

## M.SARAVANAN

25, Muthu Ratna Bhawanam, Ramakrishna 1<sup>st</sup> Street,  
New Colony, Porur, Chennai – 600116

07838630309  
saravanan.msundaram@gmail.com

---

### SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE:

- Total work experience of nearly 13 years, including more than 11 years of work experience in social and development sectors, especially in higher education sector.
- Area of expertise: Policy-making and analysis; Implementation, monitoring & evaluation of social sector schemes; Program management; Drafting plans; Research including, survey, data compilation and analysis; and Report writing.

### SUMMARY OF EDUCATION:

- Doctor of Philosophy (2020, University of Madras)  
*The research was on “Economics of Higher Education and Information and Communication Technology – A study with respect to college students in Chennai district.”*
- Master of Philosophy (Economics) (2007, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda College, Chennai)
- Master of Arts (Economics) (2004 from Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda College, Chennai)
- Bachelor of Commerce (2000 from Guru Nanak College, Chennai)

### KEY PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

#### **Senior Consultant, Technical Support Group for Ministry of Education at TISS (Feb. 2014 – Dec 2020)**

- Mentored and managed a team of Consultants in TSG;
- Participated in and contributed to policy making;
- Coordinated activities of Technical Support Group (TSG) with Ministry of Education and States;
- Managed all States and UTs under the scheme;
- Monitored and evaluated the progress of the scheme at national, state and institutional levels;
- Participated in drafting Guidelines for the scheme;
- Advised States on undertaking reforms, research & innovation, accreditations and rankings;
- Advised States in preparing strategic plans for higher education;
- Visited States and institutions for monitoring and evaluation;
- Advised and supporting States and UTs in bettering their performance under the scheme and also to improve their accreditation status and other rankings;
- Reviewed performance of States on achievement of physical and financial targets against timelines;
- Budgeting and processing release of grants to State Higher Education Councils (SHEC)/Department of Higher Education/ institutions;

#### **Consultant in Planning Commission, Government of India (Mar. 2009 to Feb., 2014)**

- Handled work related to 6 States; 2 Union Territories; and Island Development Authority headed by the Prime Minister;
- Reviewed and monitored development and sectoral schemes implemented in the States, especially in sectors like school & higher education, rural development, agriculture, labor and livelihoods, water resources, health etc.;
- Evaluated performance of States under Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Flagship Programs;

- Coordinated with Union Government Ministries and State Governments for high-level meetings for evolving policies for development of States and Union Territories;
- Evaluated project proposals of State governments;
- Assisted in finalization of Working Group and Steering Committee reports of the Twelfth Plan;
- Evaluated research study proposals of private institutions requesting for funding by Planning Commission;
- Prepared reports and Background Note for Annual Plans and review of Plan performance of States/UTs, including Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) / Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP);
- Drafted answers for Parliament questions.

**Consultant, Community Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. (Sep. 2006 to Apr. 2007)**

- Prepared a research-based report under 'Good Urban Governance in South Asia' initiative of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Project plans for Urban Local Bodies (City Corporation & Municipalities)

**POLICY EXPERIENCE:**

**Contributed in following Policy Retreats that culminated in new scheme & plan**

- Higher Education: Education Quality Upgradation and Inclusion Programme (EQUIP) of Department of Higher Education, Ministry of HRD, at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie, from 22<sup>nd</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2019
- Five Year Plan: 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan, of Planning Commission, Government of India, in 2013

**COMPUTER SKILLS:**

- Honors Diploma in Computer Application (1998, CSC Institute, Chennai)
- Software Packages: MS-Office, SPSS, Tableau

**TOTAL PUBLICATIONS: 16**

**Recent Publications:**

- [Budget 2021 must focus on improving education spend](#), Business Line on Campus, January 22, 2021
- [NEP: Unaddressed equity concerns in higher education](#), Deccan Herald, August 19, 2020
- [Economics of Internationalisation of Higher Education in the Post-Pandemic Era](#), *Journal of Development Economics and Management Research Studies*, Volume 05, Issue 05, July-September, 2020
- [Higher education could be key to strong India-Australia ties](#), Deccan Herald, June 3, 2020

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

- Date of Birth: 07.06.1980
- Marital Status: Married
- Languages Known: English, Tamil, Hindi (Basic proficiency: speaking)