



### **Brief About Shri Hansraj Gangaram Ahir**

Shri Hansraj Gangaram Ahir was born on November 11, 1954 at Nanded in Marathwada Region of Maharashtra and is finally settled in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra. Presently, he is Minister of State (Home Affairs) in Government of India. Prior to taking over as MoS (Home), Hansraj Gangaram Ahir served as MoS (Chemicals & Fertilizers),

After being a member of the Maharashtra Legislative Council from 1994-96, Mr Ahir for the first time got elected in the 11th Lok Sabha in 1996. He was re-elected as Member of Parliament (MP) for 2<sup>nd</sup> term in 2004 and then again for a 3<sup>rd</sup> term in 2009 and 4<sup>th</sup> Term in 2014 Lok Sabha. Mr Ahir has been a distinguished parliamentarian and a champion in raising the issues of people in the parliament. In the 14th Lok Sabha, Speaker Somnath Chatterjee had hailed Mr Ahir as a **"role-model"** for MPs. Prime Point Foundation (PPF) has rated him as the **"best parliamentarian"** for introduction of 24 private bills out of a total of 288 bills that were introduced in the 15th Lok Sabha. He has also been widely appreciated by former President APJ Abdul Kalam and other dignitaries. He has also been a member of many Standing Committees and Parliamentary Committees, such as; Committee on Coal and Steel, Committee on Agriculture, Committee on Privileges, Joint Parliamentary Committee on Wakf and Railway Convention Committee. He was member of Maharashtra Housing and Development Authority (MHADA), a government agency to provide low cost housing to the people.

He is credited with unearthing the coal scam which exposed the deep rooted nexus of public functionaries with the coal mining mafias in allocation of precious natural resources. His campaign for transparency in allocation of coal blocks also led the Supreme Court to ultimately cancelling licenses of several coal blocks. He also fought for enhanced and adequate

compensation for the land to the farmers, whose lands were acquired for coal mining. Entirely due to his persistent fight for farmer's compensation, the rates of Rs 20,000/acre and Rs 1 lakh/acre were revised to Rs 6 lakhs/acre for barren land, Rs 8 lakhs/acre for un-irrigated land, and Rs 10 lakhs/acre for irrigated land. Besides this, he also took up the issue of employment for the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) as per their education. He believes that PAPs are equal partners in underlying minerals of the land which are acquired for the projects.

He has a keen scientific temper and believes that science & technology should be utilized for the welfare of the people. He has also been instrumental in opening of a satellite center, jointly run by ICAR and ICMR, in Chandrapur for guidance, counseling and treatment of Sickle Cell patients. His scientific temper and love for Indian culture led him to open the museum of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) at Chandrapur so that historical relics from nearby districts could be collected and preserved in the museum. He also actively pursued for preparation of Master Plan for Chandrapur district for controlling the pollution.

He has also travelled to Mauritius, South Africa and United Arab Emirates, Sweden, Belarus and Sri Lanka in various capacities.