



PERSON OF THE YEAR 2015-16



WORLD'S GREATEST BRANDS & LEADERS 2015-16-IUA

Process Reviewers - PricewaterhouseCoopers P.L.

INDIA-UAE-AFRICA: THE GROWING GIANT

RADIATING THE PRINCE EFFECT

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India has finally arrived, and is extending a million arms to the world in a myriad ways to create tracks where it can lead as a growth engine.

The enthusiasm that has been created by India's growth story and the domestic and international initiatives is infectious. It was evident during our World Today Business Conclave 2015–16 held at the Roma Ballroom of Ritz Carlton Hotel, Abu Dhabi on 29th May 2016, where we focused on the entire region of IUA, i.e. India, the UAE and Eastern & Western Africa. This was a humble attempt on our part in bringing the world closer to India.

The Conclave was organized by AsiaOne and URS Media Consulting P.L. towards the cause of enhancing business and political relations in the region, thus supporting the Indian Government in its Skilling India, Digitizing India, and Incredible India initiatives.

At the Conclave, "World's Greatest Brands & Leaders 2015–16: India–UAE–Africa – process reviewers PricewaterhouseCoopers P.L." and "AsiaOne Person of the Year Awards" were organized in association with Indian Business Professional Group (IBPG), Abu Dhabi, and Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), Abu Dhabi Chapter as Industry Partners, and Bihar Tourism & National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) as Tourism Partners.

Some of our distinguished guests of honour & dignitaries were His Excellency Sharif Habib Al Awadi – Director General of Fujairah Free Zone Authority; Mrs. Neeta Bhushan – Deputy Chief of Mission at the Indian Embassy, Abu Dhabi; Mr. Abdullatif Abdulla Ahmed Al Mulla – Group CEO Dubai Properties, Dubai Holdings; Mr. Mohan Jashanmal – President IBPG, Abu Dhabi; Mr. Ammar Sheikh – Associate Director of Abu Dhabi National Islamic Finance (ADNIF); Mr. Harish Kumar Lal Tahiliani – Managing Director of Arab and India Spices; and Mr. Rajiv Shah – Chairman ICAI Abu Dhabi.

As an exclusive IPR of the AsiaOne magazine, "AsiaOne Person of the Year"

Awards were launched at the Conclave. Since only par excellence leaders from across the world are worthy of being selected as AsiaOne Person of the Year 2015–16, only 7 exclusive "Person of The Year" were felicitated at the Conclave for their special work in the industry and society. Please turn the pages to read their exciting success journeys.

As the World Today Business Conclave focused exclusively on Services and Infrastructure Industries, about 80 Brand & Leader award winners were felicitated on 29th May '16 with a presence of over 200 audience from India, the UAE and Africa. We are featuring select 50 World's Greatest Leaders in our Cover Story.

The Cynosure has featured the entire region of India, UAE and Africa, to support the region's Growing Giant image with its current and potential role in the world economy. The contribution of Indian diaspora in this region is extraordinary, and the immense potential this region holds has been explored in our story.

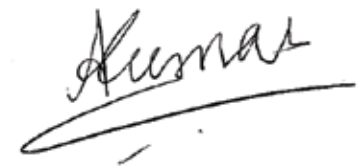
India's growing ties with the UAE have enticed us, and we have made certain observations and a review on Prince Nahyan's visit to India. Our story Radiates the Prince Effect, and revolves around how his visit has opened new doors towards mutual industry benefits.

Our Travel Connoisseur on Bihar shows how the ancient culture has been made an interesting part of daily life and how the heritage of Buddhism, Jainism, Hinduism and Sufism has together created a mixed aura of spirituality. Sufism's special connection with the young generation has also been probed.

Approving the central government's remarkable initiatives supporting India's growth spree, we have analyzed the Skilling India campaign. Though there's no dearth of positives, the domestic and global challenges have to be met head on.

A Readers' Page is being introduced in our subsequent issues. We want to keep it an open arena, where we expect our readers to pour their heart out on any topic of regional, national, international or personal importance (social, economic, political or emotional). You may send me

your articles for the Reader's Page and then some constructive feedback on our endeavours and the stories. I'm available at anam@asiaone.co.in for all that you feel is valuable and want to share.

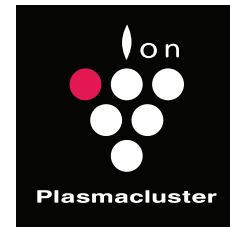


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CONTENTS

JUNE-JULY 2016

ASIAONE PERSON OF THE YEAR

34
DR. CYRUS S. POONAWALLA
 Cultivating Kindness in the Business of Life

40
JACK MA
 More than a Chinese Entrepreneur

46
RIZWAN SAJAN
 One Who Beat Hard Luck with Hard Work

52
MADAM GRACE PINTO
 Guiding Light to Children and Society

58
DR MUKESH BATRA
 Healer of Souls

64
J C CHAUDHRY
 The Trendsetting Educationist

70
SANDEEP AGGARWAL
 A High Degree of Passion

EMERGING

160
ANKUSH NIJHAWAN

164
SACHIN VATS

174
HARDIK VARMORA



182
SUREKHA SHETTY

184
DR. VINEET HINGANKAR

186
YOGESH LAKHANI

WORLD'S GREATEST LEADERS

ICONIC

86
ALI RASHID AHMAD LOOTAH

88
ALIKO DANGOTE

92
VINEET JAIN

94
DEEPAK PAREKH

POWERFUL

120
DHANANJAY DATAR

122
EVELYN MUNGAI

144
HARISH TAHILIANI

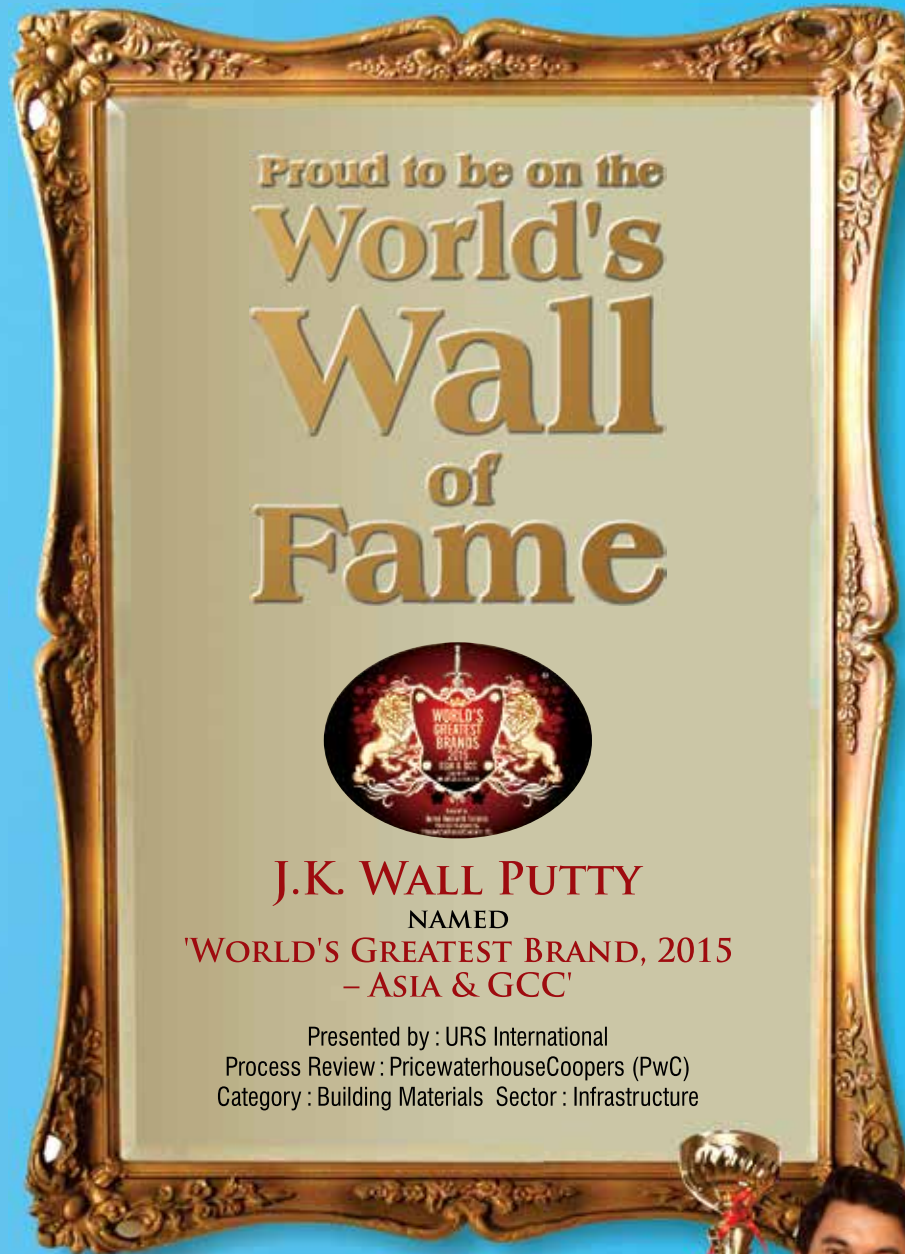
148
DR. SANJEEV JUNEJA



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CONTENTS

JUNE-JULY 2016



Page 150

CYNOSURE

20 INDIA-UAE-AFRICA: THE GROWING GIANT

The Indian Diaspora and their business endeavours contributing extensively to the industries and the economy of India-UAE-Africa region bind us all, and after a certain point, geographical and national boundaries don't matter

SPECIAL FEATURE

78 RADIATING THE PRINCE EFFECT

The UAE ranks amongst the top 10 countries in the world through the colossal work of H. H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan



Page 90

EVENT

100 WORLD'S GREATEST BRANDS & LEADERS

WGBL 2015-16: India-UAE Africa - Process Reviewers PricewaterhouseCoopers P.L. and AsiaOne Person of the Year Awards were organized in Abu Dhabi



TRAVEL & TOURISM

190
THE TRAVEL CONNOISSEUR
Creating the enchanting majesty of eras past, Bihar has an amazing hold on those that visit

INITIATIVES

194
GET SKILLED, GO!
With a vision of a "Skilled India", the first-ever World Youth Skills Day on 15th July 2015 witnessed the launch of Skill India Campaign by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)



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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LAUNCHED BY INDIA AND MOROCCO

With the motto “Shake hands, strengthen ties, go with IMCCI”, Vice President of India Hamid Ansari and Moroccan Prime Minister Abdelilah Benkirane launched the India–Morocco Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IMCCI) on 31st May 2016 at Rabat, Morocco to expedite the economic development and trade between the two countries.

Both Ansari and Benkirane admitted that due to globalization it is important to create joint ventures for better trade and peaceful relations between the countries. Hamid Ansari remarked in this light that, “It is a testament to the growing importance of commercial engagement between our two countries”.

An official spokesperson also informed that Indian companies have cumulatively invested more than \$320 million in Morocco, including in the flagship project, the Indo-Maroc Phosphore SA joint venture which shows that Morocco is a favourable destination among Indian investors.

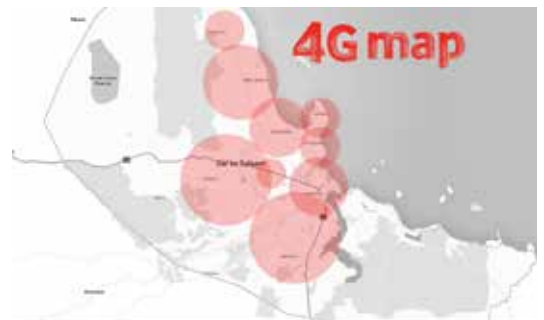
Apart from trade, India and Morocco also signed five Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) covering various issues related to culture, media and education such as television broadcasting, water resources, institutional cooperation and educational and cultural exchanges.



HUWAEI P9 LAUNCHED IN SOUTH AFRICA

The world’s first co-engineered smartphone by Huawei and Leica was launched in South Africa in the first week of June 2016. The launch uncovered three primary P9 devices – P9 Lite, P9 Plus and P9 dual.

The smartphone Huawei P9 is an excellent combination of technology and style, which provides a first-class experience to the users.



4G'S ENTRY IN TANZANIA

Strengthening their Tanzanian partnership, Nokia and Vodacom introduced 4G in Dar es Salaam in May 2016. With this service, Vodacom has become the largest wireless telecommunications network of the country.

Prior to this launch, the company began testing 4G LTE in 2013 with Nokia Networks. It is expected that the coverage will gradually extend to other major parts of the country as well.

BUILDING BLOCKS OF LIFE FOUND

In a recent discovery, Rosetta Spacecraft has detected amino acid glycine, a key building block of life, in the Comet 67P Churyumov–Gerasimenko directly for the first time.

Rosetta is a space probe built by the European Space Agency launched on 2 March 2004. According to Rosetta scientist Katherine Atwigg, this discovery suggests that glycine is a common particle in the areas of universe where celestial bodies have formed. Hence, one can say that this new discovery is another step by scientists to solve the mysteries of beginning of life.



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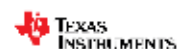
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MODI'S 5-NATION TOUR

To strengthen India's position in attaining the entry into Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and improve political and economic ties, PM Modi went on a five-nation tour from 4 to 8 June. Modi visited Afghanistan, Qatar, Switzerland, the United States and Mexico. With this tour, India managed to win crucial support from Switzerland, the US and Mexico for its application to join the exclusive Nuclear Suppliers Group.



DUBAI CROWNED AS THE SECOND-LARGEST RETAIL HUB

In a yet another outstanding achievement, Dubai has attained the second-largest position in the list of worlds' most important retail hubs.

Dubai has 57 percent of international retailers, while the topper in the list London has 57.9 percent of international retailers. Dubai may soon acquire the top position if it continues with this global expansion.

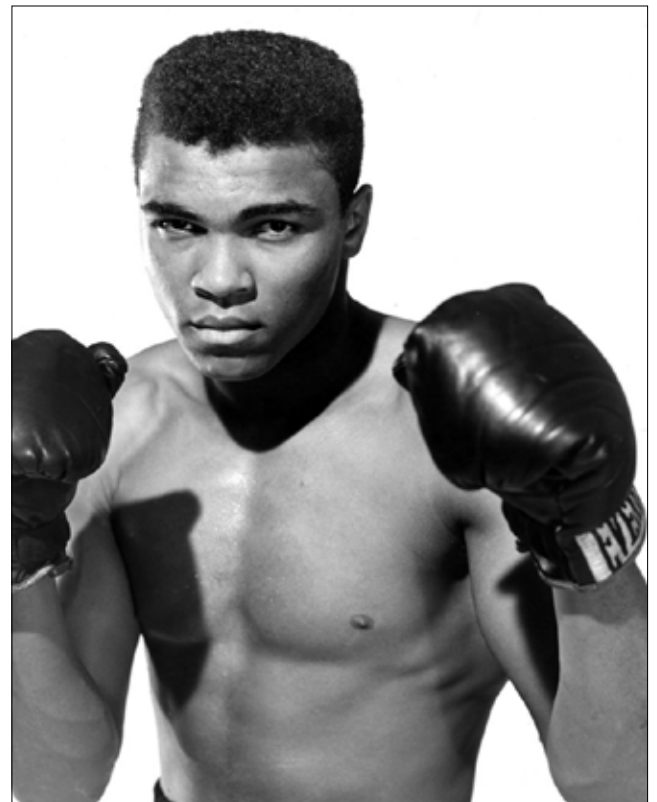
With its love for luxury and fashion, it is quite possible for this emirate to emerge as a giant hub in the fashion industry.

MUHAMMAD ALI DIED AT 74.

Boxing legend Muhammad Ali died at the age of 74. A family spokesperson described the cause of death as "septic shock due to unspecified natural causes". Ali spent the last few hours of his life surrounded by his family.

Muhammad Ali was renowned for his boxing brilliance as well as his political activism. He raised his voice against racism actively in 1960. Nicknamed The Louisville Lip, because of his gift of gab, he was diagnosed with the Parkinson's disease in 1984 at the age of 43.

His funeral procession witnessed a great congregation of people who came to pay their final respect to this legend in Louisville, Kentucky. His fierce and strong personality will always remain in the hearts of those who admired him.



LARGEST SOLAR PROJECT IN DUBAI

On 2nd June 2016, The Dubai Water and Electricity Authority (DEWA) announced that it is going to launch the world's largest concentrated solar power.

The managing director of DEWA, Saeed Mohammad Al Tayer, said that this



concentrated solar power will benefit people by helping them in storing the energy for 8 to 12 hours, which will light up the emirate.

RAISE IN INVESTMENTS IN THE UAE

Dubai-based Retail and Hospitality Company Majid Al Futtaim has announced an investment increase of Dh30 billion over the next ten years in the UAE.

Majid Al Futtaim will be investing Dh48 billion in the region by 2026 to develop



10 City Centre-branded shopping malls, six hotels, a mixed-use community, 28 cinemas and 40 Carrefour outlets as well as expand six existing malls.



CHAD PRESIDENT VISITS THE UAE

Chadian President Idriss Deby paid a visit to the UAE in May 2016. The visiting President was received by the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The two leaders discussed to boost bilateral relations, particularly in the fields of economy, trade, energy among others.



UBER ARRIVES IN UGANDA

After its immense success in the African cities, Uber announced its arrival in the Kampala on 2nd June, 2016. The capital city of Uganda is now among the smart transportation hubs in Africa.

Excited with this new launch, the San-Francisco based taxi hailing service provided free rides for four days to the city people.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

This year's World Environment Day celebrations are hosted by Angola, which is seeking to restore its elephant herds, conserve Africa's biodiversity-rich wildlife and safeguard the environment.

World Environment Day is celebrated on June 5 every year. This year's theme is 'Zero tolerance for the illegal trade in wildlife'. The slogan for this year's celebration was 'Go Wild for Life'.

The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, Achim Steiner, opened a school for wildlife rangers in Angola on

the occasion.

The campaign is run by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). It is also supported by The Global Environment Facility (GEF) and World Bank.

World Environment Day has become a global platform to spread awareness to protect our nature and earth.

THE UAE'S FIRST HMC FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH OPENED

HH Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan opened the UAE's first healthcare centre to provide specialized services in occupational health at Abu Dhabi.

Based in Khalifa A City, the Holistic Medical Centre (HMC) is the fourth of its kind in the world after Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. The Centre has the capacity to deal with over 300 patients per day, served by occupational health specialists, general practitioners and other specialists. HMC is supported by the Khalifa Fund.



HEALTH BENEFITS OF WHISKY

People have created different images of whisky in their mind, mostly negative. However, there are quite a lot of positives and health benefits of whisky, which everyone must know to dispel any negative image.

It helps in weight loss, slows down the arrival of dementia, makes the heart healthy, prevents and manages diabetes, boosts good cholesterol, fights against cancer, eliminates blood clots and strengthens the immune system.

Actually, in all available forms of alcohol whisky is one of the healthiest! It is a distilled alcoholic beverage made from one or other type of grains – barley, wheat, rye, corn, buckwheat, etc.

Excess of everything is bad, and so can be drinking whisky; however, limited drinking improves one's health. It is extremely low in saturated fat, cholesterol, carbohydrates and sodium. It is rich in ellagic acid, which is a very powerful antioxidant.

More benefits can be found out from one of the world's largest whisky brands: Officer's Choice. Mr. Amit Narain Mathur, Head – International Business can be approached at Allied Blenders & Distillers Private Limited (DMCC), P.O. Box: 393990, Dubai, UAE. Board Line: +971-4-2974551; Mobile: +971-50-4585088; Email: anmathur@abdindia.com; Website: www.abdindia.com.

Quick FAQs about Officer's Choice

- Launched in 1988 and positioned in the regular whiskey segment, Officer's Choice Whisky is one of the largest whisky brands in the world and also one of the largest exported spirits brand with a presence in over 18 countries.
- A smooth whiskey with a finely balanced malt blend.
- Growing at a CAGR of 14%, over the last 3 years, it has registered a sale of 25.7 million cases in 2015-2016.
- It is a market leader in 18 states across India with a national market share of 40%.
- The brand is positioned on the platform of 'righteousness'. It encourages consumers to make the right choice in life and awaken the hidden Officer within them.

Note: Not for sale to persons under the age of 25. Drink responsibly.

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EMIRATES NBD TO INVEST IN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION PLAN

Dubai's biggest bank – Emirates NBD has announced to invest AED500 million (\$136 million) towards digital innovation and multi-channel transformation of its processes, products and services. The investment will take place over a span of next three years to support UAE's 'Smart City' vision.

The bank also plans to launch the UAE's first digital bank targeted at millennials to offer customers the next generation of self-service money management.

Earlier, the bank also introduced several digital banking services enabling a customer to perform over 100 of transactions. In addition, Emirates NBD is also the only bank in the UAE to offer e-payment capabilities through all bank channels for over 25 major service providers.



WALMART TO TEST ONLINE DELIVERY WITH UBER AND LYFT

During its annual shareholder's meeting, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. announced that it will launch a pilot project with Uber Technologies Inc. and Lyft Inc. in Denver and Phoenix. This project will provide the delivery of online shopped grocery. Walmart is already offering an online grocery delivery service in 13 markets.

Through this partnership, the US supermarket giant Walmart seeks to hold the monopoly over online grocery shopping market and to accelerate its e-Commerce services.

VOLKSWAGEN LAUNCHES AMEO

German auto major Volkswagen launched its first 'Made-in-India' and 'Made-for-India' car line – Ameo in the country on June 5, 2016. This is Volkswagen's first-ever sub-4-metre sedan that will be locally manufactured at company's Pune plant.

The vehicle comes with a 1.2 litre petrol engine mated to 5-speed manual gear box and is priced between Rs 5.24 lakh and Rs 7.05 lakh.



GATE LAUNCHES "CHICKEN PLAN" FOR AFRICA

In his latest endeavor to help the Sub-Saharan Africans, Microsoft Founder Bill Gates has decided to donate 100,000 chickens to the extremely poor in the region. The birds will be vaccinated against common diseases before donation.

According to Gates, "The program would boost income, because chickens are inexpensive to care for, a good investment and help provide nutrition for children..." He added that the goal was to help 30% of the rural families in Sub-Saharan Africa raise improved breeds of vaccinated chickens, up from the current 5%.



