



CV OF JAWHAR SIRCAR

Jawhar Sircar is currently Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India. He was born in Calcutta on March 22, 1952 and studied at St. Xavier's School, Presidency College and Calcutta University. He did his graduation with Honours in Political Science, Master of Arts in Sociology and a second M.A. in History. He has also been trained at the Universities of Cambridge and Sussex in UK, as well as at New York.

Sircar had held several important posts in the Government of West Bengal, including Secretary incharge of Industries, Higher Education and Science & Technology, at different times, and has also worked as Commissioner of Commercial Taxes. He was the Chief Electoral Officer of West Bengal who successfully conducted two Parliamentary Elections.

Jawhar Sircar had worked in Government of India in the late' 80s and early' 90s and joined it again, in 2006 as Additional Secretary, moving on to become Secretary in the Ministry of Culture in late 2008. Though he has served in Finance, Commerce and Industries for 17 of his 34 years in service, he has also worked for several years in subjects of his passion, i.e., Education, Culture and Handicrafts/Handlooms.

Sircar is a keen student of history and sociology and has published several articles in leading dailies, journals and compendiums. His main academic work entitled "The Construction of the Hindu Identity in Medieval Western Bengal – The Role of Popular Cults" has received excellent reviews from foreign and Indian professors and scholars of social history and social anthropology.

Jawhar Sircar is connected with many academic and cultural institutions, like the Centre for Archaeological Studies and the Asiatic Society. He is also a Life Member of the Indian International Centre, Delhi, as well as of several other cultural and academic organizations. He was a Founder Trustee of the Kolkata Museum of Modern Art and has been instrumental in organizing the Kolkata Film Festival as an international fest for several years, as well as the Kolkata Book Fair.