

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**



Sh. Ajay Kumar, IFS (Retd.)  
Chairman, HPPSC

1. Sh. Ajay Kumar is a retired Indian Forest Service Officer of 1984 Batch of Himachal Pradesh Cadre, who belongs to District Kangra of Himachal Pradesh. After completing matriculation from Government High School, Dehra Gopipur, he obtained Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture from Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishva Vidyalaya, Palampur. Thereafter he completed Masters Degree in Agricultural Physics from Indian Agricultural Research Institute (Pusa), New Delhi and also Masters in Forestry from the erstwhile Indian Forest College, Dehradun. Sh. Ajay Kumar also holds MBA degree from University of Western Sydney, Australia.
2. Sh. Ajay Kumar has a wide experience of working in Forest sector both in the State of Himachal Pradesh as well as in Government of India. Prior to his retirement in August, 2020, he worked on the post of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force (HoFF) of the State where he steered the policy and programmes in forest and wild life sector of Himachal Pradesh for more than 2 years. He laid emphasis on much more active involvement of local people in management and protection of forests and consequently his tenure as HoFF not only witnessed launch of new people centric forestry schemes like *Samudayik Van Samvardhan Yojana*, *Vidyarthi Van Mitra Yojana*, *Van Samridhi Jan Samridhi Yojana* and *Ek*

*Buta Beti Ke Naam Yojana* but also registered increase of 334 sq km forest cover in the State. Prior to this, he served as head of Regional office of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Government of India at Dehradun for more than three years, where he was the approving authority for granting forest clearances for various developmental activities of States of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. He also worked as Professor in Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy and thereafter headed the Directorate of Forest Education, MoEF & CC, Government of India at Dehradun for more than five years where he was responsible for ensuring quality induction and mid – career training to Indian Forest Service Officers as well as to State Forest Service Officers and Forest Range Officers recruited in the country.

3. Shri Ajay Kumar has equally good exposure of working outside Forest Sector as he served in the capacity of Deputy Secretary/Director to Government of India in the Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi looking after planning and implementation of Schemes related to watershed management and Natural Disaster management. He also worked as Additional Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) in Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, New Delhi, where he handled the work relating to implementation of various schemes for development and promotion of handicrafts in the country and also for upliftment of local artisans.
4. His special areas of interest include watershed oriented integrated development, issues pertaining to forest and wildlife conservation vis-à-vis development and Human Resource Management.