INDIA-UAE-AFRICA: THE GROWING GIANT





The Indian diaspora and their business endeavours contributing extensively to the industries and the economy of India–UAE–Africa (IUA) region bind us all, and after a certain point, geographical and national boundaries don't matter. The UAE serves as a middle point between India and Africa, and helps in strengthening the business ties in the region of India, the UAE and Africa. Together, the IUA region has immense potential and ties within the region are on the rise

BY ANAM KUMAR & EKTA MAKAN



REIGN OF THE TIGER

India has not only portrayed itself as the new world engine of economic growth, it has also emerged as an indispensable partner to almost all major economies in the world. No doubt it is reigning the world economy, and the reign is here to stay

It is not by chance that India is the fastest growing economy in the world. If Congressmen in US chose to give Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi a standing ovation, it was because India has emerged as a global leader, which has been possible through several development initiatives.

For the financial year 2015–16, the Indian economy has grown by 7.6 per cent, and in the last quarter of the fiscal, the growth rate has been 7.9 per cent. Inflation has also been contained around five per cent and forex reserves are looking good.

The global demand for electronic hardware is expected to increase rapidly to USD 400 billion by 2020; thus, India has the potential to become an electronic manufacturing hub. Consequently, as a strategic plan, the Indian government has set a goal to achieve net zero imports of electronics by 2020 by creating a level playing field and providing an enabling environment.

The recently held “Make in India Week” at the MMRDA Grounds at the Bandra-Kurla Complex in Mumbai from 13 February 2016, was attended by 2,500 international and 8,000 domestic

through the use of technology.

INDIA–AFRICA FORUM SUMMITS

India has strengthened its African ties recently. The India–Africa Forum Summits – three since 2008 and last in 2015 – have helped in creating transformative relationships between India and Africa through strategic cooperation and plans to transform shared aspirations into reality.

India’s development assistance to Africa is next only to the United Nations, Japan and China, and since 2008 around USD 17.4 billion have been pledged by India for augmenting Africa’s development.

India has also created a grant assistance fund of 600 million US dollars to Africa including an India–Africa Development Fund of 100 million and an India–Africa Health Fund of 10 million US dollars.

TRANSFORMING THE DOMESTIC STRUCTURE

The various initiatives that have not only transformed the domestic economic structure of India, but have also catapulted it to the top spot in the world economy, include the following:

Make in India: It encourages domestic and multi-national companies to

(PMKVY)” and the “Skill Loan scheme”.

Digital India: It makes available government services to citizens electronically by improving online infrastructure and by increasing Internet connectivity or by making the country digitally empowered in the field of technology. It was launched on 2 July 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The initiative includes plans to connect rural areas with high-speed Internet networks. Digital India comprises three core components: creation of digital infrastructure, delivering services digitally and digital literacy.

Startup India: The action plan for Startup India contains several positive initiatives for Indian startups mainly easing up various regulatory, legal, financial and other challenges faced by them. Startup India targets to build a strong eco-system for nurturing innovation and startups in the country that will drive sustainable economic growth and generate large-scale employment opportunities. The startup movement is spreading from digital/technology sector agriculture, manufacturing, social sector, healthcare, education, etc., and from existing tier-1 cities to tier-2 and tier-3 cities including semi-urban and rural areas.

MEETING CHALLENGES HEAD ON

Challenges have to be met squarely to create a balanced growth within various industries and sectors. Industry-wise, the challenge lies for small companies that are constrained in their ability to provide a differentiated customer experience and establish a structured approach toward financial controls and risk assessments.

India’s difficult business environment needs to be eased, the tedious processes need to be relaxed and compliance requirements for doing business must be minimized or eliminated.

In addition, the competitiveness needs to be increased, domestically and globally. In the global scenario, India must reach a position where it can face global companies confidently.

Despite the challenges, the outlook for India’s growth for the next decade is bright, mainly because of the favourable demographic dividend and increased economic prosperity.

The announcement of the INR 100-billion fund for risk capital investment in start-ups in the Union Budget and the launch of Mudra Bank in April 2015 with a corpus of INR 200 billion should also help potential firms. ■

“India is also making reforms in various industries even if it requires changes in the policy. The various transformations include creation of job opportunities, a digital infrastructure, governance & services on demand and digital empowerment of citizens”

companies, which promised over Rs. 15.2 lakh crore (USD 230 billion) worth of investment commitments.

India is also making reforms in various industries even if it requires changes in the policy. The various transformations include creation of job opportunities, a digital infrastructure, governance & services on demand and digital empowerment of citizens.

The government is also planning to create 28,000 seats of BPOs in various States and set up at least one Common Service Centre in each of the Gram Panchayats in each state. 11 technology initiatives were announced in the 2016 Union Budget of India. These include the use of data analytics to nab tax evaders. Digital Literacy mission will cover six crore rural households. It is planned to connect 550 farmer markets in the country

manufacture their products in India. It targets to make India the top destination globally for foreign direct investment, surpassing even the USA and China. India received USD 63 billion as FDI in 2015.

Make in India’s main objective is to focus on job creation and skill enhancement in 25 sectors of the economy. In addition, it would also increase the quality of products being made in India simultaneously minimising the impact on the environment. The initiative is expected to attract capital and technological investment in India.

Skilling India: The aim of this ambitious project is to train over 40 crore people in India in different skills by 2022. It includes various sub-initiatives of the government such as “National Skill Development Mission”, “National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship”, “Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana

A TALE OF 7 EMIRATES

UNCOVER ENDLESS INSPIRATION

High up in the glistening perpendicular disc that houses Aldar properties' headquarters on one edge of Abu Dhabi's Yas Island resides harmony. UAE is a place so serene that it compels people from all across the world to witness equanimity in both business and recreation.

Dating back in the year of 1968 when British announced their intention to withdraw from the Arabian Gulf, H. H. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the then Ruler of the emirate of Abu Dhabi promptly acted to form strong bond with the emirates. With H. H. Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum, the then Ruler of the emirate of Dubai, Sheikh Zayed called for a federation that would include not only the seven emirates that made up the Trucial States, but also Qatar



and Bahrain. The UAE was formally established on 2 December 1971. Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Umm Al Quwain, Fujairah, Ajman and Ras Al Khaimah became the seven emirates to be a part of UAE.

A PLACE BEYOND EXPECTATIONS

Nothing worthwhile comes easy, UAE has also experienced its share of adversities to become one of the most sought after cultural destination of today's time. It is rightly said to be home to a rich cultural heritage that has been strongly influenced by its unique environment.

UAE has a varied terrain; desert, oasis, mountains and coast, dictated the traditional lifestyles that evolved over the centuries. A resilience and resourcefulness necessary to survive in these harsh conditions was fostered by society's age-old tribal structure: each family was traditionally bound by obligations of mutual assistance to its immediate relatives and to the tribe as a whole. Among the tribe an individual's selfless hospitality was the source of his honor and pride.

People looking out for cultural expedition can delve into the country's Bedouin past on starry desert nights before exploring the many forts that guarded the coastline long before the domination of the glitzy high rises. A handful of them are listed below:

BURJ KHALIFA

The Burj Khalifa is one of the United Arab Emirates most famous buildings and the soaring sky-high landmark of Dubai. Not only it is the world's tallest building, but it also lays claim to the titles of tallest freestanding structure in the world, highest observation deck in the world and elevator with the longest travel distance in the world. A trip up to the observation deck with its panoramic views across Dubai is a sightseeing highlight for most tourists who visit Dubai.

SHEIKH ZAYED GRAND MOSQUE

The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque is a mammoth modern mosque of incredible beauty. Harnessing contemporary design and ancient craftsmanship skills, the mosque is a harmonious blend of modern

and old. It doesn't fail to dazzle all who enter with its lavish use of gold, mosaic work and glass work, marble in gigantic proportions and blindingly white stone contrasting dramatically under the Emirati blue sky.

IN ORDER TO BUILD UP

There are many structural changes taking place in the UAE. Several federal ministries, authorities and institutions are being ceased or merged.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Prime Minister and Vice President of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai announced these changes on 8 February 2016 through his official Twitter account as part of the three-day World Government Summit.

"We can't lead the future with tools from the past, and we can't accomplish quantum leaps in growth without conceptualizing a new way of governance. Change creates great opportunities and renews ideas and forces everyone to think in a different way. And we will implement all that is good for our people," he tweeted. ■



LIONS ON THE MOVE

The potential and progress of African economies is best described as “lions on the move”. The rule for success anywhere in the world is not “slow and steady wins the race”, but “steady, no matter slow, wins the race”. The world economy has experienced a slowdown recently, and Africa has also been affected. Yet, Africa’s economic lions are steadily moving forward



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Africa is a land of opportunities. It's quite different from a general image of death and despair or Afro-pessimism portrayed by the media. It's a large continent, comprising several countries, and mostly the region is growing. There is a need to understand the current growth and developments in the region to nullify the historically governed negative stereotyped perceptions of the continent.

WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY

As per the World Bank Report 2016, "Africa is among the fastest growing regions in the world." The global trends and region-specific risks keep fluctuating. A positive observation by the World Bank includes, "The incidence of extreme poverty has fallen – from 57% in 1990 to 43% in 2012." It further observes, "Addressing the sources of vulnerability and building resilience is critical to maintain solid growth rates and sustain the progress made so far in reducing poverty and achieving the development

goals. To continue to make progress on its development goals and achieve structural transformation, Africa must capitalize on the significant growth opportunities."

The IMF has reported that overall, the African continent achieved average real annual GDP growth of 5.4% between 2000 and 2010, adding \$78 billion annually to GDP (in 2015 prices). Though growth slowed to 3.3%, or \$69 billion, a year between 2010 and 2015, Africa still holds the potential to write another growth success story.

There have been challenging conditions in some parts of the continent, nevertheless, the rest of Africa has been able to maintain a state of optimism growing with stable rates of GDP and productivity growth.

WHERE THE FUTURE LIES

There are three positive trends that are going to keep the lions on the move: Firstly, the continent has a young population with a growing labour force – a highly valuable asset in an ageing world. Secondly, Africa is still in the phase of urbanization, and the

immense benefits of urbanization are yet to be harnessed. This urban expansion will definitely contribute to rapid growth in consumption by households and businesses, which is a good sign for industries. Thirdly, the rapid technological advancement that is taking place in African economies is going to create uncountable avenues leading to growth and reducing the cost of physical infrastructure in important areas of economic life.

Another reason to feel buoyant is the fact that the infrastructure investment is also rising continuously as spending on infrastructure has doubled over the past decade, and now stands at 3.5% of GDP.

WHERE DOES THE POTENTIAL LIE

The word here is "potential". The state of growth in the economy may fluctuate but companies and investors need to identify the sectors and areas where the potential lies. The data shows that a specific strategic approach is going to be more fruitful, i.e. growth and stability of individual countries should be measured and accordingly investment decisions must be taken.

THE ROAD AHEAD

The policy-makers – both government and businesses – need to work together to cash in on the potentials and the positives as soon as possible. The need to accelerate economic reforms, to strengthen the infrastructure and promote growth, is high. As a priority, exports and national revenue sources need to be diversified, because dependence on resources alone leads to volatility in the economy as resource prices may change dramatically – as has been the past experience. This can be done through better tax and customs collections, increasing savings and finding better uses of domestic resources, so dependence on external factors can be minimized.

Further, pension provisions need to be increased, banking and financial services need to be made more accessible, and capital markets need to attract more finances. Other measures would include better urbanization plans to unlock the full growth opportunity and to make African cities competitive. A stronger and developed power supply and electricity infrastructure would help the business environment immensely. Improvement in the educational systems to develop skills for the present and future challenges, regional integration, and improvement in Africa's physical & digital infrastructure would make a great impact too. ■

THREE PROMISING ENTREPRENEURS OF AFRICA



JOEL MACHARIA: Founder of Abacus, Kenya, a financial services company. At 8, he sold and traded his lunch for cash; at 19, he was managing other people's money; at 22 he was in debt as the stock market crashed; at 23, he was teaching finance and working as a product designer to survive; at 25, he closed his second business; at 27, he founded his current company Abacus and already has more than 3,000 investors backing him.

KELVIN DOE: Founder of K-Doe Tech, Sierra Leone, an electronic tools company. He is just 19, and manufactures electronic tools, and provides workshops, mentorship, resources and networks, thus helping young people in Sierra Leone with unique opportunities and be self-reliant.




ANDREW MUPUYA: Founder of YELI Paper Bags Limited, Uganda. He is 24 but has already made 5.6 million bags and have sold them in Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, South Africa, Norway and the US. He started YELI at the age of 16 after collecting used plastic bottles, selling them to a recycling plant for 28,000 shillings (\$8.50) and borrowing 8,000 shillings (\$2.50) from his teacher.



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INTRODUCING





ASIA ONE PERSON OF THE YEAR

It's time to highlight the real people behind the world's growth engines: People who work on the base, who create that platform which the rest of the world uses to build their structures – business, social and political. They are primus inter pares: other leaders look up to them for guidance and inspiration.

AsiaOne has launched its Intellectual Property Right (IPR) – AsiaOne Person of the Year (APOY) – for those who are exclusive, exceptional and extraordinary. The level of grandeur at APOY is unparalleled. It emblazons only the supreme in the real sense.

Only par excellence leaders from across the world are worthy of being selected as AsiaOne Person of the Year 2015–16.

HOW APOY IS CHOSEN?

Leaders who have made the most impact in a year, and consequently have made the world a better place in the aftermath, are selected as persons of the year. They may also have made a similar impact within a region of their activities in their specific category.

Thus, AsiaOne Person of the Year is selected annually and might be a newsmaker or generally highly admirable because of their highly innovative ideas, excellent business, political, or administrative acumen, or extraordinary contributions to the society – leaving an indelible mark in the process.

PERSON OF THE YEAR 2015-16





CULTIVATING KINDNESS IN THE BUSINESS OF LIFE

◀ **DR. CYRUS S. POONAWALLA**

A heart of gold, a brain of steel, and a selfless soul – Dr. Cyrus S. Poonawalla is a remarkable personality and a gem of a person. Dr. Poonawallas' grounded nature, humility, humor, and his ability to take all things like they are, have added immense value to his character

BY RASHMI SINGH & MANSI SHARMA

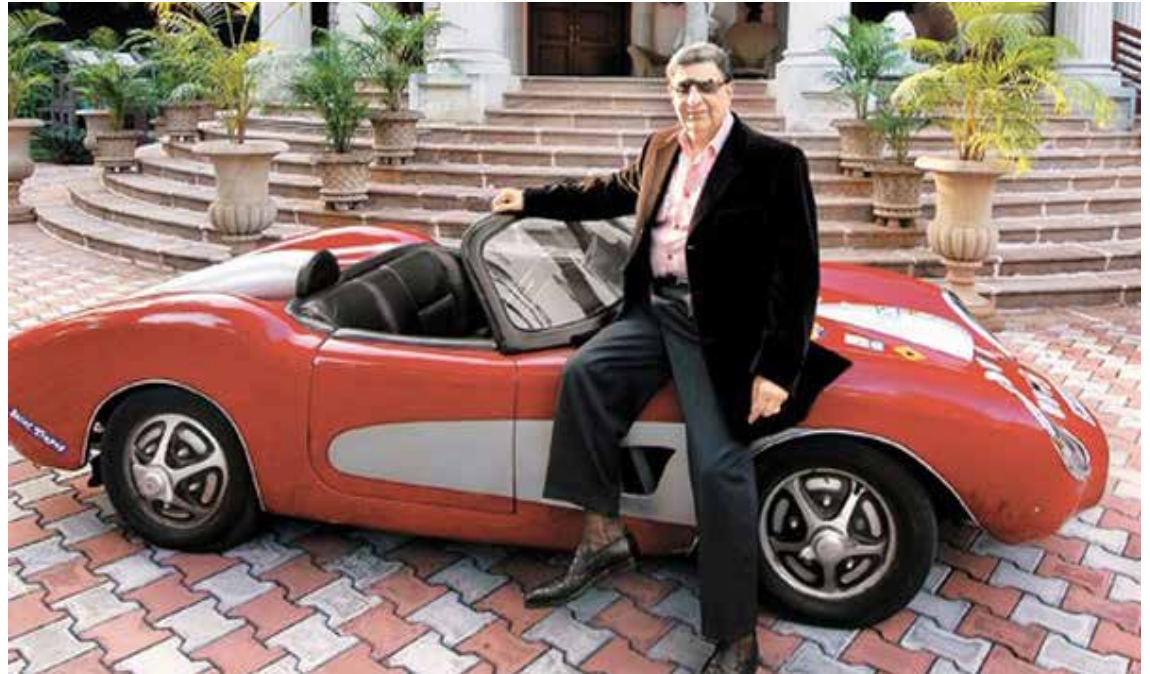
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r. Cyrus Poonawalla is a name that created a revolution in the field of

medicine by manufacturing vaccines at affordable prices at a time when India had to depend on foreign countries to protect its children from various life-threatening diseases such as Measles, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, etc. Currently, he is the chairman of Poonawalla group which operates in a wide array of activities ranging from Horse Racing and Breeding, Biotech, Engineering and Hotels with the emphasis on the quality, innovation, dedication and customer support. The leading Indian biotech company, Serum Institute of India also comes under his business empire that manufactures pediatric vaccines.

Poonawalla was born into a family of horse-racing enthusiasts who had decades-old ties to India's horse racing circuit through Poonawalla Stud Farms. He himself had a passion for horse-racing and horse-breeding but he felt that horse-racing had no future in the 'socialist' India of the time. As he has a passion for cars, he thought of pursuing it by manufacturing sports cars. However, due to high expenses involved in the process, he dropped this path. Rather, the idea of creating something that will benefit the masses crossed his mind.

A chance meeting with a vet at



their farms piqued his interest in the vaccine business. He figured that he could produce cheaper vaccines and can meet the demand for vaccines in the country. He admits, "I felt that business dealing with health and care of infant population of this huge country will be an ideal choice." Thus, with a fund of just Rs 5 lakh, he along with his brother Zavaray laid the foundation of the Serum Institute of India (SII) in 1966, which started producing anti-tetanus vaccines within two years. Gradually, the institute produced a number of vaccines such as DTP vaccine, Measles Vaccine M-Vac, an anti-snake-venom serum, etc, and became India's largest manufacturer of vaccines in just one year. By 1998, their vaccines were being exported across the world and almost every second child in the world was vaccinated by a vaccine of Serum Institute of India. After 50 years of tireless dedication and hard work, the firm is expected to report record profits of \$350 million on revenues of \$600 million for the fiscal year ending March 2016.

He started with a vision of "Health for All by 2000 AD". His aim was not only to meet the crisis of shortage of life-saving drugs in the country, but he wanted to ensure that every child is protected. He has successfully achieved this feat not only in India but globally too. Today his vaccines reach every two children out of three in this world and his company is the world's largest manufacturer of vaccines by number of doses produced and sold around the world.

His educational background is also quite impressive. He studied in the prestigious Bishop School of Pune and

graduated from Brihan Maharashtra College of Commerce, University of Pune. Remembering his college days Poonawalla says, "I was not a scholar in my college days. Teachers were angry with me because of my mischievous behaviour. Some of my friends remember how we would spend more time in the canteen than in the classroom." Later he did his PhD in 1988 from the Pune University with the thesis entitled as "Improved Technology in the Manufacture of Specific Anti-toxins and its Socio-Economic Impact on the Society".

STUD FARM: THE INHERITED EMPIRE

Although Dr. Poonawalla ventured in pharmaceutical industry, he didn't leave behind his ancestral business of Poonawalla Stud Farm. Poonawalla developed great interest in horse-racing and horse-breeding since teenage. He started riding when he was 8 years old and could ride bareback in rough terrains. He got involved in running the farm at the age of 18 and became

“My biotech company and my racing and breeding empire have been built without compromising on my principals of corporate governance.”

a member of the prestigious Royal Western India Turf Club. Just like his institute, he led this establishment to a position where it stands as a leading stud farm in the country at present. Poonawalla Stud Farm is the highest stakes earning establishment in the country with over hundreds of home breeds earning stakes in excess of millions. The farm has won 12 “Champion Breeders’ Awards” and has also bred 343 Classic winners till 2015, including the winners of 9 Indian Derbies and 68 Indian Classics. Dr. Poonawalla was honoured with “Lifetime Achievement Award” for his enormous contributions to horse racing and breeding, on 5th October, 2009 at the International Horse racing Conference at Paris, France. He was also the sole representative of India at the International Federation of Horse racing Authorities and was a member of the Asian Racing Federation (ARF) for more than ten years. He was elected as a committee member and subsequently as a steward of the Turf Club.

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Acknowledging his humanitarian work, if one gives him the title of a “Good Samaritan”, it will be absolutely justified. A quote by John Gardner can certainly articulate the idea behind the principles of Dr. Poonawalla, “Wealth is not new. Neither is charity. But the idea of



“I feel fulfilled that I have been able to grow from a humble beginning. I felt that a business of infant health and care will be an ideal choice.”

using private wealth imaginatively, constructively, and systematically to attack the fundamental problems of mankind is new.”

Dr. Poonawalla takes immense pride in his philanthropic policies. He is very passionate about making the cheapest vaccines for the down-trodden people of the world. He has a strong philosophy: “No Compromise with Quality” and strives to attain the motto “Health for All with affordable Vaccines”. He also believes that getting money is not all a man’s business. To cultivate kindness is a valuable part of the business of life. He has followed this philosophy since beginning. He has worked with the United Nations. He exports his products to 100 different countries. Today, 80% of Serum’s sales are to UNICEF and the Pan-American Health Organization as well as immunization programs, e.g. groups of charity for children’s welfare in India, Germany and Africa, the majority of which are from developing markets. Talking about his vision Dr. Poonawalla proudly says, “Generally I had a philanthropic outlook right from the beginning. The Serum Institute of India had launched and continues to (introduce) serums and vaccines at half the price of what is prevailing in the market. This model of philanthropy I did not dream would end up wiping off the competition. This has led the company to become the world’s largest vaccine manufacturer in number of children that have been protected annually.”

This list of Dr. Poonawalla’s

humanitarian work towards his society is unending. He not only made his immense contribution through his institute but also advanced to help the country in the sector of education and infrastructure. He opened schools, gave funds for the construction of roads, highways, parks and rehabilitation centre for leprosy and handicapped people. He is also an Executive Council Member of Poona District Leprosy Committee which is a charitable trust. He provided donations to organizations working towards a better future of the people as well. To improve the lives of people of Pune, he also participated in Confederation of Indian Industries’ Program of “Zero Load Shedding” by Captive Power Generation by Private Companies. In addition, Dr. Poonawalla also organizes free rubella immunization camps for the girls of slum areas in collaboration with Rotary International.

TRADITIONAL FAMILY VALUES

Dr. Poonawalla hails from a traditional Parsi family of Maharashtra. He married Mrs. Viloo Poonawalla in 1966. It was just a day after his marriage that the foundation stone of Serum Institute of India was laid. He remembers her as the major support system he had in establishing this empire. She was a gutsy woman and had a very positive aura. She encouraged him even when things weren’t looking up. When he was disturbed by the lack of support from Indian government, it was she who made him entrust his belief in his vision. She left his side and went to her heavenly abode in June 2001 and he misses her a lot.

