



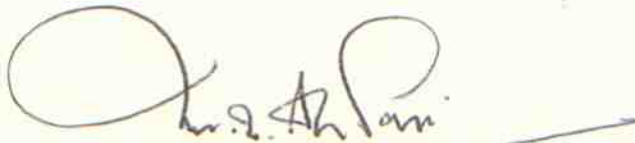
उप-राष्ट्रपति, भारत
VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA

MESSAGE

It is with profound sorrow that I received the news of the passing away of Shri R. Venkataraman, former President of India .

Shri Venkataraman was a distinguished public personality, versatile parliamentarian and an adept administrator who served the country with distinction in various capacities. In his long public career, Shri Venkataraman left a distinct mark in the society and in the polity with his innate simplicity, vast erudition and experience and deep sensitivity for the poor and the deprived. The country will always remember with gratitude his services for the country. His loss shall be keenly felt.

My wife joins me in sending our heart-felt condolences to all the members of the bereaved family and pray to the Almighty to grant them strength and fortitude to withstand this loss.



(M. HAMID ANSARI)

New Delhi
27 January, 2009