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## Swedish South Asian Studies Network (SASNET), Lund University

**proudly present H.E. Mr Balkrishna Shetty**

*India's new Ambassador to Sweden*

H.E. Balkrishna Shetty is India's new Ambassador to Sweden. We are happy to announce that Ambassador Shetty has accepted our invitation to visit Lund University on Thursday 14 May 2009. In connection with the visit, he will meet with researchers, teachers, students, and international coordinators involved in India related projects. A seminar will be held where the Ambassador will listen to a few selected presentations and discuss issues of common interest. The Ambassador will be accompanied by Mrs. Madhumita Hazarika Bhagat, First Secretary (Commercial, Consular, Culture), Embassy of India.

**Time:** Thursday, May 14, 16.00 – 17.00

**Venue:** Conference room, Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies (ACE)  
Scheelevägen 15 D, 1st floor

**Register** before Tuesday 12th May to [sasnet@sasnet.lu.se](mailto:sasnet@sasnet.lu.se)

### **Information about the Ambassador:**

Mr. Shetty joined Indian Foreign Service in 1976. He has had various positions and posting abroad, among others, in Geneva (1978 – 1981), and thereafter to work in the Mission as Second Secretary. He was transferred to High Commission of India in Bangladesh as Second Secretary (Press and Culture) and subsequently as First Secretary, dealing with Economic and Commerce matters (1981 – 1984). He returned to India and was posted as Under Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Commerce, New Delhi from 1984 – 1986, dealing with State Trading issues as well as regulation of Indian investments abroad. He was appointed Deputy Director General (Administration) at the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi from 1986 – 1988, and was, inter alia, involved with the Festival of India in Soviet Union.



Between 1988 and 1991 he was posted to the Indian Embassy in Moscow as First Secretary (Political) and subsequently as Counsellor (Political) during the perestroika and glasnost years. Following that he was Deputy High Commissioner at the High Commission of India, Singapore from 1991 – 1995 looking after, inter alia, economic, commercial and investment issues. During 1995–1997, he returned to India and headed the Technical Cooperation Division as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi, dealing with bilateral, economic and technical cooperation and international disaster relief. He thereafter joined the Foreign Service Institute as Director in charge of Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD).

Between 1997 – 2001, he was posted at the Embassy of India, Paris, as Minister (Economic), dealing with all bilateral economic matters and relations with Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). He was appointed as Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal and was concurrently accredited to Cape Verde Islands, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania and to The Gambia from 2001 – 2005. He was associated with the establishment of TEAM-9 (Techno-Economic Cooperation for Africa-India Movement), a regional economic cooperation mechanism between India and eight West African countries. From September 2005 to January 2009, he was Ambassador of India to Bahrain.

Mr. Balkrishna Shetty was born on 15 June 1950 in India. He did his B.Sc Honours in Mathematics from Presidency College, Calcutta (1970) and M.Sc. (Mathematics) from Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (1972). After a period of research in Mathematics at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, he joined Indian Statistical Service in 1973 and was Assistant Director, dealing with Industries and Trade Statistics in Central Statistical Organisation, Government of India, New Delhi.