Poonawalla has immense faith in his son Adar Poonawalla. The father and son share a very amiable relationship. Adar always had fervor for what his father was doing and he joined this enterprise soon after completing his graduation in 2010 from the University of Westminster. He is now the CEO of Serum Institute of India. His inspiration had been his father’s clear conscience and his ability to take decisions. He is following his father’s footsteps with same zest and enthusiasm.

EVEN ROLE MODELS HAVE ROLE MODELS

Bill Gates had been a true idol and source of inspiration for Poonawalla. Terming Gates a genuine



philanthropist, Poonawalla says, “He is the only person I have known who is retired and is spending his full time for the cause of saving children and improving their general well-being. This is very rare. Actually this is the job of the health ministries of the 140 countries. But it is because of his initiative that the entire global fund has now swelled to help eradicate all these diseases including polio, measles and so many others.”

It was an ecstatic moment for Dr. Cyrus S. Poonawalla when Bill Gates visited the Serum Institute



Cyrus S. Poonawalla with H.R.H Prince of Wales, David Cameroon, Bill Gates and his son Adar Poonawalla.

in 2012. Bill Gates called him a “Vaccine Hero”, a comment that we all will agree that Poonawalla indeed is.

PRIDE OF PUNE

If a person devotes his life towards the development and welfare of his society, he ought to get the honor and respect. As Dr. Cyrus Poonawalla is that person, he was also honored with illustrious awards including the national award Padma Shree by the India Government in 2005 for his contribution in the field

of pharmacy. Other esteemed awards that illuminate his name are CHEMTECH “Lifetime Achievement Award”, Punyabhushan Award, and The Asian Award for the “Business Leader of the Year” among others. He was also honored with the “Best Vaccine Executive of the Year award” in 2011 at World Vaccine Congress, Asia. For his exceptional philanthropic work he received “Sabin Corporate Philanthropy Award” from the hands of Dr. Seth Berkley, President and CEO, International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (Associate Bill Gates Foundation) at the University Club in New York, USA, on 29th June 2005.

In 2016, Dr. Poonawalla is celebrating the Golden Jubilee of his illustrious empire. With his great dedication and the vision to achieve success while

working for the welfare of the society, today Dr. Poonawalla has become the epitome of philanthropist entrepreneur. With his head held high he states that, “I feel fulfilled that I have been able to grow from a very small beginning. My biotech company and my racing and breeding empire have been built without compromising on my principals of corporate governance and my ability to call a spade a spade. Without fear or favor... both with the government as well as with society.”



MORE THAN A CHINESE ENTREPRENEUR

◀ **JACK MA**

With path-breaking results and a recent revenue jump of nearly 40 percent, Alibaba has shown that it has the pulse of the complex Chinese investment market. When seeking to construct an ideal workplace Jack Ma tends to focus on big cerebral concepts, such as purpose & shared values, which soon became the bedrock of Alibaba Group

BY EKTA MAKAN

“No matter how tough the chase is, you should always have the dream you saw on the first day. It’ll keep you motivated and rescue you (from any weak thoughts).”

T

here’s the founder and executive Chairman of a successful

Internet-based business, the Alibaba Group, who happens to be leading the world of online trade. Few people carry gravitas and mirth in equal measure. Jack Ma is one of those exceptions. For the ones who have seen him amongst his favorite people have witnessed the most chirpy side of him and when you walk into a meeting headed by him, you will witness anything but company commerce.

TAKING THE STURDY LITTLE STEPS

Ma Yun or the fondly called Jack Ma was born on September 10, 1964, in Hangzhou, situated in the southeastern part of China. Being born during China’s Cultural Revolution, his family members had an active participation in a profession of narrating stories through music were persecuted. Teaching him some tough lessons at an early age, life was never a cake walk for Jack. He was brought up along with an elder brother and a

younger sister with only a handful of money at disposal as the communist China was then facing isolation from the west.

At the tender age of 12 years, he developed a keen interest in learning English. Having skilled the language, Jack was able to practice the same as China became more open to foreign tourists and he played a guide to them. Hard work was also his key characteristic, as every morning, he rode his bike for 40 minutes for eight years to a hotel near the city of Hangzhou’s West Lake district, about 100 miles south-west of Shanghai.

Blessed with an overwhelming heart, he used to mingle with tourists really well. Not many people know that one of the American kids that he befriended named him Jack as his real name was a little hard to pronounce.

It is rightly said that one is only

satisfied when it is perfect and, in the virtue of achieving the same Jack worked really hard in those initial eight years of his career. The long haul paid off as he became more globalized than a majority of other chinese youngsters.

AMBITION KNOWS NO TIME ZONE

The vivacious Jack first blossomed in open when he was invited to spend his summer vacations in Australia in 1985. Those 31 days helped him groom and understand the real world.

After flunking twice in the university exams and just before Hangzhou Teachers University accepted him, Jack studied to be a high school English teacher. He was elected to be the student chairman and later on went to be the chairman of the city’s Students Federation.

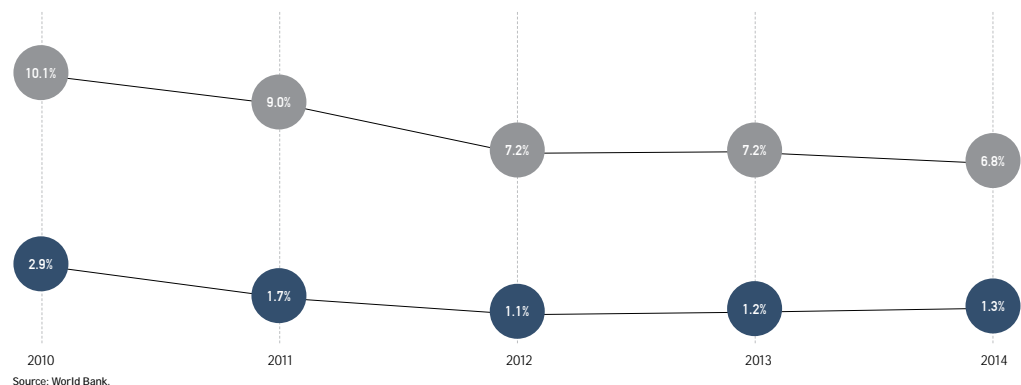
Jack’s journey started off from rags-to-riches when he was the only one of 500 students who was accredited to teach at a university. As they say, “no matter where you are your dreams are valid”, his first pay was \$12-\$15 per month, but he always aspired to join a business 5 years from then.

He was no exception in his childhood, as Jack too got thrashed by his father several times over his mischievous acts, however that came along with a lot many revering

Incomes are rising, which means Chinese consumers have more disposable income than ever before.

GDP PER CAPITA GROWTH RATES CHINA AND THE WORLD

World China





Jack Ma at the IPO launch

memories too. He liked collecting and fighting crickets, an ancient pastime that was later on banned. Jack developed an expert ear; able to distinguish the type and size of cricket just by the sound.

The year 1992 saw a rise in the Chinese economy and Jack again went on to try his luck but was turned down by many including the secretary to the general manager of a Kentucky Fried Chicken.

THE SECRETS OF GREAT TEAMWORK

He made his billions during his first trip to the US in 1995, where he was very captivated with computers and coding. Jack Ma, the founder of the leading e-commerce firm Alibaba, once gathered 17 of his close-knit friends after his two failed attempts to establish his market presence. He persuaded his friends, the same people he could share his deepest concerns and his silliest ideas without any inhibitions to invest in his vision of creating an online marketplace called “Alibaba”.

As they say, there is no point hiding something under the carpet, especially from the people who are serving to turn the entrepreneurs dream into reality. Alibaba has always been a fun organization to work for, it was the very first time when the company became profitable and Jack Ma treated each and every employee with a can of

Silly String to go wild with.

He is one of the employers who will go out of the box to keep up the energy levels of his employees and makes sure that he motivates the team enough at regular intervals. Back in the year 2000, when Alibaba decided to start Taobao, its eBay competitor, he made his team do handstands during breaks to keep their energy levels high.

Jack Ma had always been of an inquisitive nature and his ability to and reexamine issues helps him to look at situations from various angles and see opportunities where most people see only problems. This has also helped him accomplish what many people can't even think of. A straight situation being, when most people feared conducting e-commerce in China due to an unreliable and untrustworthy payment system, Jack Ma got Alibaba to build Alipay without the

Chinese banking authority approval at the risk of his personal freedom. Now Alipay facilitates more business globally than PayPal, as measured in U.S. dollars.

A RICH HARVEST

It was only in the year 2005 that Yahoo invested a total of \$1 billion in Alibaba in exchange for an approximate 40% stake in the company, this is when the chemistry worked for Alibaba. It was just at the same time when the company was on the verge of beating eBay in China. On the other hand, it fetched a huge fortune for Yahoo, as the stake netted it \$10 billion in Alibaba's IPO alone.

The year 2013 saw Jack Ma stepping down from his post of a CEO only to continue as an executive chairman. Jack Ma is elated that what they have been able to achieve is not money, but instead

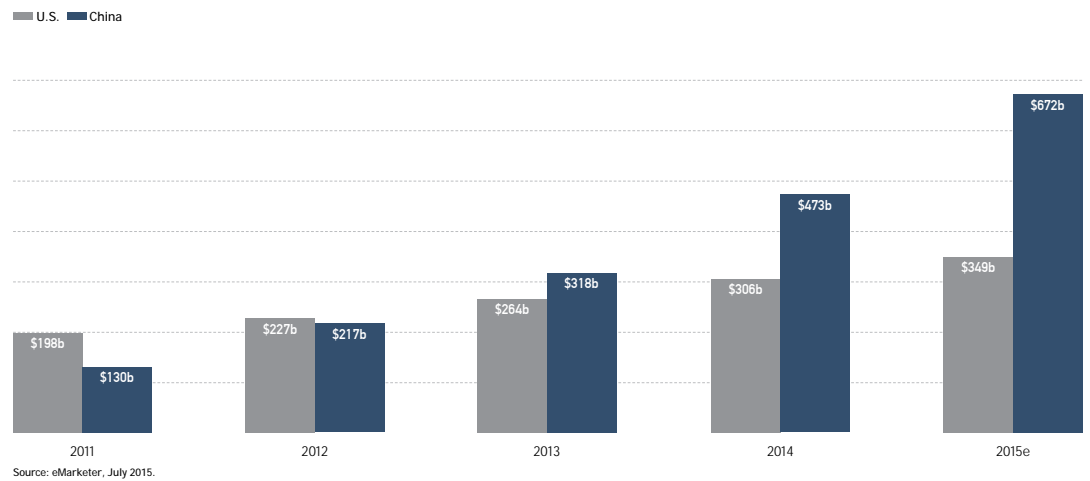
they have earned is the trust of people in a brand called Alibaba.

The history of the New York Stock Exchange witnessed the largest offering for a US-listed company with Alibaba's \$150 billion IPO. It further made Jack Ma, the richest man in China with an estimated worth of \$25 billion.

Soon after attaining one of the highest brand positions in the market, Alibaba employees threw a big party at the company's Hangzhou headquarters to honor Jack Ma, while addressing his employees at a press conference, stated that he hopes they use their newfound wealth to become "a batch of genuinely noble people, a

In 2013 China surpassed the U.S. as the largest e-commerce market in the world.

SIZE OF E-COMMERCE MARKETS FOR CHINA AND U.S. (IN USD)



Jack Ma with his set of friends turned business partners

“Help young people. Help small guys. Because small guys will be big. Young people will have the seeds you bury in their minds, and when they grow up, they will change the world.”

batch of people who are able to help others, and who are kind and happy.”

Back in March 2013, Alibaba spent a reported \$49.7 million for a Gulfstream G550, mostly for Jack Ma's use. The number of people who stop to listen when Jack Ma addresses any gathering speaks volume about him carrying a stature no less than that of a celebrity in China.

Jack Ma has that natural entertaining streak in himself, out of which the company also hosts annual talent shows. There was a time when he dressed up as a punk rocker for a performance in front of 20,000 Alibaba employees at a company anniversary event.

Company lore has it that Ma came up with the name “Alibaba” while sitting in a San Francisco coffee shop. Going by the old story of “Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves,” there is a secret password that unlocks a trove filled with unbelievable riches. If at all the company fortune of Alibaba is observed minutely, one can understand that the brand has unveiled the potential of small and mid-sized businesses across the globe.

A true hallmark of a well-run company is that its founder members are kept in the loop on all matters of concern to every employee. The IPO made Jack Ma one of the leading men in business, but he never got involved in any of the flashy purchases to please himself, instead he till date has some pretty modest hobbies.

Jack Ma's friends vouch for him being the same old person he has always been. His hobbies vary from reading and writing kung fu fiction, playing poker, meditating, and practicing Tai chi. He has recently joined hands with Jet Li to spread awareness of tai chi, and he brings a trainer along with him when he travels.

HELP SAVE THE HABITAT

As they say, in a few decades, the relationship between the environment, resources and conflict may seem almost as obvious as the connection we see today between human rights, democracy and peace. Jack Ma vested his interest in environmentalism when a family member of his wife's side became severely ill due to pollution. From that very day, he has been very close to mother earth. Despite being thoroughly occupied with his businesses, Jack Ma takes time out to enjoy



some quite mornings in the lap of nature.

He chairs as one of the active members of the global board of The Nature Conservancy and also spoke during a session of the Clinton Global Initiative. He has also played an instrumental role in funding a 27,000-acre nature reserve in China.

THE FAMILY AFFAIR

Soon after Jack Ma scaled new height of success, people started asking a lot about his personal life. But for him, the family life was a very close and personal thing.

Jack Ma has profoundly kept his family life out of the spotlight and glamour of the business showbiz. He married Zhang Ying, a teacher whom he met at school after they graduated in the late '80s. In one of the rare interviews, his wife stated that he is not a handsome man, but I fell for him because he can do a lot of things handsome men cannot do.

The couple has been blessed with two children, a daughter and a son who is an undergrad at UC Berkeley. Jack Ma has also been observed auditing history classes at his son's college.



ONE WHO BEAT HARD LUCK WITH HARD WORK

◀ **RIZWAN SAJAN**

“Every journey has ups and downs, with a fair share of smiles and frowns,” says Rizwan Sajan. Though the excitement of the journey is always there, it leaves deep impressions on the soul. After all, the journey we are talking about is life itself

BY ANAM KUMAR

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izwan Sajan arrived in Dubai in 1991 with nothing in his

pockets but a dream in his eyes. The only positive thing he could cling to was his first-hand experience in the building materials industry. He didn't have money, but had a heart of gold!

He was 28 years old then, and had been working for more than a decade with his uncle in Kuwait. He had lost his father at the age of 16 and had made his way up from the streets. He had started feeling settled in the business with his uncle, when suddenly the Gulf War started and things got so bad that he had to leave Kuwait and his job.

The decision to leave Kuwait and go to Dubai wasn't easy; however, he had to survive and take care of his family. When he arrived in Dubai, he looked up to the sky and promised to himself that he would work, work and work until he builds a future for himself and his family in this land of dreams and opportunities.

... and the journey started.

LAND OF DESTRUCTION VS. LAND OF OPPORTUNITIES

In the year 1991, when most people were glued to their TVs watching Scud missiles devastating Kuwait during the infamous Gulf War, the citizens and traders of Kuwait were

actually living the horror of being in the midst of the destruction.

Two names relevant here are Jacob Moses and Rizwan Sajan.

Before 1990, they didn't even know who Saddam Hussein was, but in 1991 Rizwan Sajan had to leave his home, family and job in Kuwait because of him. For many that would have been a dead end. But Sajan was determined to do good in life, and came to Dubai. In Dubai, he worked for a hardware store initially where he earned AED 1,500 per month. Gradually, the situation in Kuwait started getting back to normal and as the word got out that he was in Dubai, his former business associates started calling him to place orders for building materials.

He recalls all good things about

his uncle Moses and how he taught him to do business and survive, "My business ethics are largely due to the influence of my uncle Jacob Moses who taught me that 2+2=5."

After about 10 months in Dubai, he thought of using his savings and his know-how of the building materials industry and went about starting his own company, Danube. He started as a small shop in Deira and his first employee was Mrs. Sameera Sajan, his wife. Today, Danube is present in over 50 locations in 9 countries with employee strength of over 2,500.

25 years after he came to Dubai in 1991, he is considered as one of the persons who literally helped in building Dubai. The growth was mutual and he has already created a close to 3 billion dollar company.

THE FORCE CALLED RIZWAN SAJAN

Creating relationships and bonds is not easy, especially if it is not your own country. However, like everything else, he has created a strong network and his ability to sell building material is unparalleled.



“There is no shortcut to success. You have to work hard to achieve goals. I look at each challenge as it’s an opportunity and every obstacle as it’s a stepping stone to success. It brings out the best in me and encourages me to do better in life.”

different risks and turns when others believed in going steady to grow.

He has established different businesses at different times – brokerage business, timber, Buildmart (now called Danube Home), etc. and has created astounding success in all of them.

Being a highly self-assured personality, he states, “I feel proud when I share that all my business units are doing well, in spite of tough market conditions. My team is confident to close the year on a high; however, I have a few words of advice for them: stay cautious in your approach and make informed decisions and don’t act in haste.”

He is excited about the upcoming Expo 2020 in Dubai. “The biggest opportunity will be supplying building materials to major projects in the region; especially, Expo 2020, which is less than 4 years away and we are expecting almost 25 million people visiting Dubai within a span of 6 months.”

DANUBE IN THE DESERTS OF THE UAE

Hailing from the State of Gujarat in India, Sajan’s choice of the name Danube may seem strange to others; however when he started, a lot of his materials used to come through Europe via the river Danube. The river itself is believed to be the life blood of Europe and a source of nourishment. “That’s what I wanted my brand to be: a source of pride, growth and nourishment for me and every single person who invested in me.” So, Danube arrived in the deserts of the UAE, and the nourishment proved to be mutual.

He feels that he has been successful in creating an excellent journey for himself by the grace of God, and because the rulers of Dubai, over the years, have sustained a conducive work environment. The fact remains that any business would thrive here, if only passion and hard work are the main ingredients in it.

He remarks, “The leadership of the UAE have always believed and delivered on their promises to people since 1970s. The ‘never-heard-before’, innovative and best ideas see the day of light in this great nation, time and again. I have been a witness to the futuristic leadership for long now and these great leaders have made sure that no matter what, people, businesses and economy must thrive. Happiness, brotherhood and integrity have always been on the forefront to support the UAE’s march to become the most advanced country. The world history beckons the leaders of the UAE.”

THE MAN AND HIS FAMILY

On asking who is Rizwan Sajan as a person, he was straightforward, “I am a loving husband, a loving father, an astute businessman, a billionaire and I appreciate all my roles because I happen to be Rizwan Sajan of Danube under destiny’s hands. It was the support of almighty, family, friends, business associates, Government of Dubai and my roots – which can be traced back to India.”

He describes his typical day as, “My passion is work which I don’t take for granted, so a typical day would start with a half-an-hour swimming session followed by breakfast with family, and by 10:00 AM I am in office. My day-to-day activities would include discussing the innovative ideas with various teams, though once finalised, the ground work and other decisions would be passed on to the respective team leads.”

His family is his world and his small world comprises his wife Sameera and son Adel. He is nowhere near the retirement age; however, has helped Adel grow into a responsible gentleman and a smart businessman already.

When he thinks or talks of his wife, Sameera, his eyes shine and show great admiration for her. “Sameera played and continues to play an important part in my business. She has supported me through the bad times and applauded through the good ones. She has always given me the freedom to give 100% of my focus to

He has established the UAE’s largest building materials company – Danube Building Materials FZCO. Currently, he is the Founder & Chairman of Danube Group that comprises Danube Building Materials, Danube Home, Danube Properties, Milano, DanubeDirect.com, Danube Systems, Alucopanel, Cha Cha Chai, Xti and Tudors. He has grown his empire brick-by-brick from one office to more than 50 branches with a global reach into the UAE, KSA, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, India, China and Africa.

It is said that it is very easy in Dubai for people to become super-rich. However, people see only the wealth and fail to see the blood and sweat that goes in the making of the wealth. Sajan kept on taking



the business. She has tackled all domestic issues with utmost ease throughout our married life.”

He lovingly talks about Adel, “I have been a businessman for most part of my life. Now I see the second generation of Sajjan family playing a bigger role in managing the business and taking Danube to greater heights. As far as my role is concerned, I will still be at the helm of the affairs, guiding the young generation.

“Adel started quite young and I remember, during his early days, I would put him in various tasks and departments at Danube during his

summer breaks. His first assignment was working in the warehouse with the blue-collar workers and from there on he worked in almost every department until he turned 19. That was the time he was given a real responsibility – starting the chandelier division in the Danube Buildmart (now Danube Home), which had just begun operations. By the time he graduated, he had good knowledge and experience in marketing, logistics, buying and all things retail. Our retail division was kicking off and that’s when Adel took the reins of our retail divisions.”

Adel Sajjan is no stranger to

success; he has grown up as the scion of the Danube Group, the region’s largest building materials company. He continues, “With his maiden venture, Danube Home, already going from strength to strength, Adel is poised to take over from me and I have no doubts even as a businessman about his capabilities.

BRAND LEGACY OF DANUBE

He chose Sunil Gavaskar, Juhi Chawla and Shilpa Shetty as the brand ambassadors of Danube, because like Danube they too are regarded as greats in their respective fields, given their brand legacy and trust which are also Danube’s traits.

Obviously, it works both ways. “The brand ambassadors we have would have never come on board with us, had they not been convinced of our dedication and quality. It goes without saying that these associations invariably result in visibility, bonding and reach-out of the highest level.”

WELCOME HOME

Danube had successfully floated the idea of home-ownership two years ago. The idea grew and matured as a record number of customers joined the sustainable and affordable housing bandwagon. “Danube is known for quality, and once again there would be no exceptions as quality reigns supreme on all accounts in our latest launch: Glanz.”

The unwavering customer trust in the brand for over two decades has established Danube’s projects as the preferred choice across geographies, which is why each project stands 100% sold-out because of its immense popularity, which prompts sales to close within weeks of their respective launches.

Now, Danube’s first project – Dreamz – is well on schedule for delivery, whereas other projects – Glitz 1, Glitz 2, Glitz 3 and Starz are all 4–5 months ahead of schedule. So he adds, “We are hopeful that Glanz would be no different.”

