

MAYANKOTE KELATH NARAYANAN



Mayankote Kelath Narayanan was born in New Delhi in 1934. He had his early education in Delhi and Shimla before he went to Madras for his High School and University education. He is an alumnus of the Loyala College, Madras, and holds a Master's Degree in Economics from the University of Madras.

Shri Narayanan joined the Indian Police Service in 1955 and administered as the best all-round officer of his batch. After a short period as Sub-Divisional Police Officer in the State of Madras, he went on deputation to the Intelligence Bureau in February 1959 and the rest of his service career was spent under the Government of India, mainly in the Intelligence Bureau during which he dealt with a whole range of issues concerning internal and external security.

Shri Narayanan headed the Intelligence Bureau (IB) from 1987 to 1990 and again from 1991 to his superannuation in 1992. In between he also served as the Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee of the Government of India. He was appointed the Special Advisor of Internal Security to the Prime Minister in May 2004 followed by his assignment as the National Security Advisor (NSA) to the Prime Minister from January 2005 to January 2010, three weeks after the former NSA, J N Dixit died on January 3, 2005. As the NSA, his responsibilities included advising the Prime Minister on foreign policy, defense matters, national security issues including internal security and intelligence, and nuclear and space matters. He also led India in institutionalized security and strategic dialogues with several countries including Brazil, France, Japan, Sri Lanka, Germany, Russia, UK and the USA. He was also the Prime Minister's Special Representative for boundary talks with China. On 24th January, 2010 he was sworn the Governor of West Bengal.

Shri Narayanan was awarded 'Padmashri' in 1992 for his outstanding services to the country. His family includes his wife, Smt. Padmini Narayanan, and two children both of whom are married.

Shri Narayanan delivered a remarkable speech on 30th March, 2010 at the ceremony of the 44th Annual Convocation of Indian Statistical, Kolkata. In this occasion he mentioned India's traditional significant contribution of eminent scientists to not only science but also socio-economic development. He lamented that India is now falling behind many countries in scientific pursuits specially in the area of pure science as well. He also expressed his worry about the deterioration in the scientific research which might affect India's making it forward in the world. Lastly he expressed his hope and fond wish that the students of ISI shall fully utilize their service for the benefit of the Institution as well as the society at large which they inherited from such a prestigious institution.

Article by: Sushavona Chatterjee & Sandip Kr. De, Indian Statistical Institute Library, Kolkata, India.