politics, Middle East, Africa, Economic Diplomacy, India's Neighbours, Globalization and Soft Power.

#### **Abstract**

The Indian diaspora is remarkable for its numbers, spread, diversity, individual and collective accomplishments and contribution to the country of their citizenship or domicile. Almost in every domain of human activity, the Diaspora has made its mark counting among them Nobel Laureates, writers, entrepreneurs, scientists, political leaders, management gurus and so on. However it took nearly 200 years for the diaspora to grow and acquire a distinctive identity. This process of emergence of the diaspora was a function of evolution of India's own policy and approach towards its diaspora. Now there is a robust official engagement with the Diaspora involving periodic get-togethers with an institutional set up in place including a separate full-fledged ministry to provide framework for constant interaction to address concerns and aspirations of the overseas Indians. While the rise of the Indian diaspora is not a discomfiting phenomenon to the world and is free of unease in the host countries and indeed has become part of India's considerable soft power, it is not without challenges in political, cultural and legal areas. In legal matters in particular the spread of Indians in the western countries and elsewhere is posing challenges to Private International Law. Indians, constituting the second largest diaspora (after the Chinese), offer a number of interesting case studies.

**Date:** Tuesday, 29 September 2015

**Time:** 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

**Refreshments will be served**

**Venue:** Class Room No- XXVII, T-3, Mezzanine North Side  
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