Danube has established itself as an innovative organization, be it venturing into varied sectors, bringing in new products or reaching out to customers – directly/indirectly. Hence, the brand promise is innovation. As a matter of fact he says, “It doesn’t matter what is the size or scale of the project, if the right intent is there, then Danube will adapt it to serve its customers better.”

THE HUMAN FACTOR

He had a humble beginning and now he is counted among the richest in the UAE and the world. He puts it simply, “I believe my background helps me stay grounded.”

He is also successful because people who join him stick with him. He shares, “Relationships are for life, that’s what I have always believed in. And while you

“There would be a day when 10 years down the line Adel shall fulfil my greatest ambition: For people to recognize me as Adel’s father.”

are at it, make sure all you do is work, work and work, as there are no shortcuts to success. I find the right people and invest in them followed by trust – and their empowerment – to do the job perfectly.”

He also believes in training his employees well. “The objective is to formally create the opportunity of continuous learning for team members, thus leading to improved organizational and individual effectiveness which proves beneficial for the team members as well as the organization in the long run.”

Now that he has almost unlimited wealth, he doesn’t flaunt it. He has a humble disposition. He believes in living to the fullest rather than living for profit.

He has won numerous awards including the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award and the Dubai Quality Award. Recently, he was on the cover of Forbes Middle East magazine’s May edition and retained the number twelve ranking in the “Top 100 Indian Leaders in the UAE” List.

He is also involved in philanthropic activities helping people who are currently in need of a support. He feels that it is the duty of every human being to help people and give back to the society in his/her own capacity.

Since the time Danube was established, he has been promoting community initiatives. In 2012, the company designed its own social initiative called the Danube Welfare Centre (DWC) to address the challenges faced by the blue-collared individuals in the UAE. The Welfare Centre aims to provide formal training and assistance to the trainees and helps them meet the demands of the labour market. The Welfare Centre offers a 3-day training program to a batch of 15–20 participants from diverse nationalities free of cost. He explains further, “We train them on communication skills, personality development, interview skills, building self-confidence and developing positive attitude.”

One of Danube’s most popular initiatives involves holding a lucky draw amongst blue-collared workers, whereby the company sends two employees on “Hajj” and other four for “Umrah” each year.

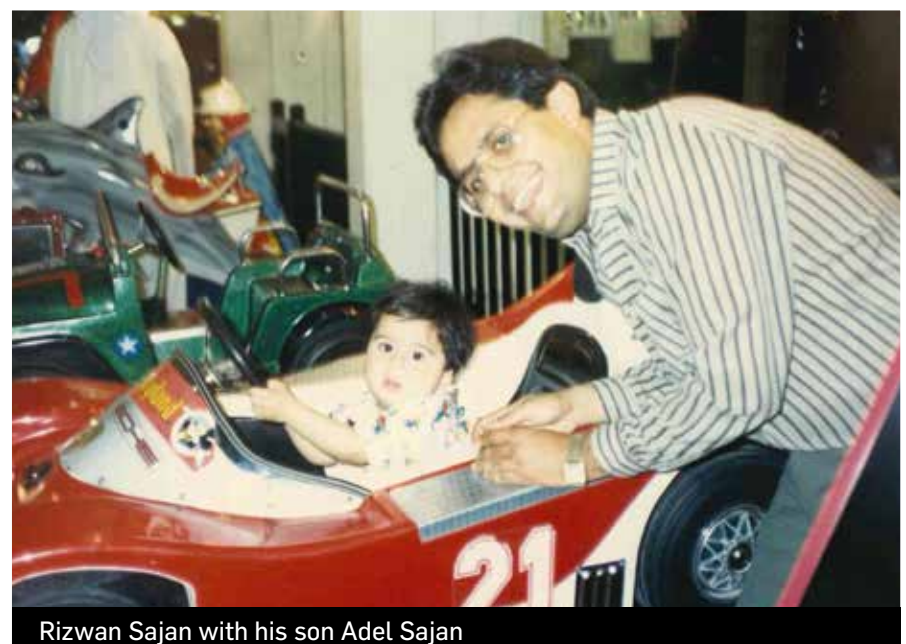
Additionally, to lift up the spirits of the labourers working in the region, Danube serves Iftaar to more than 60,000 labourers every year during the month of Ramadan.



Rizwan Sajan with wife Sameera and son Adel in Dubai



Sameera Sajan with her son Adel Sajan in Kuwait



Rizwan Sajan with his son Adel Sajan



GUIDING LIGHT **TO CHILDREN** **AND SOCIETY**

“I would call it the culmination of the Lord’s blessings, dedicated efforts and years of perseverance,” says Madam Grace Pinto with her familiar kind smile. It sounds so easy. However, those who have known her for the last 40 years, know the stupendous efforts she has put into building the Ryan International Group of Institutions

**MADAM
GRACE PINTO** ▶

**BY
ANAM KUMAR**



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he role of an educational institution is a key factor in the overall nurturing and development of the child. While the home and parents play an all important part, the child spends a good portion of the formative years in the school. The vision of the school and the kind of opportunities available play an influential role in the student's life, thus preparing him/her for the future. The Ryan International Group of Schools has integrated a distinct edge over several other institutions in the field. With its innovative approach to education and focus on the all-round development of the child, the Ryan Group today is at the forefront of pioneering a new kind of education in the country.

VISION

Ryan Group's vision is to be a premier global educational institution which develops the human resource for the dynamic and expanding community, the state, the nation, the region and the world at large.

MISSION

The Ryan schools blend high-value deliveries with modern learning tools to ensure that each of the institutions has a safe, healthy, positively energizing, intellectually



Madam Pinto with her school children

challenging, learning and enjoyable environment, committed to engage students in active, collaborative and technology-based learning methodologies to develop formative and summative assessments of students learning.

The motto and philosophy is "Excellence in Education and All-Round Development".

It is an approach that, besides being spiritual and value-based, ensures an effective teaching-learning process leading to holistic development of the child. A dedicated faculty, trained and

led by the mentors, supported with state-of-the-art infrastructure and ICT, the Ryan Group operates schools under the following boards – CBSE, ICSE, ISC, SSC and HSC, and even international boards offering the IB (International Baccalaureate) & IGCSE (Cambridge) curricula under the aegis of the Ryan Global Schools.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION OF CHARACTER

With its humble beginnings in 1976, the Group has today established a staggering 128 schools in 18 states of India! And is still going strong. Establishing India's premier education brand and matching it with global standards was no easy task. It involved tremendous effort spread over three decades. But more importantly, it involved a vision a vision that has taken the Group

“Ryan has been at the forefront of changing the paradigm of education. We are now in the process of gearing ourselves up for the next level of growth.”



Dr. Augustine F. Pinto- Founding Chairman, Ryan Group

from its fledgling beginnings and seen it soar like an eagle. Today, the results are evident. The Group’s approach to private education in the country has eroded many policy clichés and introduced several innovative concepts that are going to be the yardstick for evaluating quality education anywhere.

All of this would not have been possible without the vision, courage and dedication of its founders, Dr. A. F. Pinto and his dynamic wife, Madam Grace Pinto. A sterling example of “grace under fortitude”, the Pintos have the distinction of owning the largest privately-owned network of K-12 schools in the country, and they continue to remain dedicated to improving the standard of education in this nation. While Dr. Pinto is largely regarded as the visionary behind this movement that has touched countless lives in India, Madam Grace Pinto is

the very epitome of “leadership in action”, ensuring that the vision is implemented to its very last detail. A formidable team they make, and the nation is the more blessed for it.

Since its inception in Mumbai, given the high quality of learning offered at Ryan Group, a dedicated team of teachers, and the vision of the founders, a brand was set into motion that soon took over the length and breadth of the country. In 1991, the Ryan Group spread its wings in the NCR region of the capital, New Delhi, and today, moving across the shores, it has established its presence in the UAE. It also has plans to set up schools in the entire South Asian region.

TRULY GLOBAL STANDARDS
Madam Grace Pinto, a true

visionary at heart, did not want the next generation to be deprived of opportunities for their holistic growth. She says, “We wanted to provide diverse platforms on both national and international fronts that would take students beyond the traditional classroom prism. With every passing year we were able to break new ground with our innovations. We are happy that these concepts are being followed by many others today.”

Being in the field of education for the past four decades, the Ryan group has pioneered and developed several unique practices of both national and international repute that provide students with a wider experience.

Indian Model United Nations (INMUN) is one of India’s

largest and oldest United Nations simulations programmes. Every year, nearly 900 young delegates from various countries representing 120 nations explore international politics through debates and discussions.

International Children's Festival of Performing Arts (ICFPA) is the biggest Children's Festival of Performing Arts in India. Each year since 2000, more than 12,000 children from across the globe perform in this festival, thrilling the audience with their theatrical performance. The 14th edition of the ICFPA was held in Mumbai with 17 countries participating in it.

Cultural and Educational Exchange Programs – a Global Exposure: The Group has collaborated with institutions based in the US and the UK for students to experience and learn various cultures across the nations. Ryan students have travelled to over 60 countries for various educational and cultural exchange programmes. Recently, students were at Thames Valley Summer School, UK and Youth Floppy Theatre, Finland for a similar exchange programme.

NASA Educational Programs: The Ryan Group has also partnered with NASA for educational programs to hone the scientific fervor amongst the students.

The World Scholar's Cup: Spread across 34 countries, this prestigious event was brought to India by Ryan. The group also hosted the largest-ever Regional Round for the World Scholars Cup in Mumbai with a record-breaking participation of over 1,400 delegates.

MORE THAN EXTRAORDINARY

Integration of Mass Media education and ICT: The Ryan International was amongst the first group of schools to include computer education in the

“We have remained sharply focused and anchored to the true essence of education and made a difference with some innovative educational endeavors that have helped us remain ahead in the curve.”

curriculum in the early '90s. This came from the school's philosophy of integrating technology into school curriculum. This initiative helped the group make education more engaging and meaningful.

Being aware that children want learning to be very engaging and experimental through the usage of modern tech tools, in keeping with the times, the Ryan Group has already incorporated the usage of tech tools like smart boards, myclassboard – a school portal, and so on to enhance the learning experience amongst its students.

Ryan TV: The concept of Education Through Lens has been realized to develop media and filmmaking skills among young Ryanites. A full-fledged team of media and social broadcasters has taken on the responsibility of mentoring students to create India's youngest breed of technicians, anchors, camera persons and producers. RYAN TV's Ad Film Awards are organized annually, giving a platform to young students to showcase their talents in making short ad films for service and value messages. The Ryan TV has become a grand success with students broadcasting their ideas on Television through “Young Jourknows” & “BBN – Beyond Breaking News” programmes.

Sports: The Ryan Group has partnered with reputed sporting names: the Baichung Bhutia Football Club, Mahesh Bhupathi Tennis Academy, Vishwanathan Anand Chess Academy, Anil Kumble for Cricket among others to provide quality to promote sports among children. The Ryan Sports Club organizes the popular “Ryan Minithon” across the country at various venues each year. While the group ropes in the best from the sporting field, it also provides numerous opportunities to excel at both the national and the international level.

Ryan's Community Transformation Initiatives: The Ryan Group is socially committed to empower the community in all spheres. The Group has undertaken several remarkable initiatives such as adoption of orphanages, blind homes, and homes for the elderly; community outreach programs, village adoption in Delhi, hygiene programs and health camps in Chennai; environmental awareness drives; and the provision of relief and rehabilitation measures for disaster-affected communities. These activities are also in

the school calendar as the group strongly focuses on inculcating the importance of social responsibility amongst the students, thus helping them to build an attitude of selfless service. Madam Grace Pinto is an ardent supporter of women empowerment and a compassionate woman at heart who goes out of the way to help poor and needy.

In yet another unique initiative, the Ryan Foundation launched the FOOD BUCKET CHALLENGE with an aim to mobilize over one million kilograms of food essentials and distribute it to various orphanages and NGOs across the country. This noble initiative to feed the poor and hungry in our country where hunger remains the number one cause of death, has received heartening response from parent-student community and citizen supporters.

The Ryan Group has definitely and successfully impacted positively the school education in India. Madam Pinto asserts, “We have remained sharply focused and anchored to the true essence of education and made a difference with some innovative educational endeavors that have helped us remain ahead in the curve.”

AN EXCELLENT VISIONARY AND LEADER

What makes Madam Grace Pinto unique and different is her management style with multiple roles as a managing director, educationist, leader, visionary, counselor coupled with entrepreneurial qualities. It validates



Madam Pinto receiving the APOY Award from Mr. Abdullatif Al Mulla and Mrs. Neeta Bhushan

her personal trials and tribulations and a passion to excel as a woman sagaciously different in her operational style with an integrative approach to educational leadership. Today, the Ryan Group is ranked among the most respected schools not only in the country but also globally. She believes in leading by example. She also likes to inspire her students by actually giving them an opportunity to meet their role models.

Madam Grace Pinto has been honoured several times for her passionate service to the nation. One of her dreams was to stand on a global platform giving glory to God and proclaim His works through Ryan Group and to reach out to the children of the world, especially the children of India. Madam Grace was privileged to be invited for the Presidential National Prayer Breakfast at the White House, Washington D. C. several times and she was honoured to be one among the five speakers. Her winning the current “AsiaOne Person of the Year” award has validated her commendable contribution in the Global Education Industry. She received the

award by Mr Abdullatif Al Mulla, Group CEO Dubai Properties, Dubai Holdings LLC and Ms. Neeta Bhushan, Deputy Chief of Mission and Head of Chancery, Indian Embassy at the World Today Business Conclave 2015–16 held at Ritz Carlton, Abu Dhabi, UAE on 29th May, 2016 organised by AsiaOne and URS Media consulting P.L. The event was organized to celebrate the spirit of leadership in GCC, Africa and Asia.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

The Ryan International Schools enjoy top-of-mind reputation amongst parents, students, educators and policy makers for providing outstanding education. Some of the

awards and achievements of the Ryan Group are: (a) International School Award (British Council), (b) Ranked amongst the Best Schools in India by Education World Magazine, (c) Ranked amongst the Best Schools in India – Digital Education Magazine.

PINTOSPEAK

“I thank our Lord Jesus Christ and I am grateful to the vision and leadership of our Chairman, Dr AF Pinto, as also the efforts and support of our stakeholders. The Ryan Group will continue to work tirelessly to make education more equitable, engaging and meaningful in order to empower the youth – the future of our society.”

A MAN OF VISION

Few lives manage to combine professional excellence and personal achievement with social commitment and contribution in the manner of visionary entrepreneur, Dr Mukesh Batra, a Padma Shri recipient and one of the most renowned homeopaths in India. Dr Batra founded Dr Batra's[®] Positive Health Clinic as a patient-driven institution in Mumbai in 1982. He has been practicing homeopathy since 1974 and has played a pivotal role in the development of homeopathy in India

**DR MUKESH
BATRA** ▶

**BY
ANAM KUMAR**



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r Mukesh Batra's highly inspirational journey started

with a single clinic that he opened in Mumbai in 1982 and since then there was no looking back.

THE PERSON

Dr Mukesh Batra is well known for his value-based leadership. A firm believer in honesty, fairness, responsibility for one's behavior, respect for others and helping those in need; he has kept values as the core of all business strategies. He is known to make decisions that go beyond his own likes and dislikes and gives equal consideration to all who are affected by his decision-making.

"As I tell my doctors, becoming the best doctor isn't about emulating a role model or a historic figure. Rather, your relationship with your patient, which must be rooted in how you can help him and lessen his complaints. When you truly do what is best for your patient, success is guaranteed. It always comes down to doing the right thing and doing the best you can," says Dr Mukesh Batra.

Dr Mukesh Batra has relied on the principles of values-based leadership throughout his career. "No matter what title I've had, whether Doctor, Managing Director, Chairperson or board member – or for that matter personal relationship like son, husband, parent and grandparent – I've never lost sight of who I am and what matters most to me. By



knowing myself and my values, being committed to balance and having true self-confidence and genuine humility, I can far more easily make decisions, no matter if I'm facing a crisis or an opportunity. The answer is always simply to do the right thing and the very best that I can," says Dr Mukesh Batra.

THE DOCTOR

Dr Batra has been single-handedly responsible for pioneering modern Homeopathy in India; he has not only set up a colossal corporate empire but also extended the medical benefits of this safe and sure medical system throughout the country through path-breaking initiatives.

Dr Batra has strived incessantly to bring about the acceptance and legalization of Homeopathy across the world and was instrumental in legalizing the science in Mauritius

where he set up its first homeopathic clinic. He successfully introduced Homeopathy to the Middle East countries.

In his endeavour to take Homeopathy to the masses, he opened his first clinic in London in 2014 on Harley Street and later opened another one in Wembley. Shortly after the launch of their homeopathy clinics in Harley Street and Wembley, Dr Batra's® Healthcare won the Best Healthcare Clinic Award in Europe. The company has recently launched its third clinic in South Hall.

Today, Dr Batra treats all kinds of patients ranging from the common man to celebrities, authors, artists, top actors, and heads of states including prime ministers, governors and chief ministers.

THE ENTREPRENEUR

Being a first-generation entrepreneur, Dr Mukesh Batra had to face a lot of hurdles. It took a great deal of determination to keep going even after repeated failures, yet he kept himself motivated. His entrepreneurial journey was full of ups and downs but he learned not to lose heart.

Being a homeopath and a first-generation entrepreneur, all the odds were against him but he sailed



“When you truly do what is best for your patient, success is guaranteed. It always comes down to doing the right thing and doing the best you can.”



Dr Mukesh Batra with son Akshay and grandson Hrیمان

through them and learned a great deal in his journey. He has learned through both success and failure. While success taught him what was the right decision; failure was his bigger teacher that taught him what not to do. Experience is the biggest teacher which has helped Dr Batra set up a colossal business empire and led him to success.

It is in his leadership that Dr Batra's® Healthcare has now become an authority in prophylactic as well as therapeutic homeopathic treatment owing to its distinctive practices and competencies. It is at the forefront of modernising Homeopathy by harnessing contemporary medical practices and technological advances to maximise the benefits of this holistic science to its patients. Dr Batra's®, the world's first ISO 9001:2000 homeopathic institution, is now ISO 9001:2008 certified as it follows international protocols and good clinical practices.

He was awarded the Padma Shri award for homeopathic medicine in 2012 which is India's 4th highest civilian award by the Government of India. He has also received "Indian Affairs Impact Award" for Homeopathy at the 6th Annual India Leadership Conclave 2015 and was nominated for the prestigious Pride of India Award, which was presented in New

York, USA. He was also awarded the 'Lifetime Achievement Award' by the World Medical Council among many other titles from different organizations of repute.

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

Dr Batra was born in a family of doctors. Though he had great respect and admiration for the profession, he found the idea of charging a fee to treat others illnesses, health concerns and problems appalling. He took some time but accepted the nobleness of the profession and decided to study homeopathy like his father. By his own admission, Dr Mukesh Batra made the "lazy and easy choice" to study homoeopathy. Except that he soon discovered that it was just as rigorous a field as any other medical science. While studying in Smt. Chandaben Mohanbhai Patel Homeopathic Medical College in

1972, Dr Mukesh Batra dreamt of doing great things some day. His dreams were big, but he was not afraid of putting a lot of hard work to fulfill the same.

His first encounter with risk was when he followed his heart and rejected an offer of a teaching post at a salary of INR 450 a month, which in those days was a fairly decent wage and instead opted for an internship at a charitable clinic at a modest INR 150 per month.

THE PASSION TO EXCEL

Having made a tough career decision, he struggled for 9 years. Sometimes, life tests its carriers in strange ways, before opening its hands to give what was already destined.

Dr Mukesh Batra along with his family lived for nine years in a one-room apartment and changed three buses daily to reach his

workplace. Times were tough but he continued with the same vigour and dedication.

Destiny kept unfolding with his hard work, and he kept receiving salary hikes, and created several long-lasting relationships with his patients. Then destiny relented, and rendered a breakthrough in 1982 – he started his first well-appointed clinic in South Mumbai.

Being in the field of alternate medicine, the biggest obstacle that came his way was lack of capital. This was because people perceived homeopaths as fuddy-duddies dispensing just sweet little sugar pills. There were very few people who actually believed in homeopathy. Therefore, the other obvious but most difficult challenge was to change the way homeopathy was perceived, followed by setting standardization protocols for medicines, treatments and even clinics interiors, in otherwise unorganized medical sector.

Dr Batra has worked tirelessly to popularize homeopathy and break the stereotype image that homeopathy is a musty, traditional system based on plant and animal extracts. People needed to appreciate the modernity and logic of homeopathy. To address this challenge, Dr Batra set out to cultivate a deliberately upmarket identity for homeopathy. The plan was going to need considerable investment and the first outlay was on a swanky clinic. He was determined that it should look like a million bucks and smell of a progressive, futuristic air.

However, as banks refused to lend any funds, Dr Batra borrowed money at an exorbitant 36 per cent per annum as he believed that homeopathy has a lot to offer the mankind. From a single clinic in Mumbai, he went on to open the second clinic in Bangalore, and then the third one in Vadodara. It took a lot of effort, perseverance and good 10 years for him to legitimize homeopathy as not only a paid &



“No matter what title I’ve had, whether Doctor, Managing Director, Chairperson or board member – or for that matter personal relationship like son, husband, parent and grandparent – I’ve never lost sight of who I am and what matters most to me.”

professional service but also position it as a modern medical tool not only in India but also in countries like Mauritius, London and UAE.

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

People liked him and his patients adored him. His clinic was always full of patients. He would talk to them, consult them, and realized the huge responsibility he had pulled up on his shoulders. Never moving away from his compassion, he felt others’ pain and promised to himself that he would do his best to help them because they trusted him in curing their illnesses. His relentless hardwork and passion to excel finally paid off.

With just a single homeopathy clinic in Mumbai that started in 1982, today Dr Batra’s® Positive Health Clinics Pvt Ltd has over 234 clinics across 129 cities in India, Bangladesh, Dubai and London that treats over 7 lakh patients. The company has made a smooth transition from Dr Batra’s® homeopathy to Dr Batra’s® healthcare. The company has recently launched the world’s first state-of-the-art Signature Homeopathy Clinic in Al Wasl, Dubai. With the new Signature Homeopathy Clinic, Dr Batra’s® is revolutionizing the world of healthcare. The clinic is equipped with state-of-the-art diagnostic examination rooms, personalized treatments, health bar, doctor home visit service, video calls with doctors and a royal butler service.

Under the umbrella of Dr Batra’s® Healthcare is a group of companies including Dr Batra’s Homoeopathy, Dr Batra’s International, Dr Batra’s Aesthetic Solutions, Dr Batra’s Products, Dr Batra’s Franchise, Dr Batra’s Media, Dr Batra’s Academy and Dr Batra’s Foundation. With a robust expansion strategy in mind, the company opens around 2 new clinics a week.

