

Ambassador Ajai Malhotra has an M.A. in Economics from The Delhi School of Economics. He joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1977 and, besides assignments at Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, served at Indian diplomatic missions in Bucharest, Geneva, Kuwait, Moscow, Nairobi, New York and Washington DC.

He was Ambassador of India to Romania, Albania and Moldova (2003-2005), Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of India to the UN in New York (2005-2009), Ambassador of India to Kuwait (2009-2011), and Ambassador of India to the Russian Federation (2011-2013), before retiring from the Government of India on November 30, 2013.

He has been on the Indian team negotiating issues such as biological diversity, climate change, desertification, education, energy, forestry, health, human rights, human settlements, intellectual property rights, international labour rights, international law, international trade, ozone depletion, sustainable development, etc. He participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> UN Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy; UNEP Session of a Special Character: Ten Years after Stockholm; meetings relating to the London Amendments to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Convention on Biological Diversity, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Agenda 21, the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development, besides several UNGA, ECOSOC and UNEP sessions, and NAM, G77 and Commonwealth Summits.

He is currently a Distinguished Fellow at The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi, as well as Chairman of CHIKITSA Trust, SHIKSHA Trust, and the Nehru Trust for the Indian Collections at the Victoria & Albert Museum.