



## **august Ambassadors For All Seasons**



our alumni are a brilliant Diaspora of Diplomacy

Navtej Singh Sarna	IFS 1980	Washington DC USA	Shubhdarshini Tripathi	IFS 1994	Jordan
Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha	IFS 1981	UK	Smita Purushottam	IFS 1980	Switzerland
Pankaj Saran	IFS 1982	Russia	Vikram K Doraiswami	IFS 1992	Korea
Vijay Gokhale	IFS 1981	China	Jawed Ashraf	IFS 1991	Singapore
Dr Mohan Kumar	IFS 1981	France	Muktesh K Pardeshi	IFS 1991	Belize
Ashok Kumar Sharma	IFS 1981	Finland and Estonia	Vikram Misri	IFS 1989	Myanmar
Riva Ganguly Das	IFS 1986	NY USA	Manika Jain	IFS 1993	Australia
Monika Kapil Mohta	IFS 1985	Sweden and Latvia	Rajeev Shahare	IFS 1986	Denmark
Rahul Chhabra	IFS 1987	Hungary	Bishwadip Dey	IFS 2001	Trinidad and Tabago
Pooja Kapur	IFS 1996	Bulgaria	R Masakui	IFS 2001	Zimbabwe

source Government of India Ministry of External Affairs 2017

- [click](#) Ambassadors Aweigh !!
- [click](#) International Diplomat – Administrator Kamalesh Sharma IFS Retd ...
- [click](#) Stephanian Kamalesh Sharma on Commonwealth Day 14/15.03.2016
- [click](#) Shivshankar Menon's book *Choices* ( 2016 )
- [click](#) alumni Foreign Secretaries and Cabinet Secretaries
- [click](#) Secretary to The Vice President of India Swashpawan Singh and his creative wife
- [click](#) Our alumni reach Top Bureaucrat Rung 2017 : as always !

## Navtej Singh Sarna : From Delhi University to Washington DC



Writer – diplomat Ambassador Navtej Sarna IFS 1980

**Navtej Singh Sarna** B Com LLB replaced another alumnus **Arun Kumar Singh** , who retired in August 2016.

By: FE Online | New Delhi | Updated: September 22, 2016 6:13 PM

*Navtej's first novel " We Weren't Lovers Like That " Penguin and his nonfiction **The Book of Nanak** Penguin Viking were both released in 2003. **The Exile** Penguin was a popular sellout 2008 and his Persian to English translation of Guru Gobind Singh's **Zafarnama** widely appreciated . His essays have been published in TLS , London Magazine , The Hindu , India Today and Outlook .*



Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha IFS 1981  
High Commissioner to UK since 2016

Schooled at Chesham , England and at Patna , India

Began at The NAM Summit 1983 Secretariat .

Ambassadorial service at the UN , New York USA and Europe , The Middle East and South America.

*DU organised the first NAM Youth Culturefest in the UN International Year of Youth 1985 with 34 nation's active , energetic Delegates , many of whom rose to be Ministers and toprung Achievers in their own nations .*



Pankaj Saran IFS 1982  
BA Eco Hons Hindu 1980  
MA Eco D School 1982  
Ambassador to Russia  
Since January 2016

*Spouse Preeti Saran is Secretary Ministry of External Affairs and they with are blend two sons.*



Vijay Gokhale IFS 1981  
MA His SS  
Ambassador to China

Diplomatic assignments include postings in Hong Kong, Hanoi, Beijing and New York . Vijay was Ambassador of India to the Federal Republic of Germany 2013-2016.



Dr Mohan Kumar IFS 1981  
MBA FMS  
Ph D *Sciences Po* Paris  
Ambassador to France

Has been India`s diplomatic pointsman as Ambassador to France , to Monaco and to Bahrain .  
Spouse Mala teaches English .



Ashok Kumar Sharma IFS 1981  
BA Eco Hons 1976  
MBA FMS 1978  
Ambassador to Finland and Estonia

Ashok was Ambassador of India to the Republic of Kazakhstan 2011-2014 .

He joining the Indian Foreign Service in 1981. he has served in Moscow , Kuwait, Karachi, New Delhi, Mumbai, Toronto and Tashkent, before his posting at St. Petersburg (Russia) as Consul General of India (2002-2005). Between 2005-2008, he was Ambassador of India in Paramaribo (Suriname), concurrently accredited as High Commissioner of India to Barbados, St. Lucia and St. Vincent & the Grenadines.

As Faculty Member National Defence College, New Delhi 2008 – 2011 he guided over forty senior Defence and Civilian Officers from several countries for their M. Phil. degree in Strategic Studies.

*Ambassador Riva Ganguly Das Consul General of India NY USA*



Riva Ganguly Das IFS 1986  
MA Pol Sc 1984  
F' ley Lecturer University of Delhi  
Consul – General to NY USA

Diplomatic stints in Spain and The Hague  
Consul – General      Shanghai China      2012 – 2016  
Consul – General      New York    USA      since 2016



Monika Kapil Mohta IFS 1985  
MA His SS  
Ambassador to Sweden and Latvia

Monika has served as Ambassador to Poland and Lithuania , as Director The Nehru Centre and Minister (Culture) at the High Commission of India to the United Kingdom 2006 – 2011 and in the Permanent Delegation of India to UNESCO.