THE HUMAN FACTOR

He is a doctor, but his interests are many, and he finds a way to express himself in sundry ways. Extending himself beyond his profession, he wears his various hats with aplomb. Deftly manoeuvring his roles as a doctor, an entrepreneur and philanthropist, he manages his responsibilities with clockwork precision. With uncluttered thoughts and excellent time management skills, he takes time out to be a photographer, animal lover, social worker and a patron of theatre and the arts.

A profound proponent of the joy of giving, Dr Batra

has set up the Positive Health Foundation, which provides free homeopathic treatment to over 20,000 patients, through over 100 free clinics. He extends homeopathic care to animal welfare shelters, orphanages and old age homes. He has also introduced a set of annual awards that recognise and celebrate those that have overcome disease and disability to lead useful lives.

Through his Foundation, he started helping street children, orphans, physically and mentally challenged people, elderly and even animals. Every clinic he opens adopts orphanages and old-age homes and provides lifelong free treatment to the residents.

While doing good to others, he has met other good people, and using the goodness in other people’s hearts, Dr. Batra’s’ Positive Health Foundation has set out to make a difference in the lives of so many people. The belief of the Foundation is: “Together we can create the change we want to see!”

The funds raised by the Foundation are utilized only for the various Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives it has undertaken, and administrative expenses are kept separate to ensure that every penny is put to fruitful use – in the right place and at the right time!

He is not only into a noble profession; he also possesses a noble soul. His company sponsors the annual Dr Batra’s Positive Health Awards to honor people who fight against disease and disability, and he donates the proceeds of his annual photography exhibit for charitable causes. It can truly be said of him

that his is a life very well lived, rendering him a man very well loved.

THE FAMILY MAN

Being a doctor, leader, parent and grandparent is no easy task. Yet Dr Mukesh Batra manages to balance his personal and professional life effortlessly. He has guided his son, Dr Akshay Batra, who is now the Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Dr Batra’s Group of Companies to become a strong leader who will take his colossal empire to greater heights with fresh thought and young blood. Following his father’s footsteps he too has a great vision for the company.

Dr Mukesh Batra never passes on spending time with his grandson, Hriman, and passing on his years of knowledge and experience to the young Batra. Hriman Batra, the youngest of the Batra family is following his grandfather’s footsteps and shows immense interest in his grandfather’s profession and hobbies.

If Dr Mukesh Batra believes that you are never too old to try something new; his grandson believes you are never too young. Hriman, a 9 year old boy studying in class 4 made his photography debut at his grandfather’s photography exhibition. At such a young age, Hriman is already sensitive towards his grandfather’s social cause. Just like his grandfather, Hriman’s hobbies include photography and singing.

A responsible family man, Dr Mukesh Batra finds success in his families accomplishments. His family looks up at him as a source of inspiration and this motivates him and pushes him to do better every day.

BATRASPEAK

“Though I have come a long way; I still have a long way to go. Homeopathy is legalized in 80 countries and we are present in only 4 of them. That is the scale I now aspire to reach.”



THE TRENDSETTING EDUCATIONIST

◀ **J.C. CHAUDHRY**

The euphoric hope that reforms will be implemented overnight has given way to more pragmatic realism. But irrespective of whether Mr. Modi moves things slowly or quickly, the educationist at AESPL, Mr. J.C. Chaudhry has already championed committed entrepreneurial artistry that was never seen before in the education sector of India

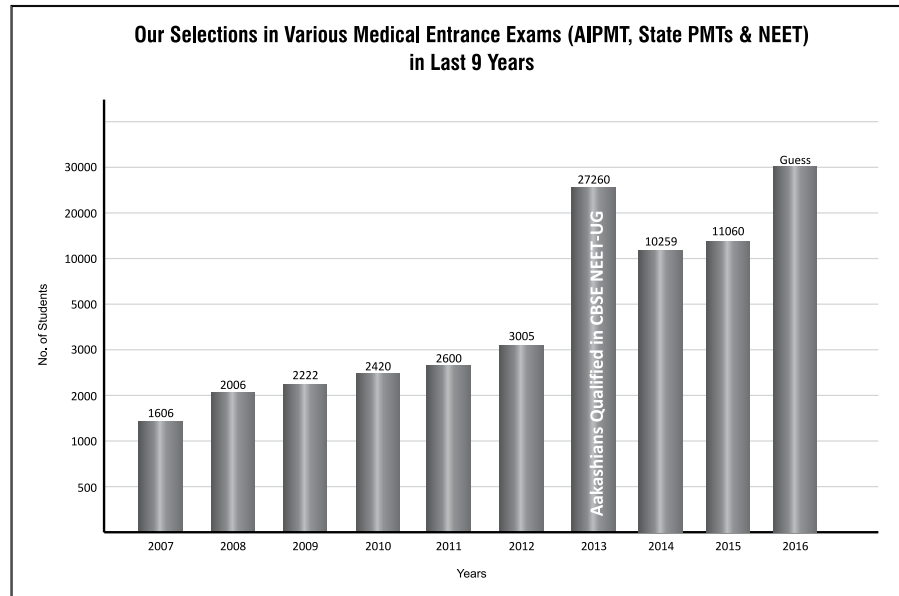
BY EKTA MAKAN

“I was a teacher who taught for eight hours a day. During my tenure as teacher, I noticed that many of the students are denied the privilege of getting trained for entrance examinations. So I decided to start an institute with a difference.”

India is a part of a global phenomenon. The spread of internet and the proliferation of smartphones mean that people have a lot more information about the outside world and the society. These smartphones play a vital role when it comes down to the young and vibrant youth of the country. On one hand Young people are becoming sophisticated and aware of policies and their failures, so there is pressure on policymakers. And on the other hand they are deviating from their prime focus of gaining knowledge and positive understanding of the world.

Haryana-born Mr. J.C. Chaudhry, the founder and chairman of successful brands like Aakash Institute for medical, Aakash IIT-JEE and Aakash Foundations who has not only won many laurels, but also set a benchmark in educating students at a tender age, since better education alone can improve the earning power of the citizens of any country.

Mr. J.C. Chaudhry believes in big challenges. For him, the highest mountain exists to be scaled, the widest river to be crossed, and the most distant planet to be landed on. He believes as much in generating big ideas as in their execution, and is a rare individual who sees opportunities for social change in



every challenge.

RISE OF AN EMPIRE

For someone who started off interested in educating students through his immense knowledge, Mr. Chaudhry never thought of building a world-class brand, all he cared about was the dissemination of wisdom to the young minds.

It is through his sheer work and zeal to work, he has reached a stage where people not only look up to him as a successful entrepreneur but also Aakash as one institute that delivers excellence.

In his journey to formulate one of the leading education brands of the country, he has travelled some distance, both literally and metaphorically. Today, the country has seen a shift in allocation for education in the budget from school to higher education, but back in 1988 the sector was suffering badly.

It was because of Mr. Chaudhry being too optimistic in his approach to follow his dreams, he was able to build Aakash Institute. Indian education system is at the throes of change, which has been facing numerous

challenges for quite some time now, like the lack of accountability, trust and the drive to lead the expedition of delivering the best results. To counter such crucial situation and to fill this massive vacuum, Aakash has emerged on the forefront as a one-stop solution provider in the arena of Medical & Engineering Coaching.

It has set a benchmark of its reliability for quality coaching & guidance to such an extent that parents as well as students blindly rely on its authenticity. Millions trust on the saga of amazing results it has produced over the decades. Aakash has emerged as a brand that has provided a competitive, transparent, disciplined and result-oriented environment to the students at large. Our success story is directly



Mr. J.C. Chaudhry with his sons, Dr. Ashish Chaudhry on the left and Er. Aakash Chaudhry on the right

associated with the success of thousands of students who have not only cleared the most challenging competitive exams but also grabbed the top ranks.

He has led Aakash with consistent & excellent results in Medical & Engineering Entrance Exams. Ever since the inception of Aakash IIT-JEE 2007, it has been producing splendid results in almost all the engineering entrance exams. The outstanding results of 2015 in different Engineering Entrance Exams speak volumes of the authenticity of its quality coaching & guidance.

He also started Aakash Foundations in 2009 for junior classes VIII, IX, X and Olympiad, NTSE aspirants to nurture to various sets of students and their

aspirations. This is the youngest division of Aakash Educational Services Pvt. Ltd. (AESPL). Thanks to its tailor-made teaching methodologies, it has been outperforming since its origin and routing its students to the top ranks in School, Board and Foundation Level Entrance Exams. Besides, it also builds foundation for the elite competitions like Medical and Engineering Entrance Exams.

The amazing result of Aakash Foundation students in 2015 in different Olympiads / Scholarship Exams and the persistently increasing success ratio in various Junior Level Entrance Exams niche the history of its outstanding performance.

In 2015, our students dominated all forms of competitions by bagging Top ranks in almost every Medical, Engineering and NTSE/Olympiad Entrance Exams of the country. The history of our selection has been consistently adding new feather every year because its results speak volumes of its veracity.

MASTERING THE ART OF DELIVERING

Mr. Chaudhry is a strong orator known for his incisive

understanding on competitive examination and education trends. He represents the paradox that is at the heart of the Indian education system. With an ideology that students at the elementary level of education are the most vulnerable and unfortunately are the most neglected ones, he always pays personal attention in grooming each and every teacher so that the juvenile gullible minds are best nurtured at Aakash Institute.

He always aimed to create an excellent competitive environment in student community by virtue of imparting qualitative education with consolidated strategy and scientific approach to produce proficient professionals. He has led an educational movement, which is dedicated to the modest cause of



helping students across the country to make them succeed in their professional career like Medicine & Engineering that offer infinite dignity in personal and professional life.

The key thing that sets Mr. Chaudhry apart from other educationist is the force of his compassion. Many educational leaders deliver knowledge and Mr. Chaudhry certainly does that, but there are precious treasures of a cultural environment which Aakash brings along.

In order to make Aakash emerge

as a pre-eminent educational group that aims to work for the holistic enhancement of society by enabling the young and bright minds of the country to help them realize their dreams of becoming doctors and engineers thereby pushing India into the comity of developed nation, Mr. Chaudhry has given his heart and soul.

He never forgets that he represents the coaching fraternity to many people. There isn't a better ambassador for Indian coaching system. Aakash was first conceptualised in 1988. The distance learning course for IIT-JEE is a great option for those who do not have the time to commute to the centre every day but still wish to undertake additional training. He has led the group to be one of the leading coaching institutes in India, providing high quality education to over 125,000 students annually under the brand name of

Aakash, across its 130+ centres.

Mr. Chaudhry has the brand to create an excellent competitive environment in student community by imparting them quality education, sharpening their skills to bring in excellence and boosting their confidence level to crack the Medical, Engineering and other Competitive Entrance Exams.

DREAMING BIG

A Master in Science (Botany) from BITS Pilani, Mr. Chaudhry was awarded 'Dr. Radhakrishnan President's Award' for the services

“Aakash was started with 12 students in a rented classroom in West Delhi. Today, we have over 1,25,000 students and 130+ centres. We have centres from Kashmir to Kanyakumari.”

rendered to schools and community by Freedom Fighter Welfare Society in 2002. Indian education system is at the verge of change as it has been facing numerous challenges for quite some time now, like the lack of accountability, trust and the drive to lead the expedition of delivering the best results. In such a situation of crisis, Aakash has emerged on the forefront as a one-stop solution provider in the arena of Medical & Engineering Coaching.

A man who worked day and night to set a benchmark of reliability for quality coaching & guidance to such an extent that parents as well as students blindly rely on its authenticity, Mr. Chaudhry has truly nurtured students for the past 28 years. He strongly believes that his brand success story is directly associated with the success of thousands of students who have not only cleared the most challenging competitive exams but also grabbed the top ranks.

It was Mr. Chaudhry's aspiration and supporting characteristic attributes like self-confidence, his bestowing faith in Maa Vaishno Devi, being blessed with ability to take prompt decisions in life and lastly the habit of taking those much required calculated risk.

A happy and calm person at heart, Mr. Chaudhry has learnt major lessons of life through cinema. He took inspiration from Amitabh Bachchan & Dharmendra movies, which have indeed taught him focus and sharp vision in life.

With receiving the President Award, Mr. Chaudhry has not only reached the zenith of this career, but he feels all the more responsible towards the students and society. As a gesture of gratitude he made Maa Vaishno Devi Dham at Vrindavan, U.P., which was inaugurated on 22nd may 2010. It was only completed after 5.5 years of hard-work. That was a dream come true for not only Mr. Chaudhry and everyone associated with the same and today he is completely happy and proud to see a magnificent temple and dham in front of him.

“i can & i will™” is the philosophy he has always kindled with, which rejuvenates the team at Aakash to script new success stories every year they are well-known for. It is a way of life and a guiding principle for him that strengthens his own belief to mount new heights. This is a well-tested formula that has brought magical results for him over the years.



Mr. J.C. Chaudhry with his wife Mrs. Kamla Chaudhry

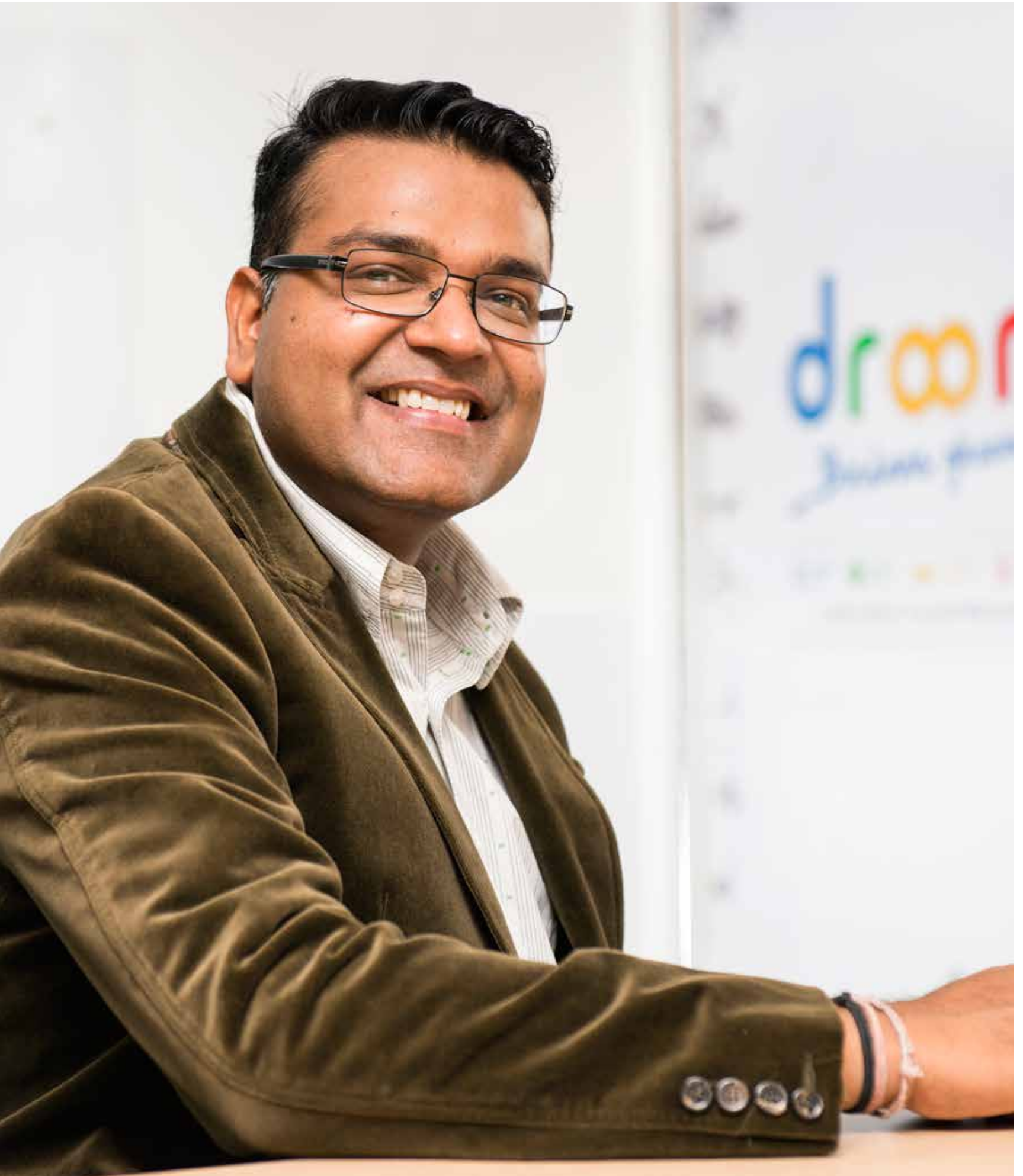


A HIGH DEGREE OF PASSION

SANDEEP AGGARWAL ▶

As an angel investor, serial entrepreneur, philanthropist and an internet visionary, Sandeep Aggarwal is not only a diligent e-commerce pioneer, but also a man who intends to play the long game, looking at life beyond mere profit making. He has built ShopClues to be amongst the top 4 industry players & a Unicorn hub in a very short span

BY EKTA MAKAN





“**L**ave Fear, Ego, Jealously and Insecurity Out of the Door When You Decide to Be an Entrepreneur”, Sandeep Aggarwal shares his success secret with the rest in the world of entrepreneurship. With a strong vision that 15 million SMEs in India do not have to sit on sideline when retail industry becomes more organized but to create a platform that can make them more relevant.

GROOMING THE SELLER SPACE

So, the initial conceptualization of the entire business model took around three years only after which ShopClues could be fully conceived. Sandeep Aggarwal was very persistent with his idea of an online marketplace in India, thus he did not hesitate in spending nearly 60% of his daily time to build technology, tools and educational tools so that SME sellers can sell at scale online and pay very little transaction cost.

Building a brand as strong as it is to come up with its first initial public offering next year, Mr. Aggarwal and his team adopted some of the unconventional marketing platforms along with unique technology tools which they ended up making for the SME sellers. They further fashioned ShopClues University, so that SME



sellers can learn how to create a digital catalog online, how to take picture, how to price an item, how to pack an item, how to ship it, how to handle customer grievances and what all to do to grow faster.

Mr. Aggarwal diversified in another property called Droom. Though both of them were designed to promote SME sellers and this opportunity is big and helping them to embrace online presence for the upcoming life, one does not have to focus on anything else. With 45 million SMEs, India is the 2nd largest country in terms of SMEs and nearly 1/3rd or 15 million of them sell something for living. ShopClues and Droom help these SMEs to sell online vs sitting on sideline as spectator as large capital based or heavy technology businesses, making them irrelevant.

DECODING THE START-UP DYNAMICS

As experts say, the year 2016 holds a lot of promise for the start-up community in the country. In the ecosystem that is gradually maturing, start-ups need somewhat different qualities and approach in their businesses. From the time Mr. Aggarwal was in Silicon Valley, he had a perception the Walmart of India will not be the Walmart Corporation but an online company and that online companies will not be an inventory led model but an online marketplace and that vision was the initiating thought which gave birth to ShopClues, the own marketplace.

After nurturing the idea for quite some time, Mr. Aggarwal reached a stage where he knew that the regret of not pursuing his vision will be bigger than anything

COMPANY NAME: ShopClues

LOCATION: Gurgaon

FOUNDERS: Sandeep Aggarwal

STARTED IN: January 2011

BUSINESS: E-commerce marketplace

INVESTORS & FUNDING: GIC, Tiger Global, Nexus Venture Partners, Helion Venture Partners, \$230 million

BIGGEST CHALLENGE: Continuing to differentiate

'COOL' FACTOR: Unstructured categories it plays in, the customers and the merchants it targets

SOURCE: ShopClues

he gave up. And ShopClues was up and running, from that time there has been no looking back. It gave 15 million of the 45 million SMEs in India, who sell something for living, it also had an opportunity to participate as India goes from 8% of organized retail to 35% - 40% in next decade vs those SMEs becoming obsolete and irrelevant with the rise of organized retails and giant multinational retailers.

ShopClues became the 35th entrant into the Indian

“Digital economy in India is among the top 7 modern social transformation and wealth creation opportunity since industrial revolution in Europe in 1740.”

E-Commerce and within first 6 months they became 4th largest, a ranking that they stand by even today. The zeal was upright, with channelizing all their energies towards their own customers, and being a marketplace they had two kinds of consumptions- one from the buyers and the other one from the sellers. Today, ShopClues is among the 5 Unicorns in the consumer Internet industry in India and fastest to become the Unicorn and the number one in terms of how less of capital they invested till date to reach there.

Mr. Aggarwal does not approve of the ideology that big fish will eat small fish because – a) they are not a small fish themselves, b) they are the only marketplace among the top 5 E-Commerce companies in India that has tangible and defensible differentiation, and c) the best unit economics.

Mr. Aggarwal foresees ShopClues entrusting a minimum of 10 million SME sellers in India, bringing 10 bn non-standard products online and doing \$20bn to \$25bn in GMV.

ALIGN WITH EMERGING TRENDS

There will always be sectors that are hot and others that are past their prime. For example, a start-up in the e-commerce space will find the going tough when considered to handful favorites. This, however, does not mean anyone forsake



Mr. Sandeep Aggarwal with wife Radhika Aggarwal and Sons

the core beliefs for the business to merely exist in a sector that is doing well.

Whenever someone builds a consumer Internet business, the marketing is always among the most challenging and most expensive things you construct the business on.

However, if the company is data driven, one gets obsessive about performance based marketing and have personality to tap into viral marketing, one can create highly valuable company with lean marketing approach. Mr. Aggarwal personally tracked down 4,500

different metrics when he ran ShopClues as CEO until October 2013 and now he tracks 8,500 different metrics as CEO at Droom.

He works on a simple pattern of being data driven, if one cannot measure, one cannot control. Data driven approach does not guarantee success but can increase the likelihood significantly.

The business model of ShopClues is unique as well as soothingly simple, with a view to create products, platforms, tools, technologies and services. All this definitely comes up to empower a third party seller in way that translates into buyer value proposition that no one can match.

UNDERSTANDING THE TERM ‘FOREVER’

The word is used so often that it tends to get jarring, but

“Raising money is like dating someone that may result in getting married or spending rest of your life together, so the same human psychology is at play.”



is often not completely understood. Mr. Aggarwal synced in the exact meaning of the expression when he met Radhika Ghai.

Spending almost two years together, they decided to get married. Mr. Aggarwal not only got a life partner, but also a companion who walked with him in all his endeavors. She believed in his vision to create an online marketplace and hence moved out of all her comforts in the US.

