

SUNIL KUMAR MISRA

Education

Born on 16 August 1956 in **Berhampur, Odisha**, Shri Sunil Kumar Misra did his schooling at Berhampur and graduation from the **SKCG College, Paralakhemundi**. While at SKCG, he topped Berhampur University in Intermediate Arts examinations and completed his graduation with Distinction and First Class Honors in Political Science; he was also adjudged the **Best Arts Graduate of the University**. During this period, Shri Misra won **Chancellor's Cup** for debating in English and also won the first prize in **All-Odisha Inter-College Debating Contest** in Odia. In 1978, Shri Misra completed **MA in Political Science** from **University of Delhi**. Later, he obtained a **Bachelor of Law (BL)** degree from **Madras University, Chennai**.

Academic Experience

After doing M.A in Political Science, Shri Misra joined **School of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education, University of Delhi**, as a **Lecturer in Political Science** and worked for three years. During this period, he taught **Western Political Philosophy** to post-graduate students of Political Science.

Work Experience

In 1981, Shri Misra joined **Indian Revenue Service**. Till 31 August 2016, for a period of nearly 35 years, he worked in various challenging capacities and gained rich experience in the fields of administration, investigation, and adjudication involving finance and law. Out of his total tenure, five years were exclusively devoted to discharge of appellate functions (that is, in a quasi-judicial capacity). His experience also includes nearly 3 years as a CPIO (Central Public Information Officer) under the Right to Information Act, 2005.

At the time of his retirement, Shri Misra was working as **Director General of Income-Tax (Investigation)** in charge of seven states, namely, Karnataka, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Tamilnadu, and Puducherry. He was also working as the **Principal Chief Commissioner of Income-Tax, Odisha Region**.

As Director General, a post which he held for two years and nine months, Shri Misra conducted several high profile and sensitive searches in cases of builders, land aggregators, mine owners and mining contractors, educational institutions, pharma companies, gamblers, *hawala* dealers, TDR marketers, traders, etc. These searches resulted in unraveling of mysterious and circuitous layers through which

these tax-evaders were routing their black money. During this tenure, Shri Misra also had to his credit the highest ever cash seizures in the country.

Coordinating amongst Investigating Agencies

From December 2013 till his retirement on 31 August 2016, Shri Misra acted as the Convener of the **Regional Economic Intelligence Council (REIC), Bangalore** – a forum for sharing information and enabling coordinated action amongst various investigating agencies in Karnataka. This role gave him rich experience in dealing with all such investigating agencies on a real-time basis. He also received a Letter of Appreciation from the Honorable Union Finance Minister for his role in REIC.

After taking over charge as Principal Chief Commissioner of Income tax, Odisha in December 2015, Shri Misra also acted as the Convener of the **Regional Economic Intelligence Council (REIC), Odisha**.

Authoring/ Editing of Books

In 2009, Shri Misra edited/authored **Sharpening the Cutting Edge**, a handbook for Income Tax Assessing Officers, which has since proved to be extremely useful in apprising the Assessing Officers about various nuances of the Income-Tax laws.

In the same year, 2009-10, he also co-authored, in Public Private collaboration, a booklet on **Taxation of Charitable Trusts**. The object was to explain provisions relating to charitable trusts and institutions to these entities in a lucid language as would render compliance easy.

While in Pune, Shri Misra was associated with the editing/ publication of a periodical tax journal called **Punyakar – Knowledge Bulletin**, the object of which was to keep updating the officers with new interpretations of tax laws.

Imparting Training

Shri Misra is an involved trainer/educator and has lectured at several fora on various subjects involving intricate nuances of law including the Right to Information Act. He was a frequent visitor to the **National Academy of Direct Taxes** and other training Institutes as a resource person.

Shri Misra was also associated with training exercises meant for officers of **Indian Defense Accounts Services** and **Indian Forest Service** as well as officers belonging to cooperative sector.

Shri Misra takes special interest in activities of Charitable Trusts and Organizations (NGOs). While working in Pune as a Commissioner of Income-tax, Shri Misra had addressed workshops of NGOs to help them in becoming legally conversant.

Receiving Training

In July-August 2012, Shri Misra participated in a two-week “Corporate Taxation Programme” Officers at **Robert H Smith School of Business, University of Maryland, USA.**

Similarly, during August 2004, he participated in a two-week “Advanced Global Leadership Program” at **Harvard Business School, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.**

Literary Activities

Deeply interested in literary activities, Shri Misra founded the first literary magazine of the Prabasi Odias of Visakhapatnam – **Arunima** – which is continuing till date.

During his stint as President, Utkal Sanskrutika Samaj, Visakhapatnam, Shri Misra also started the monthly **Sahitya Sabhas** (*in Odia*), which have since become regular affairs.

After coming to Bengaluru in 2013, he started **Sahitya Sabhas** in Bengaluru, under the aegis of the Odisha Cultural Association, and these Sabhas are being periodically conducted till date under his Chairmanship.

Shri Misra has edited a novel in English and has also been involved in editing of a **Collection of Odia Short Stories**. He also occasionally writes poetry in Odia and English.

Societal Involvements

From 1999 till 2001, Shri Misra was the President of the **Utkal Sanskrutika Samaj, Visakhapatnam**, a sociocultural organization of the Odias in Visakhapatnam. During this period, at his initiative, **Sangeet Samarohas, Bhanjan Samarohas, Palas, Dasakathias, Danda Nrutya, Tribal Dances**, etc. were performed and **Odissi Dance** classes were arranged at Visakhapatnam. Lectures were also held on various themes such as **Jagannath Mahatmya, Bhanja Sahitya, Odia Sanskruti. Ratha Jatra and Durga Puja** came to be celebrated as sociocultural events. Odisha came to be noticed and admired by the culture-lovers of Visakhapatnam. During this period, he also strived hard to unite 13 different linguistic-cum-cultural organizations in Visakhapatnam under one banner.

In 2010, Shri Misra set up the ***Society of Civil Servants of Pune***, an umbrella body encompassing all civil servants working in Pune, and remained its President until 2013. Similarly, in 2014, he set up the ***Society of Civil Servants of Bangalore*** and was its President till recently.

Social Service

Shri Misra is deeply interested in humanitarian activities. In 1999, as President of Utkal Sanskrutika Samaj, Visakhapatnam, he organized and supervised relief operations in some parts of Odisha in the aftermath of the *Super Cyclone*. Under his guidance, the Samaj also conducted blood donation camps and health check-up camps.

Soon after, under his leadership, all linguistic societies of Visakhapatnam came together to make their contributions, howsoever small, to the cause of *earthquake relief in Gujarat*.

In 2001, the Madras Telugu Academy honored Shri Misra with ***Ugadi Purashkar*** for the above humanitarian work.

In 2008, as president of Indian Revenue Service Association, Pune Chapter, Shri Misra motivated his colleagues to contribute to relief operations in Bihar in the wake of the disastrous Koshi river floods.

In the same year, at his personal initiative, two large contingents of medical/para-medical teams from Pune carried out extensive medical relief work in flood-ravaged districts of Cuttack and Puri in Odisha.

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