

**Dr Ravindra, Former Chief Secretary, GOK  
Chairman, Centre of Sustainable Development**

Dr Ravindra holds a PhD degree in Development Studies with specialization in the urban sector. He joined the Indian Administrative Service in 1965 and served in various capacities in government and retired as Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka at the end of 2002. He was responsible for introducing several governance reforms such as rationalizing property tax system through the Self-Assessment Scheme which came to be regarded as people friendly. He was instrumental in initiating the Metro Rail Project in Bangalore. He played a pioneering role in promoting civic awareness among citizens through Swabhimana, a platform of resident welfare associations, NGOs and civic agencies in Bangalore.

After retirement, Dr. Ravindra has served as Deputy Chairman, Karnataka State Planning Board and Sr. Visiting Fellow at IIM, Bangalore. Currently, he heads the Centre for Sustainable Development, a non-profit organization, working on sustainability issues. He is also Chairman of the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), a leading research institution in Social Sciences. Dr. Ravindra has a passion for cities and has set up the Smart Cities India Foundation with a dream to engage citizens to make cities more liveable.

Has published several papers and articles on urban and public policy issues. His books include Metropolitan Management: A Management Perspective, Urban Land Policy, Dance of Democracy and a Coffee Table book on Bangalore. For the services he has rendered, Dr Ravindra has been bestowed the Citizen Extraordinary Award.