

S. DHANABALAN

Minister for Foreign Affairs, Singapore

Born in 1937 in Singapore, Mr. S. Dhanabalan received his secondary education in Victoria School after which he pursued his tertiary education in the University of Malaya, Singapore, and earned a Bachelor of Arts, Honours (Economics) degree.

He joined the Singapore Administrative Service in 1960 as Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of Finance. He was seconded to the Economic Development Board (EDB) when it was established in 1961. He spent seven years in the EDB starting as Senior Industrial Economist and moving up to Deputy Director (Operations & Finance) by the time he left EDB. In 1968, he was involved in a small team that worked on the establishment of the Development Bank of Singapore (DBS) and when the bank was established in late 1968, he resigned from the EDB to join DBS as Vice President. He was promoted to Executive Vice President in 1971. He was elected Member of Parliament for Kallang constituency in December 1976. He resigned from DBS in June 1978 to take up appointment as Senior Minister of State in the Ministry of National Development. In February 1979, he took up his new appointment as Senior Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On June 1, 1980 he became Minister of Foreign Affairs.

He is married with a daughter and son.