

Arunish Chawla

Arunish Chawla, IAS, a 1992-batch officer from the Bihar cadre, is the Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, since 1 November 2023. Prior to this, he served as Officer on Special Duty in the same department. Throughout his distinguished career, Chawla has held several key positions, including Additional Chief Secretary of Planning and Development, with additional responsibilities as Secretary of the Bihar State Planning Board and Project Director of the Bihar Disaster Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Society. He also led urban development efforts as Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Development and Housing, and served as Managing Director of Patna Metro Rail Corporation.

In addition to his national roles, Chawla gained international experience as a Senior Economist at the Institute of Capacity Development of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, D.C., where he served for two years starting in 2020. As of August 2024, he has also been assigned additional charge as Secretary of the Ministry of Culture.