



## **Brief Profile of Mr. G. VENKATESH RAO**

**Advocate, Supreme Court of India**

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*(Hony. Adjunct Professor, School of Business & Commerce, Manipal University*

*Law & Political Science, JECRC University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India)*

Mr. G. Venkatesh Rao, is an Advocate at the Supreme Court of India for the last 29 years and specializes in various branches of domestic and international law. He has vast experience with constitutional law owing to his tenure with the **Office of the Attorney General from 1985 to 1990**. As the Counsel for the Central Govt. (Govt. of India), he has appeared in numerous cases of national and international importance, which have had implications on issues relating to constitutional law. Further, he has experience in defending several challenged legislations of the Central and State Governments in the Supreme Court of India. As the Counsel for the Central Govt., he primarily represented the Ministries of Finance and Commerce in India and did so for more than 15 years. His extensive exposure to commercial matters allow him to have intimate familiarity with various aspects of financial and commercial laws in India. He has appeared in more than 3,500 cases with exposure in fields ranging from but not limited to, constitutional law, corporate and commercial laws relating to telecom, cyber-laws, intellectual property, banking, shipping, taxation, joint ventures, commercial arbitration, etc.

Mr. Rao is a pioneer in the field of 'Right to Education'. In 2015, Mr. Rao, was one of the main panelist on 'Right to Education' in the **World Congress on International Law**, which was inaugurated by His Excellency, Peter Tomka, President, International Court of Justice. In November 2012, Mr. Rao represented India at the **'IInd World Conference on Right to Education' sponsored by UNESCO/EU Brussels, Belgium**. In December 2005, he **represented India by leading the Indian delegation of parliamentarians at the UNESCO Conference in Jakarta, Indonesia** on 'Right to Education as a Basic Human Right and the legal framework of financing it'.

Mr. Rao was closely associated with '**National Alliance on the Fundamental Right to Education**' (NAFRE), which pioneered and lobbied with the legislators in India to pass a Constitutional Amendment to make the '**Right to Education**' **an enforceable Constitutional Right in India**. These relentless efforts lead to **the insertion of Article – 21A** in the Constitution of India. Mr. Rao pursued the abovementioned matter with the Office of the Hon'ble President of India.

**Mr. Rao, was conferred and appointed Hony. 'Adjunct Professorship', by the 'School of Business and Commerce', Manipal University in 2015 and by the 'School of Law & Political Science', JECRC University, Jaipur, India in 2014.** He has been a member of the Visiting Faculty of multiple law universities,

including but not limited to, Michigan State University (School of Law); Manipal University; Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Lucknow; Jamia Millia Islamia University; Indian Institute of Financial Management (IIFM), Bangalore; Amity Business School; Times School of Journalism; Army Institute of Law, Chandigarh; Law Faculty, Delhi University; JECRC University, Rajasthan.

In 2010, he was nominated as the **Vice-President of the ‘World Peace Congress-2010’**, Nakhonnoyak, Thailand, where he drafted the **‘Universal Declaration of the Renunciation of War as an Instrument of State Policy’**, which was forwarded to the United Nations Secretary General and various other heads of State.

**He has been a pioneer in environmental law and education**, and is an original-member of LAW-E (Lawyers for Environment), an organization which promotes the legal protection of the environment. He was also appointed as a member of the committee of experts on Antarctica, at the Department of Ocean Development, Ministry of Earth Sciences.

Mr. Rao is the recipient of the **National Bar Award**, 2008 in international law, presented by the Hon’ble Chairman, Law Commission of India, *‘For his excellent contribution towards the promotion and development of International Law, and in advancing India’s stature before International Institutions.’*

Mr. Rao has also been an active member of the Governing Body of the ‘Indian Society of International Law’, at which he is a member of the visiting faculty for International Law and the Law of International Institutions and Diplomacy. He has expertise in the field of environmental law and was a **Rhodes Scholar on ‘Oceans Law and Policy’** in Greece. Besides specializing in ‘Structuring and Financing of Foreign Investment’ at **Georgetown University Washington DC, USA**, he is also a recipient of a fellowship to **the ‘Salzburg Global Seminar’, Austria** on ‘American Laws and Legal Institutions’. He was also invited to attend meetings at the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), Vienna.

He has published several papers in several Indian and international publications on issues relating to his expertise, and has been a great supporter of the freedom of the press and democracy. He is the Founder President of FIND, **‘Forum for Intelligentsia in a Nationalist Democracy’**, a think-tank and debating forum.

He has organized several conferences, notably on the 'Freedom of the Press', for a leading national daily, Times of India.

Sh. Rao is the recipient of the following awards:

- 1. 'Protector of Democracy Award' 2009** by Former Law Minister & Judge Supreme Court of India – AICP Society.
- 2. National Bar Award 2008** – presented by Chairman, Law Commission of India and former Judge Supreme Court of India, for his contribution to International Law and Institutions.
- 3. Scroll of Honor 2007** – International Commission of Jurists.
- 4. Visiting Faculty Honor 2007** – International Financial Institute for Management, Bangalore.
- 5. Best Faculty Award 2006** – Amity Business School.

He is also a social activist in support of the 'Rights of Women and Children', and was a special invitee to the 'National Commission of Women'. He was also appointed to the Expert Committee by the Ministry of External Affairs on rights of women and children. He published a paper on the 'Maintenance Rights of Women' with special reference to overseas marriages.

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