

Ajay Kumar Lal

Ajay Kumar Lal is presently working as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Law and Justice Government of India. As a member of Indian Forest Service and Himachal Pradesh Cadre since 1987, he has served in various capacities holding different assignments at provincial, national as well as international levels. After serving as Divisional Forest Officer in the field for eight years he joined Government of India and served as Associate Professor at the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (1997-2002), Dean FRI University (2006-08); Director Ministry of Environment and Forests (2008-10). Also, served SAARC Forestry Centre as its Head between 2010-12. He has coordinated and harmonized Environment and Forest Policies of South Asian Countries. As an FAO Consultant, he developed Indian Vision 2020 document on Environment and Forestry. As Executive Director of the World Bank funded Mid Himalayan Watershed Project in Himachal Pradesh between 2012-15, he was instrumental in successful implementation of World Bank supported CDM A/R Bio Carbon Project that became first in entire Asia to earn carbon credits by greening government degraded lands and involving local communities as partners.

He has been teaching Environmental Economics, Environmental Law and natural Resource Management to the students of National and International Institutes. He has presented numerous Papers during National and International Conferences. He holds a Master degree in Civil Engineering, Masters in Forestry, Bachelor degree in Law and a Post Graduate Diploma in Public Administration from US.