

# **Shri Prataprao Jadhav**

(Minister of State for AYUSH (I/C) and Health & Family Welfare, Government of India)

Shri Prataprao Jadhav is a senior public representative and experienced political leader with over four decades of public service. He was born on 25 November 1960 in Mehkar, District Buldhana, Maharashtra, and comes from an agrarian background. He pursued higher education at Shri Shivaji College, Chikhli (Buldhana) and has been closely associated with agriculture, cooperative institutions, and rural development.

He began his public career through local self-government and cooperative institutions, serving as Chairman of Mehkar Taluka agricultural and market bodies and later holding key leadership roles, including Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the District Cooperative Bank, Buldhana. He served as a Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly (1995–2009, three terms) and was Minister of State for Sports, Youth Welfare and Irrigation, Government of Maharashtra (1997–1999).

In 2009, he was elected to the 15th Lok Sabha, and was subsequently re-elected in 2014 and 2019, completing three consecutive terms up to the 17th Lok Sabha. During his parliamentary tenure, he served as Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Rural Development & Panchayati Raj and later Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Communications & Information Technology. He has also served on several important Parliamentary and Standing Committees related to Rajbhasa, Human Resource Development, Rural Development, Finance, Home Affairs, Labour & Employment, and Communications & Information Technology and House Committee of Lok Sabha.

Apart from parliamentary work, he has been actively involved in social initiatives such as health camps, blood donation drives, yoga promotion, sports promotion, agricultural exhibitions, and rural education initiatives, especially focusing on women empowerment, girls' education and farmer welfare. He is currently serving as Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Ministry of AYUSH and Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare, Government of India.