They grew up together, spent a lot of stressful nights before seeing the much awaited success. Today, this power couple is known for their never dying spirit to establish a

brand of global standards but for the locals of their own country called India.

FOCUSING ON IDEA & NOT FUNDING

The vision and the core idea were well thought about, and planned by Mr. Aggarwal alone in his house in California back in October 2010. It was completely based on his his vision, strategy, obsession and eccentricities and later on roped in Radhika and Sanjya and gave them co-founder status and Mrinal and Devesh and gave them founding team member status.

Mr. Aggarwal gave the company its vision, name, logo, product road map, strategy, execution plan, culture, and funding, he was always surrounded by very bright team members with Radhika, Sanjay, Mrinal and Devesh but he took most of the decisions, albeit with their inputs. The team did not have any issues for the leadership or unity of command because everyone gave him

unconditional, love, respect and trust and 110% confidence in his abilities to lead them as the ultimate leader.

US and Silicon Valley played a huge role in his abilities to become an entrepreneur and eventually create ShopClues and Droom.

Mr. Aggarwal feels himself to be blessed to have worked with several Fortune 500 companies in their headquarters in USA and in two cases with legendry founders. His US education and work experience in Silicon Valley taught him how to think about product, disruption, platform, innovation, scale and work culture. He does not think he would have been able to create ShopClues



or Droom, if he did not have education and experience from USA and Silicon Valley.

That being said, Mr. Aggarwal would also like to highlight that USA does not train anyone to work in India and to some extent more time one spends, less likely one becomes to fully understand India and how crazy India can be.

But in his case, he always had bit of this street smartness that is required to survive in India. When he was convincing his other team members to leave Silicon Valley to move with him to India, many of them were very nervous because they knew that for all practical they

all were Americans trying to move to India.

However, the ground work he did for their transition to his grip on how India was going to be, helped him manage expectations and soft landing when they finally moved there. But no doubt that USA, especially Silicon Valley and close association with companies like Microsoft, Google and dozens of Internet companies, helped him to ultimately build ShopClues and Droom.

As far as India vs International investors are concerned, Mr. Aggarwal would say until very recently Indian VC's behaved liked debt lenders vs. truly equity investors. On the expenses of sounding stereotypical, he would say that most of the Indian VCs have low risk taking abilities, have only financial or investment industry experience, lack operating experience, have not been associated with some of the legendary companies that Silicon Valley, China or Japan based investors have. Also, India does not have history of

building product and platform based scalable businesses like Microsoft, Apple, eBay, Amazon, Google, Facebook, LinkedIn or Twitter.

These days there is so much happening around the start-ups and there is so much buzz that it is easy to get carried away. Start-ups may be all about speed and execution, but one should remember it is important to do it right.

In the coming year, a level of innovative thinking will be needed that 2016 to the execution of the business, marketing it, tackling expenses, approaching investors and probably every facet of a business.

"WE CHOOSE TO GO TO THE

Ω
OMEGA
Speedmaster
PROFESSIONAL

40th ANNIVERSARY  MOON LANDING

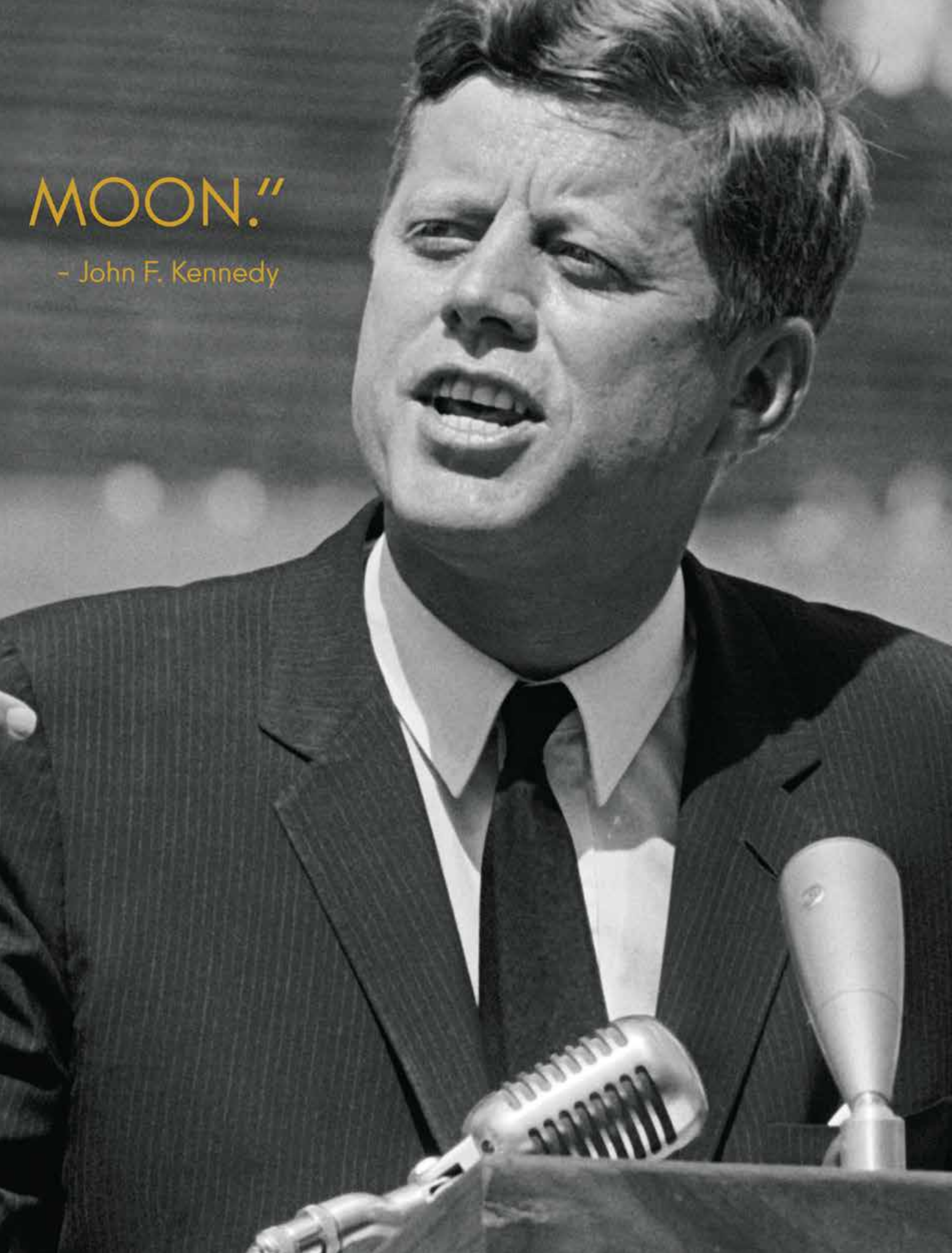
The first and only watch worn on the moon
20 JULY 1969



Learn more by visiting the
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library
& Museum at www.jfklibrary.org

MOON."

- John F. Kennedy



Radiating The Prince Effect

As the UAE leads the region, and ranks amongst the top 10 countries in the world, for the number of documented improvements by the World Bank during one year, in the delivery of electricity, construction permits, protecting investors and enforcing contracts, the colossal work of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, comes to materialization

BY EKTA MAKAN



To walk around the streets of Abu Dhabi or travel to witness its historical heritage is to meet the whole world compressed into one gloriously diverse and colorful city.

There is nowhere on earth quite like Abu Dhabi and no country on earth that hasn't contributed to its multi-ethnic, multi-cultural kaleidoscope of humanity. The impeccable growth shown by the UAE region in recent times is an outcome of sheer hard work and articulate leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. He has not only contributed in promoting and developing the country through immeasurable knowledge and innovation, but also comforting his countrymen to bestow their trust in him as a patron at difficult times.

From the glistening city of Dubai to the polished governance of Abu Dhabi, Nahyan has given an alluring skyline to the Middle East. The aroma of the place excites any investor to forget the region's troubles and make money.

KEEPING CRISIS AT BAY

With the UAE leading the world ranking of being the chief nations across several key indicators, Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the crown prince of the UAE's capital Abu Dhabi and the de-facto national leader disciplines 6 per cent of the world's oil and its second-richest wealth fund.

With decorum and tranquility as the trademarks of the Nahyan governance, there are no qualms within the citizens about the ruler working in the favor of the countrymen.

As the country savors a famed position in the Arab world, one is likely to hear any one

of several hundred languages and dialects as one is to hear Arabic. The UAE region has always been dynamic and proactive in communicating with other countries and building bridges of close cooperation and strategic partnerships to lead the way in political, economic, commercial, industrial, technological, scientific, educational, health and other sectors.

In the past couple of years Nahyan has not only worked for the development of the region, but has also enhanced protection of small investors by preventing any subsidiary from obtaining shares in the parent company. A prevailing rule states that in the case of acquisition of 50% or more of the company, the acquired party should receive approval from shareholders, a step considered by the report to be an enabling one that safeguards the interests of investors.

According to the Legatum Prosperity Index, 2014, UAE was ranked as the top Arab country for well-being and life satisfaction and fifth globally. The report further states that they feel absolutely safe in the country. Additionally, the UAE has maintained its presence on the 'green list', a classification of some 30 of the prosperous countries across the world. Notably, the UAE has been included on the list since the creation of the report.

BRIDGING BORDERS

Back in 1990, when the US troops were massing in the Arabian Gulf to fight Saddam Hussein, as a young prince serving the Air Force, he started strengthening the nation's military to be one of the most impressive ones in the world.

Today, he has created a world-class country where people from different parts of the world visit for both business and leisure. The people one passes on the street reflect such a wide range of races that depict a perfect amalgamation of class and culture.

The prince has bequeathed the trust of his people in the rich cultural diversity that the liberals see women in the niqab and acknowledge that none of us can or should impose our societal norms on anybody else. Nahyan has successfully established a high and dignified position for the position of his women in the society.

With the self-proclaimed Islamic State taking root and Iran rising, Prince is funding his country to have more weapons and be prepared for unforeseen adversities. Nahyan has shown himself to be far more adept at reaching out to the UAE's many faith communities than a mere ruler.

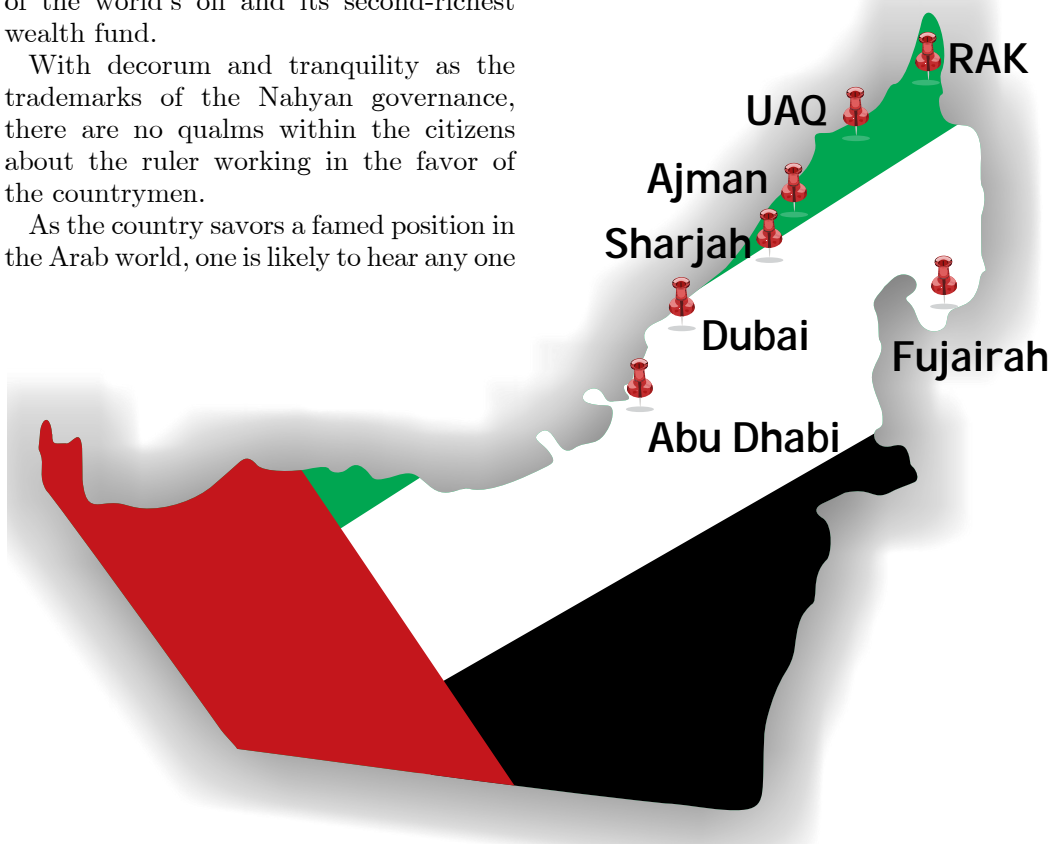
The efforts of the crown prince can be deeply understood by the fact that UAE is being ranked high on many global competitiveness indicators. According to a 2015 report by the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority, the country was ranked first among Arab countries in 10 out of a total of 15 global competitiveness reports, as well as first globally in the confidence indicator.

Third year in a row, the UAE was ranked first regionally in global competitiveness and 12th globally according to the 2015 annual World Competitiveness Yearbook. It was also ranked first regionally among the countries of the Mena region and 12th globally in World Economic Forum's Global Enabling Trade Report 2014. In addition, the country was ranked first globally in three global competitiveness indicators in the tourism sector alone.

STRUCTURING THE SAND

As he raises his country's standing, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan launched projects in the UAE stems from the belief that the key driver for shaping a strong and well-developed economy lies in the establishment of a modern infrastructure.

It is considered to be a primary role due to the pivotal role that infrastructure plays



in the progress and growth of countries, and in stimulating economic activity.

Following are some of the key projects commenced by the prince:

EXPANSION PROJECT OF SHEIKH ZAYED ROAD:

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai will begin the double-decking of Sheikh Zayed Road, building a 35-kilometre elevated section of highway running from Dubai Creek to Jebel Ali Port. This ambitious project, with an estimated cost of Dh10 billion, will facilitate increased traffic on Dubai's main arterial road. The RTA has already received bids and implementation offers towards the execution of this project.

THE EXPANSION OF M-STATION:

With a total capacity of 2,060 MW of electricity and 140 million imperial gallons of water per day, the M-Station adopts the highest levels of availability, reliability, and efficiency, using the most advanced technologies in the world.

THE NEW 62-KILOMETRE ABU DHABI-DUBAI HIGHWAY:

Launched in 2013, the Abu Dhabi- Dubai Highway project was awarded to three companies. The project aims to alleviate traffic congestion on the current main road connecting Abu Dhabi to Dubai, and is expected to be completed by 2017.

EXPANSION OF DUBAI METRO:

The Road and Transport Authority (RTA) launched plans to develop and design the expansion of the Dubai Metro to include 70 stations by 2020, at a total cost of Dh5 billion. The expansion of the Green Line will include 11 new stations stretching over 20 kilometres across Dubai. The Red Line expansion plans include the addition of 3.5 kilometers between the Rashidiya Station to Mirdif City Centre Station as well as an 8 - 10 kilometre expansion from the Jebel Ali Station to the Dubai Expo 2020 venue.

HISYAN DUBAI PROJECT:

The Hisyan Dubai power plant project using coal technologies is the first of its kind in the region. Dubai Electricity and Water Authority awarded the contract for the first phase of the project to a global consulting firm in February 2015. The first phase of the project will have a production capacity of 1,200 MW and is expected to be operational by 2020.



“According to the Legatum Prosperity Index, 2014, UAE was ranked as the top Arab country for well-being and life satisfaction and fifth globally. The report further states that they feel absolutely safe in the country”

DUBAI CANAL PROJECT:

The Emirate of Dubai launched the third phase of the Dubai Canal project, which was started in 2013, and has been adopted by the RTA. A contract worth AED802 million for the third phase of the project was awarded to Belhasa Six Construct Co. The project comprises the construction of a water canal linking Dubai Creek with the Arabian Gulf.

VITAL STEPS IN SPACE PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS:

There is no doubt that investment in space programmes and projects will enhance the status of the UAE and increase the nation's stature in the regional and international landscape. It represents a fundamental shift in the process of scientific research in the UAE. The projects implemented by the country in this vital area will significantly contribute to the economy, creating new jobs for nationals of high potential.

KHALIFASAT:

Khalifasat, the third advanced satellite launched by the UAE into space, will provide high quality images that fulfill the needs of government organisations and private enterprises. While the initial manufacturing process began in South

Korea, the satellite will be completely developed by Emirati workforce.

BUILDING A COUNTRY FULL OF LIFE

In an attempt to make UAE a more vivacious place to be, the command has prioritized its youth from the early days of the Federation and spares no effort in empowering them with access to scientific knowledge and advanced facilities.

Nahyan, the crown prince of Abu Dhabi and the UAE government work strategically to provide best-in-class education to Emirati youth qualifying them for the job market. The government also encourages employment of Emiratis in the private sector due to its importance in social and economic development.

Emirati women have received unequivocal support and encouragement from His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, who in one of his interviews stated, “Nothing pleases me more than seeing Emirati women assuming their role in society and achieving their rightful position. Nothing should hinder the march of women's progress. Like men, women have the right to assume the highest positions according to their abilities and qualifications.” ■

WORLD'S GREATEST LEADERS 2015-16

Expanding our research domain to India–UAE–Africa, we selected 50 Greatest Leaders – categorised as Iconic, Powerful and Emerging – at the World Today Business Conclave, Abu Dhabi for this issue of AsiaOne. It is another moment of immense honour to share the list of our esteemed leaders who, needless to say, are determined to create a success story for the world and themselves.

The factors we considered while making the selections include their passion to come to the fore in their respective industries and categories through innovation in products and processes, and the growth, impact and promise in the market. They deserve applause and admiration for all-round leadership – organizational, societal and personal

Process Reviewers: PwC



ICONIC



POWERFUL



EMERGING



AJAY PIRAMAL

MAN OF ACTION

Born on August 3rd 1955, Mr Ajay Piramal is one of India's leading industrialists, philanthropists and social entrepreneurs



He is the Chairman of a business conglomerate, Piramal Group & Shriram Group (market cap: USD 7.5 billion; Revenue USD 3 billion), with activities in healthcare, financial services, real estate, information services, glass packaging etc.

INSPIRING SUCCESS

Apart from India, the Group has set-ups in the US, UK, European Union, Japan, Pacific and South Asia, with the products being sold in more than 100 countries. The Group employs 76,000+ personnel and serves over 100 million customers.

The Group is involved in various Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities in the space of primary education, potable water supply, leadership development, empowerment of women in rural India, rural healthcare, provision of mid-day meals to the school children, etc. The Piramal Foundation has received the most prestigious "Corporate Trailblazer Award" launched by the India Today Group (Safaigiri Awards 2015 as a part of the national campaign called Clean India Mission). The Award was presented by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi. This Award was given in recognition of the excellent work being done by Piramal Sarvajal in the social entrepreneurship space.

He was a Member of the Hon'ble

Prime Minister's Council for Trade & Industry and the Board of Trade constituted by the Ministry of Commerce. In addition, he was a Member of the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Task Force on Pharmaceuticals and Knowledge-Based Industries, and served on the Central Board of State Bank of India for 12 years.

EARNING RESPECT & LAURELS

Recipient of several national and international awards such as

"The Group also has its own real estate and structured finance businesses & employs 76,000+ personnel"

"Entrepreneur of the Year" Award of UK Trade & Investment Council (2006); Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year in the Healthcare & Life Sciences category (2004); "Business Leader of the Award" instituted by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce; "Forbes Philanthropy Awards" in the Outstanding Philanthropist category in 2013 and 2014. SEN Sustainability Award – Philanthropy and Best of Best - instituted by World Presidents' Organisation (2015). He also bagged

Corporate Citizen of the Year award by AIMA Managing India Awards (2016). He has been attending the annual meetings of World Economic Forum for twenty years.

Piramal, no stranger to building and acquiring businesses, bought 20% in Shriram Capital Ltd in April 2014 and took over as chairman later that year. The Piramal Group also has its own real estate and structured finance businesses. If Piramal can build on these existing interests with a successful bid for IL&FS—as reported in the media—it would make him one of the biggest investors in infrastructure and infrastructure financing in India.

A recent news article in the Economic Times reported that Piramal would become the promoter, with a 35% stake, in a company to be created by the merger of his financial services business with infrastructure firm IL&FS. The all-stock deal, will create a company with revenue of \$2.5 billion, or about Rs.15,000 crore.

Indeed, Piramal Enterprises has a "a strong track record of successful acquisitions and mergers," said a person familiar with developments in the company who asked not to be identified. While Piramal has not confirmed his plans for IL&FS, a statement from the company to exchanges last week said that the company, from time to time, explores various investment opportunities as part of its business strategy.

ALI RASHID LOOTAH

INJECTING CONFIDENCE INTO DUBAI REAL ESTATE

Known for his iron grip management style, which definitely causes unease for the employees but gets the job done at times of distress, Ali Rashid Lootah revamped Nakheel, a development company, during a challenging period of economic crisis while financially restructuring its debts, refusing to take any salary from the company



Ali Rashid Lootah is the Chairperson of Nakheel. After his education in civil engineering from the United States, he established the UAE Society of Engineers in Dubai in collaboration with a group of other Emirati engineers. Utilizing his experiences at the US to achieve his goal of creating a licensing and regulatory body for engineering practices in the UAE, he aspires to improve the engineering discipline in the UAE.

MANAGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UAE

During the flourishing years of modern development of the UAE, he was working as the Assistant Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Public Works and supervised great development projects that ultimately transformed the desert landscape of the UAE to the modern city we see today. His work at the Ministry was the beginning of his career, and he brought modern and innovative ideas through his education abroad. During that period, the experience he gathered in the construction industry of the UAE proved very helpful when he became the Chairman of Nakheel.

CREATING SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES

Prior to his stint with Nakheel, he also

served at the Mashreq Bank in the capacity of Director and Vice Chairman. He also serves as a Director of Oman Insurance Company, and is a renowned businessman belonging to a respected Dubai business family. His 27 years of experience in the Federal Government with senior positions and handling of several infrastructure projects, government facilities and housing projects in the Northern Emirates have

“Known for his iron grip management style, Ali Rashid Lootah gets the job done at times of distress”

prepared him to face any challenge and create sustainable strategies for the development of real estate in the UAE.

Under his sharp leadership, Nakheel has emerged in an entirely new avatar with sustainable business plans on customer delivery, launching of new projects and diversification of business portfolio. Playing a prominent role in Dubai's real estate market, both Nakheel and Dubai have benefitted from each other and have grown together.

