



**Mani Shankar Aiyar** is a former diplomat, is an author, politician and an activist by passion. He joined Rajiv Gandhi in 1989-1991. He is a member of the Indian National Congress party and was the Minister of Panchayati Raj till the 2009 Election. He served as the Union Cabinet Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas from May 2004 through January 2006 and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports till 2009.

He represented the Mayiladuthurai constituency of Tamil Nadu in the 14th Lok Sabha.

Mr.Aiyar's special interests include democracy at the grassroots level, Indian foreign policy and nuclear disarmament.

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