

## Invitation

# Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs

His Excellency Mr Vayalar Ravi

December 21, 2007

### Sweden India Business Council & Swedish-Indian Society

**Wishes to welcome you to Afternoon Tea with  
His Excellency Mr. Vayalar Ravi, Minister for overseas Indian Affairs**

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs was set up in 2004 to serve the vast overseas Indian community of about 25 million. The Ministry has sought to establish an institutional framework to reach out to and connect with the Indian diaspora across the globe and use them as effective bridges with the countries in which they reside and economically resurgent India. Minister Ravi has lead the drive to bring back knowledge from the world and also spread the word of what India has to offer to world . Her Excellency Ambassador Deepa Gopalan Wadhwa will kindly share a few words with us as well.

#### **H. E. MR. VAYALAR RAVI**

Vayalar Ravi, who assumed office as the new Overseas Indian Affairs Minister on January 30, 2006, was born in 1937 in Vayalar village of Kerala's Alappuzha district. His father, M.K. Krishnan, was actively involved in the struggle for India's Independence and was also a social activist who fought against untouchability in the state.

In 2001, he became the general secretary of the All India Congress Committee. He was again elected to the Rajya Sabha in 2003. Before assuming charge as the Hon'ble Minister, he was the Chairman of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development.

Ravi is a widely travelled person and has represented India three times at the United Nations General Assembly. His travels have taken him across Europe, the United States, Africa, the Gulf and several Asian Countries. Ravi is also a well-known trade union leader of Kerala. He also served the cause of workers of Cochin Port Trust with remarkable distinction in his capacity as President of the Cochin Port Trust Workers' Union for last 30 years.

A postgraduate and a bachelor of law, Ravi is an excellent orator, a prolific writer and an outstanding parliamentarian whose knowledge of constitutional matters is legendary. He has, all through his remarkable career, always raised his voice in favour of the poor, the destitute and the weaker sections of society

**When:** 21 December, 2007 from 15.00 to 17.00 hrs.  
**Where:** WTC restaurants, Kungsbron 1 (Next to the WTC entrance, go through the restaurant to the far left corner where a sign is posted)  
**Register to:** [Info@sibc.se](mailto:Info@sibc.se) or [jan.henrik.gladh@telia.com](mailto:jan.henrik.gladh@telia.com)

**Please register as soon as possible and latest by 19th of December**



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