FACING CHALLENGES HEAD ON

At one time, Nakheel had entered troubled waters as the debts had risen to alarming levels; however, Ali Rashid Lootah was ready to face challenges head on. With due support from the Government of Dubai, which acknowledged the importance of Nakheel in the real estate sector of Dubai, he revived it to a firmer position. He took it as a personal responsibility to reestablish the confidence of investors and contractors, by delivering on the existing projects and even launching new ones.

He financially restructured Nakheel and met all financial obligations as per the agreement, inviting the same people back for his new projects. At the same time, he moved to the tourism sector as well, creating a new hospitality and leisure division that provides hotel, club and community recreation services. Personally he feels that everyone has ups and downs in life; he may have had a challenging time, but he was finally able to revive Nakheel that represents the brand called Dubai.

In times of distress he never left his confidence and the infectious confidence brought to him the trust of his buyers. Now, under his guidance, Nakheel is set for its next phase of expansion.



ALIKO DANGOTE

CREATING FUTURE FOR MILLIONS

This gentleman's reputation precedes him, worldwide. The 51st richest person in the world (he was 23rd in 2014) and the richest in Africa, he also surpassed in 2013 Saudi-Ethiopian billionaire Mohammed Hussein Al Amoudi by over \$2.6 billion to become the world's richest person of African descent



Aliko Dangote GCON (Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger) is a Nigerian billionaire and the founder of the Dangote Group with the designation – President and Chief Executive. He is also the President of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE). Though he was born in a wealthy business family of Nigeria – his great grandfather, Alhaji Alhassan Dantata, was the richest African at the time of his death in 1955 – he was so interested in business that even in his primary school he bought cartons of sugar boxes and sold them to make money.

DECLARING DOMINANCE

Starting in 1978 as a trader of rice, sugar and cement, he soon ventured into full-scale manufacturing. Focusing on meeting the basic needs of the Nigerian population by providing local, value-added products and services, he expanded the Dangote Group by leaps and bounds. Today, his Group has a presence in 16 African countries.

CONCLUSIVE CONVINCING

Dangote takes a 'no' neither easily, nor seriously. In 1990s, he got a 'yes' from the Central Bank of Nigeria to be allowed to manage at cheaper rates their fleet of staff buses through his transport company. In July 2012, he approached the Nigerian Ports Authority and received the rights of an

abandoned piece of land on lease to build facilities for his flour company. These approvals are not easy to get, but Dangote is capable of convincing others decisively.

LEADER OF PEOPLE

He is passionate about doing everything for the people of Nigeria. He encourages them to invest within the country and keep their profits or rewards with themselves. Acknowledging

“Aliko Dangote is passionate about doing everything for the people of Nigeria and inspires them immensely”

his extensive efforts towards manufacturing and employment in Nigeria, in 2010, President Goodluck Jonathan appointed him as the Chairman, National Job Creation Committee to assist the government in creating employment opportunities for Nigerians. As a result of his impressive contribution, in 2011, he was awarded Nigeria's second-highest honour, the Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger by the President.

Additionally, he is the Chairman,

National Partnership Committee of Government and Private Sector on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET); Member, Honorary International Investor Council (HIIC); a Malaria Ambassador; and Founding Board Member and Patron, Private Sector Health Alliance of Nigeria (PHN), thus contributing towards skill development, good governance and re-engineering of the economy.

INTERNATIONAL LOVE

In 2013, Alhaji Aliko Dangote, along with six other eminent Nigerians, was conferred Honorary Citizenship of Arkansas State by Governor Mike Beebe, who also declared May 30 every year as Nigeria Day in the US.

Dangote is not only a foremost industrialist in Africa, he is equally loved and respected abroad. He is a member of several national and foreign organizations through which he contributes to the growth and development of people of several countries.

He has been quite active in philanthropic activities including the United Nations' World Food Programme, Clinton Global Initiative, World Economic Forum, United Nations Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and many others thus contributing towards global education and eradication of polio.



MUKESH AMBANI

KEEPING UP THE GOOD WORK

The Managing Director of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), Mukesh Dhirubhai Ambani, wasn't born in utterly rich business families, but he helped his father create a brand known to every Indian

Mukesh Ambani retains his title as India's richest person for the ninth consecutive year despite his wealth dropping by \$4.7 billion. His Reliance Industries, hit by lower oil prices, saw shares tumble on falling revenues, which declined by close to a fourth in the latest quarter. It sold its stake in a U.S. gas pipeline unit for \$1 billion in July and is now preparing for the imminent launch of 4G services by telecom arm Reliance Jio. Wife Nita, who sits on Reliance's board, is involved in Jio's marketing plan.

BEATING THE COMPETITION

He is a member of the Employees Stock Compensation Committee and the Chairman of Finance Committee of the same organization. In 2010, he was included in Forbes' list of "68 people who matter most."

The elder son of Legendary business leader late Dhirubhai Ambani, he has played a pivotal role in taking Reliance Industries Limited to zenith of success in his illustrious career. Despite the steep competition from rival tycoons like Tatas and Birlas and allegations of business malpractice, Mukesh Ambani continues his success in various spheres of business.

Along with the tremendous growth of his Fortune Global 500 company, Mukesh Ambani has often hogged headlines for his lavish lifestyle and

diversification into other industries. Located in South Mumbai, his skyscraper home Antilia has been rated as the world's costliest residential property by prestigious Forbes Magazine. He held the position of the richest Indian for 9 years.

Mukesh attended the Hill Grange High School at Peddar Road in Mumbai where he was a classmate of Anand Jain, who is his close associate now. His brother also attended the same

"Mukesh Dhirubhai Ambani's net worth made him proud owner of a 60-storey high home"

school as him. After completing his high school in Mumbai he got a BE Degree in Chemical Engineering from Institute of Chemical technology at Matunga. He also started his MBA in Stanford University but he had to discontinue his studies to assist his father in the family startup company, Reliance, which was growing fast at the time.

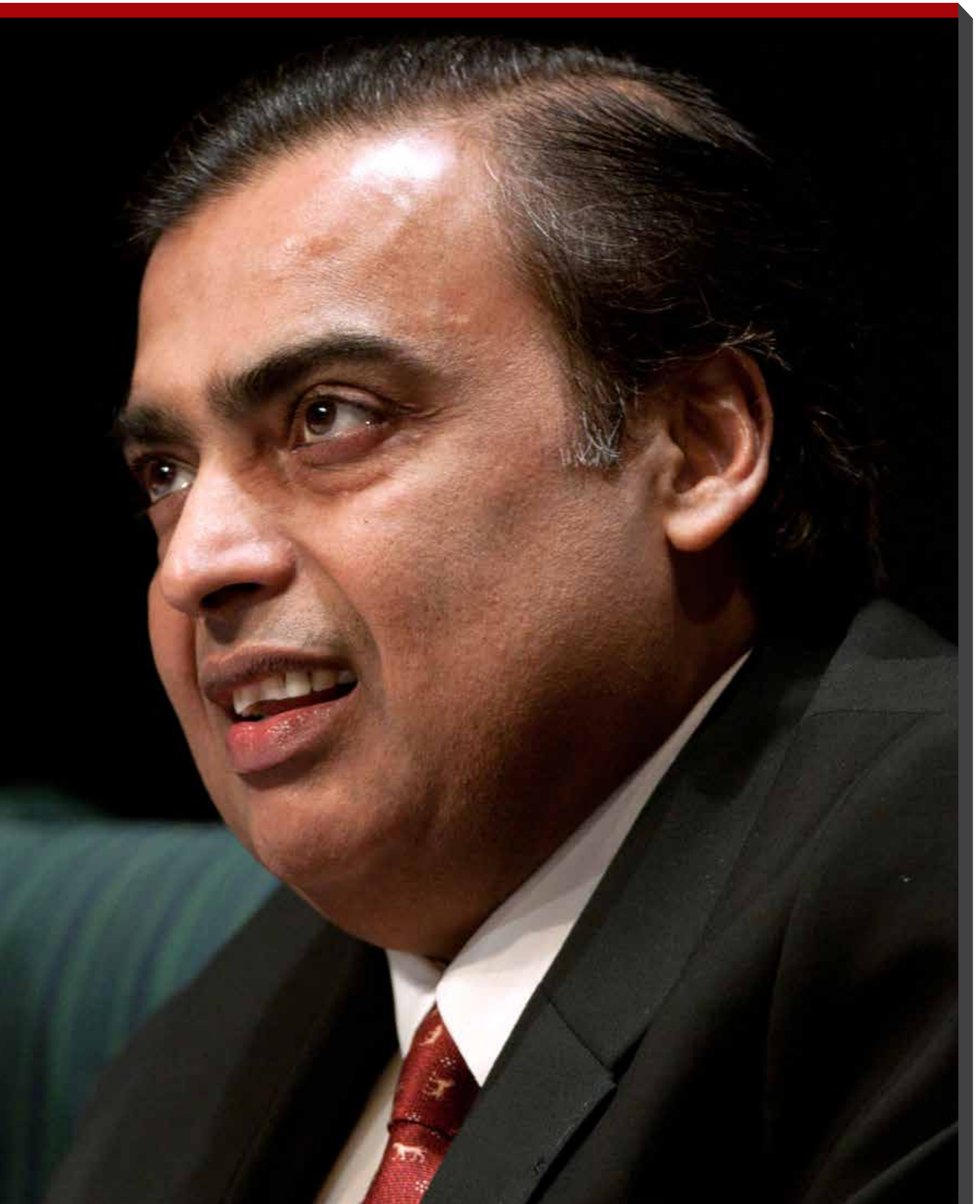
LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Under his leadership, Reliance Industries made a foray into sectors like

petroleum refining, petrochemicals and gas exploration. He also set up Reliance Infocomm Limited (presently Reliance Communications Limited). In 2010, Mukesh Ambani set up the biggest grassroots petroleum refinery plant in Jamnagar. With his initiative, manufacturing capacity of Reliance's Petrochemicals has grown substantially as per industry sources. The company has also become a leading player in the retail sector, under his leadership and endeavors. ambani with ambani. In his successful and enviable business career, Mukesh Ambani has gone through some turbulent times, too.

Mukesh Dhirubhai Ambani net worth is estimated at around \$20 billion as of 2015. It is one thing to be born with a silver spoon in your mouth but totally another to turn that spoon golden. Mukesh Dhirubhai Ambani personifies this to perfection. Born to the iconic and legendary visionary and entrepreneur Dhirubhai Ambani who established Reliance Industries, Mukesh only inherited his position but not his wealth.

Mukesh Dhirubhai Ambani net worth made him proud owner of a 60-storey high home, Antilla. The world's most expensive private residence cost Ambani a mind-boggling \$2 billion. A part of Mukesh Dhirubhai Ambani net worth is from his owned Indian Premier League team, the Mumbai Indians.



VINEET JAIN

MEDIA ICON'S GLOBAL FORAY

Vineet Jain is credited for the successful expansion of the multi-crore media empire, Bennett Coleman and Company Limited specially utilizing the internet and the television which are today the mass mediums of communication. He is credited to have a mind and business acumen that works with the times. His overwhelming vision and acumen specially in strategizing and diversification have stood the company in good stead



Vineet Jain is the Managing Director of India's largest media group, Bennett, Coleman & Co Ltd, also known as the Times Group.

Mr Jain has transformed the Times Group from the No 1 publishing house into India's largest, diversified, most respected and multi-faceted media conglomerate. As Bennett, Coleman's strategist, marketing visionary and editorial architect, he has spearheaded the Group's highly successful forays into the internet, radio, broadcast television and outdoor media.

LEADING FROM THE FOREFRONT

He is also responsible for revamping the Group's stable of daily newspapers into youthful, contemporary and cutting-edge brands with market leadership in most parts of India. Apart from taking the Group's flagship English daily The Times Of India and its business daily The Economic Times to No 1 positions across markets in the country, Mr Jain has widened the scope and reach of print into the metro news and lifestyle space with brands such as Mumbai Mirror and Bombay Times, Delhi Times etc, apart from forays into regional languages across the country.

He has also transformed the flagship events of the company — Filmfare Awards, Femina Miss India, and The Economic Times Awards for Corporate Excellence — into larger-than-life ground and television properties that are the toast of India's crème de la

“He is also responsible for revamping Group's stable of daily newspapers into youthful brands”

crème. The newest offering is TOIFA or the Times of India Film Awards, which was first held in Vancouver, Canada, in 2013. His biggest contribution is to drive the Times Group aggressively into new media — internet, radio and television.

EXPANDING HORIZONS

In a short span of three years, Radio Mirchi and Times Now are No 1 brands in their respective domains. With the launch of ET Now in 2009 — the Times Group's business channel, Movies Now

- the English Movie channel, ZOOM - the Bollywood News Channel, and the recent Romy Now — the broadcast operations of the group have attained critical mass. Mr Jain is also director on the board of the Press Trust of India Ltd and many of the Times Group companies. Mr Jain is recipient of the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Award for Corporate Excellence and Indian Telly Award for his contribution to Indian TV Broadcasting Industry in 2009.

He was also adjudged IMPACT Person of the Year 2013 for his industry-shaping initiatives that have redefined media consumption in the digital age, setting a benchmark with young and vibrant media products. He is also received the Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2013 from Bombay Management Association in recognition of The Times Group's successful diversification from print to other forms of media -television, internet & radio.

He also won Media Person of the Year award from International Advertising Association (IAA) in 2015. Mr Jain is strongly committed to delivering value through customer delight in all Group companies. Mr Jain also enjoys travelling and sports like skiing and tennis.





DEEPAK PAREKH

EMBRACING AGILE

Personalities of the ilk of Deepak Parekh, the leading name behind one of the biggest private banks Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) are rare to find these days

Born in 1944 and a Chartered Accountant from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales (ICAEW), Mr. Deepak Parekh is at the financial helm of India Inc. In 1978 Mr. Parekh joined India's premier housing finance company HDFC Ltd. as Deputy General Manager and then went on to become its Chairman in 1993.

ACCELERATING GROWTH

HDFC's growth in stature and strength since its inception (1977), has been achieved by a steadfast focus on sound values such as integrity, transparency and professionalism, and underpinned by a basic belief of trust by the Indian middleclass.

Mr. Deepak Parekh, has not only preserved the ethos of the company, but has also strengthened it with time. His astute business acumen and farsightedness has not only made HDFC the leader in Mortgages, but also transformed it into a financial conglomerate with presence in Banking, Asset Management, Life Insurance, General Insurance, Real Estate Venture Fund and Education finance.

In 1970, Mr. Parekh began his career with Ernst & Ernst Management Consultancy Services in New York. Thereafter he worked with Grindlays Bank and Chase Manhattan Bank for

about three years each prior to joining HDFC in 1978.

LEADING FROM THE FRONT

Besides HDFC Group Companies, Mr. Parekh is on the board of several leading corporations across diverse sectors. He is the Nonexecutive Chairman in India of BAE Systems India (Services) Pvt Ltd, Glaxo Smithkline Pharmaceuticals and Siemens. He

“Mr. Parekh has not only preserved the ethos of the company, but has also strengthened it with time”

is also on the boards of Fairfax India Holdings Corporation, Indian Hotels Company Ltd, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, Network18 Media and Investments Ltd and international boards of DP World – UAE and Vedanta Resources Plc.. He is also on the Advisory Board of several Indian corporate and MNC's. In addition to being known for his vociferous views seeking standardization and transparency in the real estate sector, Mr. Parekh is dubbed as the unofficial crisis consultant of the Government.

KEEPING IT CLEAN

Taking care of such important positions in life, he never forgets to ensure that neither he nor the people he meets ever forget the importance of clean business. And values or culture are not developed overnight. It's a painstaking process and Parekh ensures that neither he nor the people he is associated with ever forget the importance of correctness. It is one of the prime reasons that he has the habit of gifting miniature yellow signboards to colleagues and business associates. The little yellow signboard has compliance written on it, with a sketch of a slippery slope below it. Parekh has made clean business not only a cornerstone of how the HDFC group is run, but also embodies that spirit in his dealings with others in the world of business and politics.

It's perhaps for this that young professionals often turn to him for advice when they have a doubt. Every week, he devotes time for young guns that often pick his brains on a variety of subjects. His ability to rise above narrow interests and passion for doing the right thing has drawn even the government and policy makers to his doorstep. Over the years, he has emerged as the crisis manager for the government, even on subjects that have nothing to do with finance.



K. P. SINGH

THE TRAILBLAZER

Befitting the grandeur of a man who became the biggest name in the Indian real estate industry in a life so wonderfully spent, the launch of DLF Chairman K.P. Singh's autobiography "Whatever the Odds: The Incredible Story Behind DLF" was a lifetime affair

The Chairman of the Board of DLF Limited, Dr. Kushal Pal Singh, fondly called as K.P. Singh is largely known for his path-breaking and visionary contributions to the building of modern India through his pioneering role as a real estate developer and corporate leader who has transformed the urban landscape of the country by setting new standards in the housing and urban development scenario and creating world class infrastructure to attract unprecedented levels of foreign and domestic investment inflows, generating new employment opportunities and changing lifestyles.

Being born in a Jat family back in 1931, K.P. Singh earned a degree in science from Meerut College and later on went to UK to pursue his Aeronautical Engineering. He was then selected in the Indian Army by British Officers Services Selection Board, UK and thereafter commissioned into a renowned cavalry regiment of the Indian Army. In 1960, he joined American Universal Electric Company and soon after its merger with DLF Universal Limited in 1979, he took over as the Managing Director.

In the early Eighties, Dr. K. P. Singh took it upon himself to spearhead a total transformation in the Housing and Urban Development scenario in the country. Visualizing that only the collaborative efforts of both the public

and private sectors could achieve the goal of creating cities of the future with adequate housing and urban infrastructure to meet the needs of future generations, he worked towards bringing to an end the era of State monopoly and opening the doors for professional private developers to play a major role in building onsite infrastructure for homes, offices and entertainment and retail complexes. He was one of the pioneers of the

“DLF has at present 100 million square feet of land which is being developed for both residential & commercial use”

concept of Public-Private Partnership in the urban development sector, with the private sector involved in creating on-site infrastructure and the public sector responsible for providing off-site infrastructure, the funding for which was mobilized from the property-owners and paid to the Government.

DLF has at present 100 million square feet of land which is being developed for residential, commercial and retail projects all over India. He was also once the President of ASSOCHAM

(Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India) and the PHD Chambers of Commerce & Industry. Few years ago he got the 'Delhi Ratna' Award from the Chief Minister of Delhi Ms. Sheila Dixit for his outstanding role in beatifying the capital region. Despite being from a very small town of India K.P. Singh has maintained a very lavish lifestyle. The businessman owns a private jet Gulfstream IV which is one of the most luxurious private jets in world. He also owns many lavish cars and Mercedes Benz S-Class is one of the collections, thanks to the huge Kushal Pal Singh net worth.

His visionary efforts were crowned with success, through the innovative Gurgaon satellite city project, which is today the single-most important and influential urban development model in Independent India that is being replicated elsewhere in the country.

Dr. Singh is also widely credited with conceptualizing a unique and innovative model for acquisition of land from the farmers by involving the farming community as 'Partners in Progress' in Housing and Urban Development. He has been a firm believer in corporate intervention in the social sector encompassing CSR and philanthropic activities like improvements in the living standards of construction workers, and providing basic education and healthcare facilities in adopted villages in and around DLF townships.



H.E. SHEIKH HAMDAN BIN MUBARAK AL NAHYAN

SPREADING TIMELESS TEACHINGS

His Excellency Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and UAEU Chancellor



Sheikh Hamdan is a member of the ruling family of the United Arab Emirates and maintains a life-long love of aviation and serves as Chairman of the Board of Royal Jet. He graduated from UAE University in Al Ain in 1982 with a double major in Economics and Administration. He further prepared his post-graduate studies in aviation in London, UK.

Between 2013 and 2016, Sheikh Hamdan served as the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research in the UAE Federal Government and the Chancellor of United Arab Emirates University (UAEU).

Prior to being appointed Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, he served as Minister of Public Works and Chairman of the National Transportation Authority. Previously, Sheikh Hamdan served as the Chairman of the Department of Civil Aviation for Abu Dhabi for 14 years and Chairman of Gulf Aircraft Maintenance Company (GAMCO) for 10 years. He served as the rotating Chairman of Gulf Air and the turnaround programme "Project Falcon" was initiated during his tenure. He was also Deputy Chairman of Emirates Media Corporation, which is now Abu Dhabi Media.

PROGRESSING WITH EDUCATION

When the 10-year strategy was announced in February 2010 as a national document to achieve the UAE

Vision 2021 on its Golden Jubilee, it was aimed at making the UAE among the best countries in the world, according to four pillars: an ambitious and confident people maintaining their heritage, a strong union united by a common destiny, a competitive economy led by the UAE citizens distinguished by creativity, and knowledge and the quality of a good life in a nurturing and sustainable environment.

The Ministry draws its strategy from these four pillars, bearing in

"He also serves as Chairman of Royal Jet, the premier aircraft charter company in the Middle East"

mind creating a generation of citizens confident in their leadership abilities, in their land, in their homeland, and in the potential of their State to strengthen the union through this generation; hence, it could not only keep up with the developments, but to lead and always be in the foreground, and the road to this is knowledge and sustainable knowledge in all areas of life. They developed their strategic plan for 2014-2016 in order to contribute to the achievement of the knowledge society and the development

of higher education and scientific research in the state.

In addition to the establishment of the National Committee for Scholarships, with the aim of ensuring complementarity and coordination between scholarship authorities in the state, they aim to guide the system of scholarships and grants in line with the laws of the Ministry and to develop a strategy and performance indicators for the scholarship system to meet the needs of the labour market in the State.

HANDLING SEVERAL POSITIONS SKILFULLY

He also serves as Chairman of Royal Jet, the premier aircraft charter company in the Middle East, operating the world's largest fleet of Boeing Business Jets (BBJs). Prior to being appointed as the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, he served as Minister of Public works, Chairman of the Sheikh Zayed Housing Program, Chairman of the National Transport Authority, President of the Higher Committee for UAE Civil Seaport & Airport Security and the National Media Council. Sheikh Hamdan has been Chairman of the Civil Aviation Department of Abu Dhabi, Gulf Aircraft Maintenance Company (GAMCO), Abu Dhabi Aviation and the Rotating Chairman of Gulf Air. His Highness graduated from the UAE University in Al-Ain with double majors in Economics and Administration.



