

**Obama nominates Indian-origin as ambassador to Malaysia**  
**MalaysiaKini.com**  
**June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

US President Barack Obama has nominated an Indian-origin diplomat as the next American ambassador to Malaysia, the *Press Trust of India (PTI)* reported.

If confirmed by the Senate, Kamala Shirin Lakhdhir, would replace Joseph Y Yun as the next US ambassador to Malaysia.

Nomination of Lakhdhir, a career member of the Foreign Service Class of Counsellor who was Executive Assistant to the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs from 2011 to 2015, was announced by the White House along with several other key administration appointments.

"I am confident that these experienced and hardworking individuals will help us tackle the important challenges facing America, and I am grateful for their service. I look forward to working with them," Obama said.

Lakhdhir served as the US Consul-General in Belfast, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom from 2009 to 2011.

She previously worked in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs as the Director of the Office of Maritime South-East Asia from 2007 to 2009 and as the Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs from 2005 to 2006.

From 2001 to 2005, she was a Political Officer at the US embassy in Beijing.

From 2000 to 2001, she served as a Pearson Fellow in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee and the House Financial Services Committee, Monetary Policy and Trade Subcommittee.

Since joining the Foreign Service in 1991, Lakhdhir has also served as a Political Officer in Indonesia and as a Consular Officer in Saudi Arabia.

She received a BA from Harvard College and an MSc (Master of Science) from the National War College.

Kamala's father Noor Lakhdhir was born in Mumbai in the mid-1920s.

He received a scholarship to study at the University of California, Berkeley from where he graduated in 1952. He later moved to New York City.

- *Bernama*

Copyright © 1999-2016 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd  
Source: <https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/345710>