

Memoirs of an envoy



P Gopalakrishna, Secretary, and GRK Reddy, President of the Chamber; Karthikeyan, Official Representative of City of Melbourne, Australia; David Holly, Australian Consul - General for South India, and C Sarat Chandran, Director, at the book launch

Express News Service

Chennai: Breaking his silence of 24 years during his honorary service to the Indian Government as Consul General in Australia with the launch of his memoirs, Dr Janardhanan Rao on Thursday said, "I was told to keep

my eyes and ears open and mouth shut when I took up the role of consul general of India in Australia."

The memoirs 'A surgeon and Consul General - A Migrant Experience', which was launched by former CBI director D R Karthikeyan, recounts how Dr Janardhanan

Rao began his journey with just \$4.50 and rose to become the honorary consul general, and the role he played in strengthening India-Australia ties.

Rao, who played a key role in strengthening Indo-Australian ties, is bitter that after 24 years of honorary service to the Indian government, there has been no acknowledgement.

Interestingly, Rao also highlights about corrupt leaders, who demand a share in clearing the deals. Interestingly, the former diplomat did not name any of the politicians.

Australian Consul General for South India David Holly highlighted the strong India-Australia ties and said that Hinduism is now the fastest growing religion in Australia. However, the consul general also revealed that no Indian Prime Minister had visited Australia after Rajiv Gandhi since the last 26 years.