

Shri P. Ashok Gajapathi Raju

Shri P.Ashok Gajapathi Raju, Son of Late Shri P.V.G.Raju, Rajah Saheb of Vizianagaram was born on 26th June, 1951. He was educated at Scindia School, Gwalior; Lovedale School, Ooty; Hyderabad Public School, Hyderabad and V.S.Krishna College Visakhapatnam. He is married to Suneela and has two daughters. He was a member of Andhra Pradesh State legislature for over twenty five years and was a Minister in the Govt. of A.P., for thirteen years holding the portfolios of Commercial Tax, Excise, Legislative affairs, Finance, Planning and Revenue.

Influenced by socialism and moved by the deplorable condition of the people, both socially and economically, he joined politics to serve the people. He took an active part in the struggle for the formation of a new district viz. Vizianagaram. His interest to improve education in the district led to the establishment of several governmental and non-governmental educational institutions. Presently he is Vice-Chairman of a trust The Maharaja Alak Narayana Society of Arts and Science (MANSAS) which is running twelve educational institutions in the district. As a Minister, he was associated with several developmental activities. He is keenly interested in the field of public health and the conservation of water and electricity. In pursuance of this ideal, he launched housing, drinking water and health schemes. He has traveled abroad to study town planning and to implement it suitably in Andhra Pradesh. He is a former President of Andhra Cricket Association. His efforts resulted in the establishment of several centres for imparting training in several sports at many places including Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam and Vizianagaram.