



## PRAVIN JAMNADAS GORDHAN

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### Personal

Date of Birth: 12 April 1949

Marital status: Married with 2 children

### Positions

- Member of Parliament from 1994 until 1998
- Chairperson of the Constitutional Committee in Parliament from 1996
- Deputy Commissioner for the South African Revenue Service from March 1998
- Commissioner for the South African Revenue Service from November 1999
- Minister of Finance of the Republic of South Africa from 11 May 2009
- Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs from May 2014
- Minister of Finance of South Africa from December 2015
- Member of the National Executive Committee of the African National Congress from 20 December 2012

### Academic Qualifications

- Bachelor of Pharmacy from the University of Durban Westville (1973)

### Career Position and Other Activities

- Became involved in politics during the late 1960's
- Organised and led the student movement and civic structures during the 1970s and 1980s
- Took part in the Natal Indian Congress call to boycott elections in the 1980's
- Detained three times by the apartheid government
- Spent four years in the underground structures
- Was also involved in the South African Communist Party (SACP) and African National Congress (ANC)
- Worked as a pharmacist at the King Edward VII hospital in Durban until he was expelled after his detention by the police. (1974 – 1981)
- Participated in the in multi-party talks at the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA). (1990)
- Co-chairperson of the Transitional Executive Council which prepared the country for the 1994 elections. (1991 – 1994)
- Played a role in drafting the White Paper on Local Government which laid the foundation for developing local government authorities
- Chairperson of the Constitutional Committee in Parliament, which had oversight over the implementation of the new constitution, adopted in 1996
- Chairperson of the World Customs Organization (WCO) from 2001 until 2006
- Chairperson of the Forum on Tax Administration (FTA) within the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) from 2008 to 2009

### Awards/Presentations/Bursaries

- Doctorate of Commerce honoris causa from University of South Africa (May 2007)
- Doctorate of Law honoris causa from the University of Cape Town (June 2007)
- DTech: Business Administration from the Free State Central University of Technology (March 2009)

# **PRAVIN JAMNADAS GORDHAN**

## **Background and work experience**

Pravin Gordhan is an activist at heart. His involvement in the anti-apartheid struggle goes back to the 1970s and 1980s when he was an organiser in the student movement and a prominent leader in civic structures. After qualifying as a pharmacist in 1974, he worked at the Durban's King Edward VIII hospital as a pharmacist till 1981, but was expelled by the hospital due to his involvement in resistance politics. He spent four years underground in the 1980s, during which time he became involved in the South African Communist Party and African National Congress.

He played a pivotal role in South Africa's transition as an ANC participant in the multi-party talks at the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA), and co-chair of the Transitional Executive Council. He chaired the Constitutional Committee, which had oversight over the implementation of the new Constitution, adopted in 1996. He served as an ANC MP until March 1998, when he joined SARS as Deputy Commissioner, rising to become its Commissioner in November 1999. It is during that decade that SARS was built into the reputable revenue service that is recognised world-wide, assisting the South African government to collect the resources it needed for its programmes.

In May 2009, he was appointed the Minister of Finance and became Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs in May 2014. He was reappointed as Minister of Finance in December 2015. He served as member of the National Executive Committee in the African National Congress from December 2012.

Mr Gordhan is passionate about democracy, racial and gender equality and working to build a prosperous future for South Africa.