

Hari Ranjan Rao

is a senior Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the 1994 Madhya Pradesh cadre, currently serving as Secretary, Department of Sports under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. An electronics engineer with a postgraduate degree in Public Policy and Management from IIM Bangalore, Rao brings over three decades of high-impact leadership spanning national policy and state administration. Prior to his current post, he served as Additional Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Administrator of the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) under the Department of Telecommunications, driving critical digital connectivity mandates. His state-level tenure in Madhya Pradesh includes pivotal roles as Principal Secretary and Managing Director for Tourism, head of state e-governance initiatives, Secretary to the Chief Minister, and District Collector in Rewa and Hoshangabad.