Married to career diplomat Dr Madhup Mohta , they are blessed with a son and a daughter.



alpix 0783 H

Rahul Chhabra IFS 1987  
BA Eco Hons SS  
MA Eco D School  
Ambassador to Hungary

Rahul was Joint Secretary (Central Europe) Ministry of External Affairs before moving to Budapest.



alpix 0783 I

Pooja Kapur IFS 1996  
MA Pol Sc  
Ambassador to Bulgaria

Most recently heading the ASEAN Multilateral Division , she has also served at Indian Missions in Paris, London, Kuala Lumpur and Brussels.

Chevening scholar at **University of Oxford** with a Masters in Public Administration from the Ecole Nationale d' Administration in Paris, **University Topper** and recipient of several scholarships and academic awards, *and* a published author .



Shubhdarshini Tripathi IFS 1994

Ambassador to Amman , Jordan

Shubhdarshini *has done her Honours, M.Sc. and M.Phil from Delhi University.*

Has also served the territorial division of Europe (West) MEA , was Dy Chief of Mission Berlin before assuming charge as Ambassador in Amman.



Smita Purushottam IFS 1980

MA History First Division 1979

M Phil History

Began as Lecturer Jesus and Mary College

Ambassador to Switzerland

Concurrently Accredited to the Principality  
of Liechtenstein and The Holy See

Ambassador to Venezuela 2012 - 2015. Smita also introduced the *High-Tech Defence Innovation Forum*, now renamed, and the Eurasia Cluster. The Forum seeks to provide a platform for discussion on issues relating to developing advanced technologies in India.

**Fellow at Harvard 2000-2001** she also attended courses at the National Defence University, Washington 2002 and at the **University of California, San Diego, USA 2013.**

Widely published in India and abroad. her hobbies are current affairs, international relations, literature, and amateur science, , theatre, films and ballet.

Son Ashwin worked with McKinsey, and graduated with an MBA from INSEAD. He is now Team Leader Operations, ASEAN with the eCom company, Garena.



Vikram K Doraiswami IFS 1992  
MA His  
Ambassador to Korea

Vikram has served as Private Secretary to the Prime Minister of India.

In 2006, he was appointed Political Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations in New York USA , later as India's Consul General in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Wife Sangeeta is a trained school teacher with a Masters' Degree in Psychology from Bangalore University. They have a fifteen-year old son.



Jawed Ashraf IFS 1991  
High Commissioner to Singapore

A career diplomat, Jawed worked in the Americas Division of Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi 1999 - 2004. and then headed the Americas Division 2010- 2012.

High Commissioner Ashraf served as Joint Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office under Prime Ministers Dr Manmohan Singh and Mr Narendra Modi.

He recently published a coffee-table book of his photographs, "A Day in the Life of Kathmandu", dedicated to the victims of the Nepal earthquake of April 2015.

Wife Dr Ghazala Shahabuddin is an ecologist and conservation biologist.





Muktesh K Pardeshi IFS 1991  
BA Eco Hon Hn  
MA Eco D School *University Topper*  
High Commissioner to Belize

His leadership role as Chief Passport Officer of India . in the transformation of Passport services in India (12 million in 2015) over five years has been Muktesh`s widely acclaimed. Passport Seva Project, the programme which he headed as its Mission Leader, became the recipient of the National Award on e-Governance (Gold) 2014-15, Web Ratna (Platinum) Award 2014, Computer Society of India-Nihilent eGovernance Award of Excellence 2011-12 and eINDIA Governance Award 2013. The Project was also awarded three ISO certifications, namely ISO 9001:2008, 20000:2011 and 27000:2013 in 2015. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Security Printing and Minting Cooperation of India Limited (SPMCIL) during 2010-16.



Vikram Misri IFS 1989  
BA His Hon Hn  
MBA XLRI  
Ambassador to Myanmar

A Srinagar – born career diplomat , Vikram has served in various capacities at Headquarters Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi, in the Prime Minister`s Office in New Delhi and in various Indian Missions abroad in Europe, Africa, Asia and North America including as .

Ambassador of India to Spain 2014-2016

Educated at Burn Hall , *Srinagar* , at Carmel , *Udhampur* and at *Gwalior`s* Scindia School .



alpix 0783 P

Manika Jain IFS 1993  
LLB CLC  
Consul General to Australia

Has served in Indian Missions in Portugal, Myanmar and Indonesia , besides serving as Director Indian Council of World Affairs, and Head of Division at Foreign Service Institute, New Delhi.

Before joining Indian Foreign Service, Monika contributed to various social issues such as unorganized labour, women and health while her other interests range from cinema to philosophy.



alpix 0783 Q

Rajeev Shahare IFS 1986  
BA His Hons SS  
MA Socio  
Ambassador to Denmark

Rajeev is well - versed in Arabic which he formally studied at the American University in Cairo 1987-1989 .

Among a host of diplomatic assignments , he has served in the Permanent Mission of India at Geneva , where he dealt with Environment, Health, Labour and Economic issues .



Bishwadip Dey IFS 2001  
BA Pol Sc Hons  
LLB CLC *GoldMedallist*  
LLM CLC  
High Commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago

Bishwadip is High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago since 2016.

He has a Postgraduate Diploma in International Law and is a *GoldMedallist* here , too .



R Masakui IFS 2001  
MA English  
Ambassador to Zimbabwe

Born 15 August, 1967 Mr R Masakui also served in Reserve Bank of India 1999 - 2001.

Married to Zingcharwon , and they have two sons aged 13 and 10 years.