

P. Chidambaram (IN)
Senior Advocate
Former Minister of
Finance of India
New Delhi



Born in 1945. P. Chidambaram studied at Presidency College, Chennai, and obtained a Bachelor of Science. He also received a Bachelor of Law at the Law College, Madras University. Subsequently, he went to Harvard Business School and earned a Master of Business Administration.

P. Chidambaram started his professional career as an advocate in the Madras High Court in 1969 and was appointed Senior Advocate in 1984. The same year, he was for the first time elected to the Lok Sabha (Lower House) of the Indian Parliament. In 1985, he was inducted into the Union Council of Ministers as Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce and later in the Ministry of Personnel. P. Chidambaram was elevated Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions as well as Minister of State for Internal Security in 1986 and held both offices until the general elections of 1989. Following the elections held in 1991, he served as Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce until 1992. P. Chidambaram was re-appointed Minister of State in 1995 before becoming Minister of Finance in 1996, a position he held until 1998.

P. Chidambaram is a trustee of the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and of the Illakkiya Chintanai (Literary Association), Chennai. He is a member of the International Advisory Council of Stanford University's Institute for International Studies. Furthermore, he serves on the Advisory Board of Harvard University's Centre for International Development.