

## Profile of GCA President: Shri Amit Shah



A man known for proven organisational abilities and strategic planning, Amit Shah is a politician of the hinterland with a distinguished political record and commitment for the ideals he stands for. He is a man of commitment and determination in whatever he does.

Born on October 22, 1964, Shah has not inherited either public administration or politics. Instead, he drew inspiration from philanthropist family and entered into the public life to serve the society.

### Sports Administration:

Shri Amit Shah got elected as vice president of the Gujarat Cricket Association (GCA) in 2009, while the then chief minister of Gujarat and now Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi was president of GCA.

The duo, with their organizational skills and visionary outlook started revamping the CGA administration. Soon, the results were seen not only on the storyboard of the organization but also in the performance of the cricketers on the ground.

Shri Amit Shah took over as President, GCA in 2014 as Shri Narendra Modi moved to Delhi to lead the nation as the Prime minister. Shri Amit Shah too became the national president of BJP but took upon his shoulders the responsibility to realize dream of Shri Narendra Modi to make Motera the world's largest stadium. With ground-breaking done, the site is humming up with all round construction activities.

In the meantime, GCA team has won all three formats – T-20, 50 Overs and First Class cricket trophies. Till the time, Shri Amit Shah got associated with GCA, only handful of cricketers of Gujarat had got opportunity to show their skills. He ensured transparency in selection of players for different age groups for various tournaments and facilities provided to the budding cricketers. As a result, as on date two players from Gujarat – Jasprit Bumrah and Akshar Patel – have become integral part of Team India.

Shri Shah has also served as the President of Gujarat State Chess Association. Under his leadership, Gujarat State Chess Association introduced chess in primary schools and thousands of students got attracted towards the game.

### Organizational Role in Gujarat BJP:

At a tender age of 14, Shri Amit Shah joined the Rashtriya Syawamsevak Sangh (RSS) as a 'Tarun Syawamsevak'. That was the turning point of his life. In 1982, as a student of bio-chemistry, he was handed over the responsibility of the secretary of the students' organisation ABVP in Ahmedabad. He later became the secretary of BJP Ahmedabad city unit. Shri Amit Shah went on to hold many crucial posts to rise

up in the ranks of the Gujarat unit of BJP. He became the national treasurer of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (B.J.Y.M.) in 1997 and later the Vice President of the Gujarat State unit of the BJP.

### **Emphatic electoral achievements:**

In 1995, Shri Amit Shah was elected, for the first time, as the MLA from Sarkhej assembly constituency. He was re-elected from the same constituency in 1998. This time, he defeated his rival with a margin of 1,32,477 votes. He made a record of sorts in 2002 when he was re-elected from Sarkhej constituency by beating his rivals with a triumphant 1,58,036 votes. He broke his own record in the year 2007; this time the margin of the winning vote was 2,32,823 votes. In 2012 he was elected to the Gujarat Assembly for the fifth time from the Naranpura constituency.

### **Turnaround of the co-operative sector:**

Every dying entity needs a visionary to turn its destiny around. This is true to the Ahmedabad District Co-Operative Bank Limited, which in the year 2000, was in totters and declared a weak bank due to lack of leadership. It was then that Shri Amit Shah was brought in as the chairman of the Bank to persevere the challenge. That was the year when the Bank had registered a loss of Rs 20.28 crore. Only a year after he took over, the Bank cleared its debts and fell in line of other profit-making banks, with declaration of 10% dividend. Today, Ahmedabad District Co-Operative Bank Limited is a leading bank among the 367 co-operative banks in the country.

### **Notable successes in state administration:**

In 1995, during the tenure of Shri Keshubhai Patel as CM of Gujarat, Shri Amit Shah became the youngest chairman of Gujarat State Financial Corporation (G.S.F.C.). In 2002, Shri Amit Shah became the Minister of State in Narendra Modi Govt. During his tenure as minister, he held several portfolios including that of home ministry, transport, police, housing, border security, civil defense, gram rakshak dal, home guards, prison, prohibition, excise, law and justice and parliamentary affairs.

### **2014 general elections:**

His skill in political strategy and vision led to his appointment as the General Secretary of the party in 2010 and him being made incharge (Prabhari) of electorally significant state of Uttar Pradesh. Within a short span of time, Shri Shah turnaround the electoral fortunes of the BJP in UP and delivered a spectacular result, in which the BJP and its ally won 73 out of 80 Lok Sabha seats. BJP's vote share in the state increased almost two and half times in less than two years when he was the Prabhari of UP. Shri Shah was also a Member, of BJP's Election Panel. His result-oriented strategy-making skills played an important role in the enviable result for the BJP in 2014 Lok Sabha elections.

Shri Shah, despite his busy schedule at national arena, is equally keen on GCA affairs, game of its players and gets updated on progress of construction of GCA Motera Stadium.