



Dr. Saurabh Garg
Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation,
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Dr. Saurabh Garg is a 1991 batch Indian Administrative Service officer of the Odisha Cadre. He is presently Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India. Prior to joining MoSPI, Dr Garg was Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, where he was involved in the formulation of policies for social, economic and educational empowerment of the vulnerable and marginalised communities.

Previously as CEO, Unique Identification Authority of India, he was instrumental in expanding the usage of Aadhaar and strengthening the technology stack of the Aadhaar ecosystem. As Joint Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs and Department of Expenditure, Government of India, he led the development of the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF); worked on preparing the framework for digital payments; improving Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy; revamping of the gold sector policies and formulation of the Direct Benefits Transfer programme. He was on a secondment as Adviser at the World Bank, Washington DC where he assisted in the discharge of the Board's oversight responsibilities through in-depth examination of World Bank policies and practices.

As Principal Secretary, Agriculture and Farmers Empowerment, Government of Odisha, he led the development of a direct income transfer scheme for farmers and an agricultural policy focusing on the use of technology. In Government of Odisha, he also served as CMD, Grid Corporation and Odisha Power Transmission Company and Commissioner-cum-Secretary, in the Department of Public Enterprises and Department of Industries. As Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Housing and Urban Development, he spearheaded the development of the Odisha Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (OUIDF).

He has also served as a member of various Expert Committees/ Working Groups set up by the Ministry of Finance, NITI Aayog, RBI and SEBI and have been a Chairman / Managing Director/Board member of several public sector companies both at the State and Central level.

Prior to joining the IAS, he was with the Tata Administrative Service. He has rich experience in the domains of digitalization of agriculture, digital identities, direct benefit transfer schemes, infrastructure, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policies and urban development. Dr. Garg has contributed chapters in books and articles in journals on Innovations in Administration, Corporate Governance, Infrastructure Financing, Financial Inclusion, Investment Promotion and Urban Development.

Dr. Garg holds a Ph. D in International Economics and Development from the Johns Hopkins University, USA, an MBA from IIM, Ahmedabad where he was awarded a gold medal for academic excellence and a B. Tech from IIT Delhi. He was a Chevening Gurukul scholar at the London School of Economics, London.
