

Dr.T.K.VISWANATHAN is a legal luminary who has held various positions in the academia, Government of India and in Lok Sabha. During his four decades of his career he has served as a lawyer, as a Professor of Jurisprudence and as Secretary to Government of India in the Ministry of Law & Justice and as Secretary General of Lok Sabha. He has drafted many important landmark legislations over the past two decades and the Government has immensely benefitted from his expertise in legislative drafting and in parliamentary and constitutional matters. The Information Technology Act 2000 which laid the basis for cyberlaw in India, the Competition Act 2002 and the Right to Information Act 2005 are three important landmark legislations worth mentioning which have laid the foundation for a new jurisprudence in the Indian legal framework. As *the Chairman of the Bankruptcy Laws Reforms Committee* 2014 he was responsible for drafting of *the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016* which is the most important economic reform undertaken by the Government next only to GST since independence.

Born on 14th October 1948 Dr.T.K.Viswanathan received his B.Sc, B.L and M.L Degrees from the University of Madras ,*Ph.D (Indian Law Institute, Deemed University, New Delhi)* and *LL.D (University of Mysore)*.

Enrolled as Advocate at the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu (Nov 1972) practiced as Advocate with Uttama Reddy & Co (1972-76) in Corporate and Tax laws. He was a Professor, Madras Law College (1976- 1988) Joined Ministry of Law, Justice as legislative counsel in 1988; He was promoted as Secretary in the Ministry of Law & Justice and was posted as Member-Secretary of the Law Commission (2000-2003) and as Secretary, Legislative Department (Oct. 2003 - Mar. 2006) and as Union Law Secretary (Apr.2006 – Oct. 2009) held concurrent charge of two Departments Department of Legal Affairs & Legislative Department between August 2008 till Oct 2009; also was the Advisor in the Ministry of Law & Justice. (Nov. 2009 - Sep. 2010); Secretary General Lok Sabha (Oct 2010- Sept 2013);

Member of the Committee to Frame Guidelines on Government Advertising Campaigns constituted by the Supreme Court.

Dr.T.K.Viswanathan has expertise in legislative drafting and has undergone training in legislative drafting at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies at the University of London.1992;

As Law Secretary he led the Indian delegation to UNCITRAL between 2006-2010.

As Secretary General he was a member of the Parliamentary delegations accompanying the Speaker to Inter Parliamentary Union meetings and has visited Parliaments across the world.

Dr.T.K.Viswanathan is a teacher member of the Indian Law Institute and has contributed many articles to legal journals and periodicals and has authored

- (i) Legislative Drafting - Shaping the Law for the New Millennium; and
- (ii) (ii) Handbook on Arbitration, Mediation and other ADR Techniques; Edited ICADR News Letter covering latest developments in the international commercial and investment arbitration.
- (iii) Various articles on new legislations enacted by Parliament like the Competition Act 2000 ,Information Technology Act 2000 Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 etc

Dr.T.K.Viswanathan was

- (i) Consultant to the former President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee
- (ii) Chairperson of the Bankruptcy Law Reforms Committee 2015;
- (iii) Chairperson of the Expert Committee constituted by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India to Report on the Framework for Use of Mediation under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016;
- (iv) the Chairman of the Expert Committee constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs in 2015 to review the Cyber laws and the Information Technology Act 2000;
- (v) the Chairman - Fair Market Committee constituted by SEBI;
- (vi) Chairperson of the Expert Committee to Examine the Working of the Arbitration Law & Recommend Reforms in the Arbitration And Conciliation Act 1996;
- (vii) Member of Insolvency Law Committee, constituted by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs to suggest amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016;
- (viii) Member of Company Law Committee ,constituted by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs to review the Companies Act ;
- (ix) Member of the Prof N.R Madhav Menon Committee Constituted by the Supreme Court in its Judgment in Civil Writ Petition No. 13 of 2003 and No. 197 of 2004, to suggest guidelines to prevent misuse of public funds by governments and its authorities in giving advertisements in newspapers and television for political mileage.

1. Awarded **Padma Shri** in 2017 ;
2. Elected as **Emeritus Fellow** of the Insolvency Law Academy in the class of 2023 for providing exemplary leadership and public service in insolvency;
3. **Justice A.B. Rohatgi Jurist Award** conferred by the Society of Indian Law Firms and the Menon Institute of Legal advocacy Training 2017;