

Prajakta L. Verma

Senior Civil Servant | Development Practitioner | Policy Expert

Add. Secretary Level
Indian Administrative Services (IAS)

PROFILE

Prajakta L. Verma is a senior officer of the Indian Administrative Service (Maharashtra Cadre, 2001 Batch) with over two and a half decades of distinguished public service across Maharashtra and the Union Government. Recently empanelled at the Additional Secretary level — one of the most senior tiers of the IAS — her career spans grassroots administration, strategic governance, and high-level policy-making, with a consistent focus on reaching the most vulnerable with dignity and impact. Recently empanelled at the Additional Secretary level, she represents a new generation of senior policymakers in India.

She has also authored two books on public administration, community development, and social policy — reflecting her deep engagement with the issues she has championed throughout her career in public service. Her publications include books titled “Future Forward: Community Empowerment” and “The Rise of New Futures”. She has penned several articles on sustainability and circularity in Millenium Post and her initiatives in curbing malnutrition by using local customs was covered in the LBSNAA journal on best practices of governance. She has received awards at the State level for her efforts in water conservation in drought hit districts and has been conferred the L.C.Singhi awards in LBSNAA for her research paper on Human Rights.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Period	Role	Department / Organisation
2025–present	Joint Secretary / Additional Secretary	Dept. of Atomic Energy, GoI
2022–2025	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles	Government of India
2021–2022	Divisional Commissioner (First Woman)	Nagpur Division, Maharashtra
Prior	Secretary, Marathi Language Department	Government of Maharashtra
Prior	Excise Commissioner & Jt. Commissioner (Investigation)	Commercial Taxes, Maharashtra
2007–2009	District Collector & District Magistrate	Dhule, Maharashtra
2004–2007	CEO, Zila Parishad	Ahmednagar, Maharashtra

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- Navi Mumbai Airport:** Played a pivotal role in land acquisition and rehabilitation of 10 villages displaced for the Navi Mumbai International Airport — ensuring resettlement with dignity and community trust.
- Textile Sustainability:** Represented India at the ITMA Sustainability Forum (ITMA Asia + CITME SG 2025), speaking on India's green transformation in textiles and the national conversation on circular economy. She helped launch ‘Kasturi Cotton’ and championed the cause of indigenous and superior grade cotton in international markets.

- **Data-Driven Enforcement:** Built data-sharing interfaces between Commercial Taxes, the Registration Department, and the RTO to systematically uncover large-scale tax evasion across multiple industry sectors.
- **Language & Culture:** Launched international programmes to popularise the Marathi language globally during her tenure as Secretary of the Marathi Language Department.
- **Community Development:** Led women's empowerment initiatives in Ahmednagar District and worked with communities on nutrition, sanitation, and livelihoods over a 10+ year field career.

EDUCATION

Qualification	Institution
M.Sc. Urban Studies (Merit)	London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE)
M.A. Human Resource Management (First Class)	Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai
LL.B. – Administrative & Other Laws	University of Mumbai
B.A. English Literature (First Class)	D.G. Ruparel College, University of Mumbai