WORLD TODAY BUSINESS CONCLAVE

World Today Business Conclave 2015–16 was organized on 29th May 2016 by AsiaOne and URS Media Consulting P.L. which is rapidly emerging as the Number 1 international media company towards the cause of enhancing business and political relations in the region, thus supporting the Indian Government in its Skilling India, Digitizing India, and Incredible India initiatives



Tourism Partner





India Presenter



Magazine Partner

World's Greatest Brands & Leaders 2015–16: India–UAE–Africa – process reviewers PricewaterhouseCoopers P.L.” and “AsiaOne Person of the Year Awards” were organized at the Roma Ballroom, Ritz Carlton Hotel, Abu Dhabi in association with Indian Business Professional Group (IBPG), Abu Dhabi, and Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), Abu Dhabi Chapter as Industry Partners, and Bihar Tourism & National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) as Tourism Partners.

The focal purpose of the Conclave is unique in its approach as it brings Iconic, Powerful, and Emerging brands and leaders on a common platform to discuss issues and potentials relevant to their respective strategic decisions, thereby innovatively unfolding a permeable screen of unprecedented mutual learning and growth.

ASIAONE PERSON OF THE YEAR

As an exclusive Intellectual Property Right of the AsiaOne magazine, “AsiaOne Person of the Year” Awards highlighted the exclusive, exceptional and extraordinary people behind the world’s growth engines. AsiaOne Person of the Year is a prestigious annual selection of the most prominent personalities globally. It is entirely made of those who have really made an indelible mark for other leaders to follow and generations to admire. Only par excellence leaders from across the world are worthy of being selected as AsiaOne Person of the Year 2015–16 and only 7 exclusive “Person of The Year” were felicitated at the Conclave for their special work in the industry and society:

- Dr Cyrus S Poonawalla – Chairman of Poonawalla Group
- Mr. Jack Ma – Founder and Executive Chairman of Alibaba Group
- Mr. Rizwan Sajjan – Chairman, Danube Group
- Madam Grace Pinto – MD, Ryan International Group of Institutions
- Dr Mukesh Batra – Founder, Dr Batra’s
- Mr. J C Chaudhry – CMD, Aakash Institute

- Mr. Sandeep Aggarwal – Founder, ShopClues.com

WINNING LEADERS AND BRANDS

As it was a Conclave of exclusively Services and Infrastructure Industries, about 80 Brands and Leader award winners were felicitated on 29th May '16 with a presence of over 200 audience from India, the UAE and Africa.

Some of the leaders and brands, which were the chosen ones for ‘The World’s Greatest Brands & Leaders 2015–16’ Awards are as follows:

- Brands: Wonder Cement, Lazeez Affaire Group, Stonex India, Sheenlac Paints, Suryaflames, Mother’s Pride, Anandam Retirement Community by Bahri Real Estate, mammoosss.com, Mulk Holdings International, Al Adil Trading, Arab India Spices, Divisa Herbal Care, Dr Ortho, Evelyn College of Design, Gurukul The School, HCG Oncology, Hira Panna Jewellers, IFIM, JGI Group, Ladycare, Meat & Eat, Morison Menon Group, Ozone Hospitals, Unicorn Electromechanical LLC, Serum Analysis Centre, Sheenlac Paints, Sheetal, Sunheart Tiles, TBO Group, The Antriksh Group, Danube Group, Ryan International Group of Institutions, Dr Batra’s, Aakash Institute, ShopClues.com, etc.
- Leaders: Ankush Nijhawan & Gaurav Bhatnagar, Dhananjay Datar, Harish Kumar Lal Tahiliani, Priyank Sukhija, Vivek Patni, Tawhid Abdullah, Raju Menon, Nawab Shuji Ul Mulk, Abhishek Goyat, Evelyn Mungai, Fasal Rahman, Gaurav Aggarwal, Hardik Varmora, Hemant Bahri, Sudhir Peter, Ryan Pinto, Rajiv Malhotra, Surekha Shetty, Ahmed Mansoor, Sachin Vats, Sanjeev Juneja, Sanjib Acharya, Dr B Ramesh, Dr Chenraj Roychand, Dr Vineet Hingankar, Bharat Aggarwal, Puvikumar, Yogesh Lakhani, etc.

Further, enchanting presentations were given by Dr Mukesh Batra, Padma Shri Recipient and Founder-Chairman of Dr Batra’s Group of companies; Mr. J C Chaudhry, the Founder & Chairman of Aakash Educational Services Pvt. Ltd. and Mrs. Sudha Gupta, Chairperson, Mother’s Pride.





"URS AsiaOne" is an international business magazine present in seven different countries. It is an excellent example of a convergence magazine as you'll find news from the entire region of Asia & GCC. We also do research-based listing and featuring of brands, which is the Intellectual Property of URS Media Consulting P.L. leading auditing firms like PwC, KPMG, etc. associate with us as process reviewer. India's Greatest Brands & Leaders and World's Greatest Brands & Leaders are just two of our exclusive IPRs. After an intense research in about 15 categories, we exclusively and strictly select the best Iconic, Powerful and Emerging Brands in terms of their connection with the customer and performance in the market.



www.theworldsgreatestbrands.com www.asiaone.co.in www.ursinternational.in www.indo-uae-congress.com

"HOW TO MAKE YOUR BRAND - India's Greatest Brands & Leaders 2015-16 - Iconic , Powerful , Emerging !" To have your Brand/ Company and Leader participate in the prestigious Business Awards and feature **"Celebrating 69 Pride of the Nation Series on 27 August 2016 Mumbai"** kindly go through all attachments to fill Nominations.

PRIDE OF THE NATION

India's Greatest Brands & Leaders 2015-16 is to be held in Mumbai, India on 27th August 2016.

The theme of the Summit is Pride of the Nation: The Growth Engines of the World.

The Summit would be a reflection of the New India that has emerged recently as the fastest growing economy in the world and the most lucrative investment destination of the world.

The Pride of the Nation Summit is going to be one of the largest in India in 2016, where Brands and Leaders from all over the nation will be felicitated. Leaders from various spheres would be recognised. Over 300 leaders would participate at this Summit.



THE SUMMIT

The Summit would be a one-day affair with panel discussions on the Pride of the Nation Summit, followed by Awards in the evening, with a cultural programme.

For the selected brands and leaders, internationally designed double spread features in our Coffee Table Book and urs-AsiaOne magazine will be provided with online presence on www.theworldsgreatestbrands.com and www.asiaone.co.in. Logo and text rights for India's Greatest Brands & Leaders for internal and external communication will also be given.



GROWTH ENGINES OF THE WORLD

Any country is made of its people. However, the direction is given by the leaders. These belong to different spheres – Politics, Media, Sports, Business, Philanthropy, etc. yet one thing is same: they are the drivers of their respective segment, and each segment is important in making the whole as a nation.

The Pride of the Nation Summit is a tribute to these leaders who have together created a fabric of tricolour that is soaking the whole world in its spirit currently.



Indu Jain - Media



Arun Jaitley - Politics



Nita Ambani - Philanthropy



Sania Mirza - Sports



H.E. NASSER AHMED ALSOWAIDI

BUILDING THE NATION

H.E. Nasser Ahmed Khalifa Alsowaidi serves as the Chairman of National Bank of Abu Dhabi PJSC. H.E. Alsowaidi serves as Chairman of Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX), Etihad Rail, Department of Energy, the Union Railway Company and Zones Corp



He serves as the Chairman of the Department of Planning and Economy, where he has a leading role in collaboration with other top government officials in developing, restructuring, and diversifying the economy. He serves as the Chairman of the Department of Economic Development of the Government, the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange, and Abu Dhabi Ports Company.

H.E. Alsowaidi serves as a Deputy Chairman of AD Invest. He served as the Vice Chairman of Aldar Properties PJSC. He serves as a Director of Mubadala Development Company P.J.S.C., and Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority.

CHAIRING MAJOR POSITIONS

He serves as Member of the Board of Directors of International Petroleum Investment Company PJSC and the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi. He has been a Non-Executive Director of National Bank of Abu Dhabi PJSC since May 19, 2003. He serves as a Member of the Executive Council at the apex of the Abu Dhabi government. He served as a Director at Cosmo Oil Co., Ltd. He was employed at Abu Dhabi Investment Authority and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company.

Over the past 20 years, he has

held senior roles in a number of Abu Dhabi government organizations, including the Department of Economic Development, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) and the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC). H.E. Alsowaidi holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the California State Polytechnic University in the United States.

“H.E. Alsowaidi serves as a Deputy Chairman of AD Invest. He served as the Vice Chairman of Aldar Properties”

Nasser Ahmed Khalifa Alsowaidi chairman of the Department of Economy and Planning Abu Dhabi (DPE) has taken over as chairman of National Bank of Abu Dhabi (NBAD), with effect from January 5, 2009.

Al Suwaidi is the son of Ahmed Khalifa Al Suwaidi, the nation's foreign minister in early 1970's.

Nasser Al Suwaidi, who earned a degree in Economics from California University, USA, worked for Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), Abu

Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) and Abu Dhabi Investment Company (ADIC) in different capacities, in his early years of public service.

Al Suwaidi, who is the top economic decision-maker, is involved in different capacities with Abu Dhabi's all major financial, business and economic institutions.

SECOND FIVE-YEAR ECONOMIC PLAN

The Five-Year Economic Plan 2013-2017 is the second episode in a series of economic plans aimed at achieving the Vision 2030. They are mandated to articulate these comprehensive plans, and these projects are completed by means of a structured collaborative process led by the ADDED and involving all key public and private stakeholders within the different economic sectors in the Emirate.

The process has four key elements. The first is related to developing bottom-up analysis to assess the overall economic impact of activity in the sector. The second is focused on key growth sectors identified by the Economic Vision 2030 as strategic drivers for economic growth. Finally, the institutionalization of a formal data sharing and economic policy planning process across Abu Dhabi's key sectors is necessary.



DR. NARESH TREHAN

ENSURING HEALTHY HEARTBEATS

Dr. Naresh Trehan, a graduate from King George Medical College, is a renowned Cardiovascular and Cardiothoracic surgeon, trained and practiced at New York University Medical Centre Manhattan USA



He is also recognized by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Cardiothoracic Surgery. Dr Naresh Trehan is the Chairman & Managing Director, Medanta - The Medicity, a 1500 bedded multi super speciality institute, which offers cutting edge technology and state of art treatment facilities at an affordable cost.

The Institute is governed under the guiding principles of providing medical services to patients with care, compassion and commitment. Before living his dream, Dr. Trehan was the executive director and founder of the Escorts Heart Institute and Research Centre, the centre was conceptualized, created and managed by Dr. Trehan (from 1987 to May 2007). He has received many prestigious awards, including the Padma Shree and the Padma Bhushan Award, presented by the Government of India.

LEADING MAN IN MEDICINE

He was the President of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery (ISMICS), Minneapolis, USA 2004-05 and has also received Honorary Doctorate Degrees from three prestigious universities.

Dr. Naresh Kumar Trehan is a renowned cardiovascular and cardiothoracic surgeon. At present,

Dr. Naresh Trehan is the Chairman and Managing Director, Medanta - The Medicity a multi-super speciality Institute which matches the highest standards of healthcare delivery across the world at an affordable cost.

Medanta's biggest asset, however, is Trehan, whose reputation precedes him. He had a flourishing surgical career in New York for over a decade, before he returned to India in the late

“Dr. Naresh Kumar Trehan is a renowned cardiovascular and cardiothoracic surgeon”

1980s and established himself as one of the country's pre-eminent cardiac surgeons. He founded one of India's top single-specialty hospitals—the Escorts Heart Institute, now Fortis Escorts Heart Institute. Trehan's exit from that project was mired in controversy, but Medanta rose soon after. He continues to see between forty and fifty patients a day. His clients include India's home minister, Rajnath Singh, and the finance minister, Arun Jaitley.

He is a familiar face in the media.

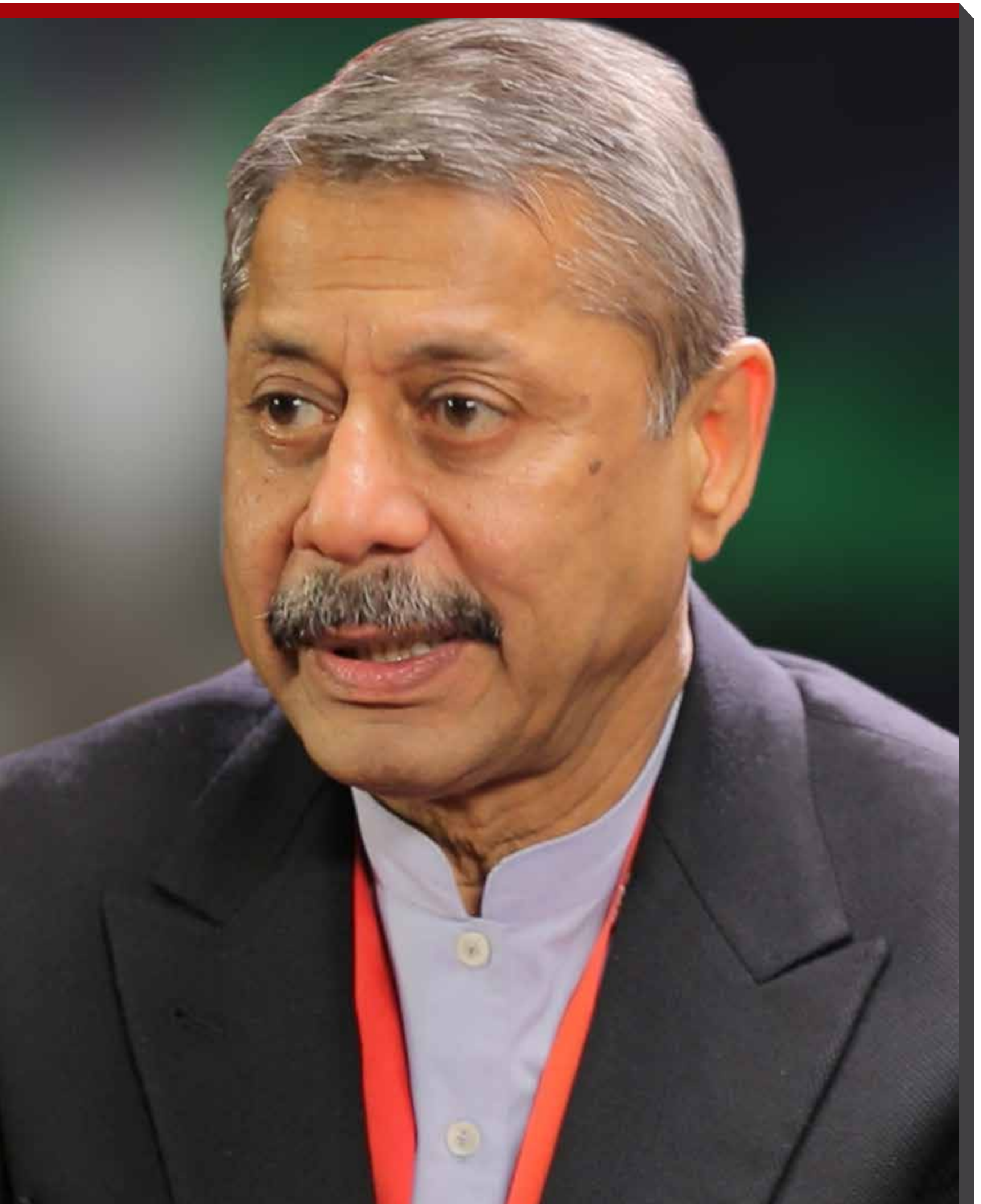
In December 2012, when the victim of the gang rape in Delhi that kicked off nationwide protests—and triggered the formation of the Verma committee—died, Trehan became one of the de facto spokesmen on the matter in the newspapers, offering commentary on the intricacies of the case and its treatment.

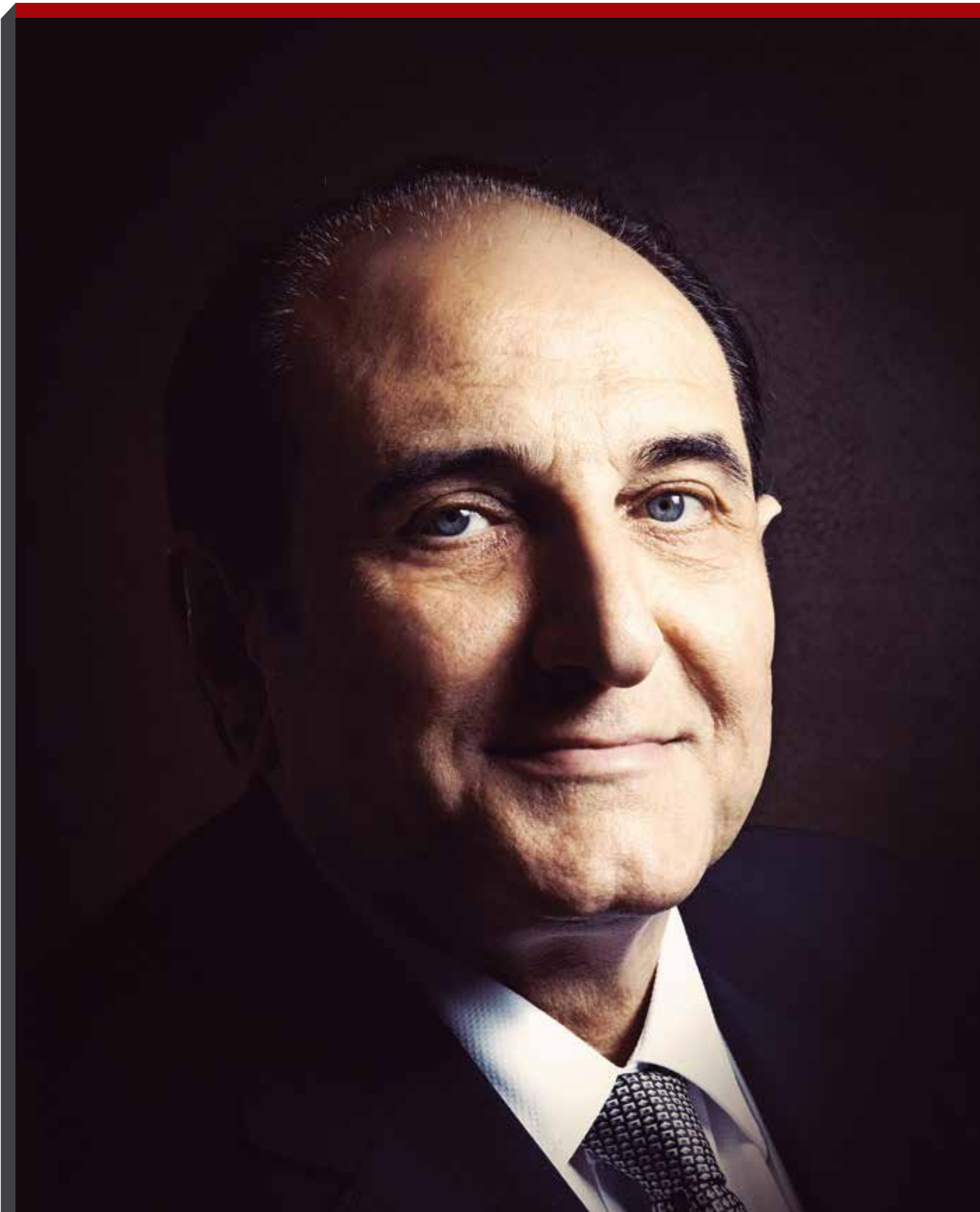
THE FOCUSED VISIONARY

The victim was attended to by teams from the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences and Safdarjung Hospital; Trehan was the only doctor from a private hospital to be involved. In 2010, at the height of the anti-corruption protests led by the striking Anna Hazare, Trehan and a team from Medanta were often seen on television, monitoring Hazare through his four-day fast.

But Trehan's influence also extends well beyond the limelight. A competitor of his pointed out to me that Trehan has only one hospital to his name—unlike Apollo or Fortis, Medanta is not a chain. Yet the power he wields in the private sector is disproportionate to the size of his business.

In the three decades since the Indian government permitted the operation of bank-funded private hospitals in the country, there have been only two doctors who have seen such enormous success as entrepreneurs.





OSMAN SULTAN

CRAFTING TELECOM SKYLINE

The Euphoria has left the building. If there is anything definite we can say about telecom sector, a communication enabling industry will be remembered for structuring an augmented reality for the world, Osman Sultan the man behind building du

At an industry meet in the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona last year, Osman Sultan, the CEO of one of the most profitable mobile networks du stated that he drew a picture, which was a mobile phone in the hands of everyone and that was what he dared to dream- taking a bet that mobility would become a big thing.

If anyone wants to learn about the intricacies involved in the telecommunication business, there is no better person than Osman Sultan. The year 1998 saw Sultan taking over his first leadership role as a founding CEO of Egypt's Mobinil.

THINKING AHEAD

That ability to think one step ahead of the game has served Sultan well over the years. Building up a mobile company from scratch in Egypt, a country with only 1 percent penetration rate and a rocky economy, wasn't easy. Neither was taking on the might of the UAE's Etisalat in a market where the penetration rate was well over 100 percent.

But after an hour spent in Sultan's company, two things are immediately clear. Firstly, that he is up for a challenge. And secondly, that he sees

his industry as being about far more than just fibre, calls and minutes. As the world in general, and the UAE in particular, heads towards a 'smarter' future, Sultan sees the role of du as being not only a fundamental anchor to the local economy, but also as the lynchpin of a collaboration between a whole host of operators and players.

“In just a few years, du has attained near parity with Etisalat in terms of mobile subscribers”

EXPANDING HORIZONS

More prosaically, however, Sultan also has his hands full with the here and now. Since launching in 2007, du has been the Middle East and North Africa's fastest-growing telco. Only two years after its launch, du recorded its first quarterly profit. By comparison, the second mobile operator in nearby Qatar, Vodafone Qatar, is still waiting to record its first quarterly profit some six

years after starting operations.

In just a few short years, it has attained near parity with Etisalat in terms of mobile subscribers, although — as Sultan admits — in terms of value share, it still has some catching up to do. The trick has been to manage the breakneck growth the company recorded in its first few years of operation, and steer its transition into a more mature outfit.

The last year or so has seen new areas open up to competition within the UAE telecoms space. About a year ago, mobile number portability (MNP) was brought into the country, allowing consumers to switch operator without having to change their number. Sultan says that the impact from MNP has been negligible from du's perspective, pointing out that only 1-2 percent of the market has decided to port over to a competing operator.

Sultan adds that du is investing between AED1.5-1.8bn (\$410-490m) in infrastructure on a yearly basis, and reveals that he sees 5G becoming operational in the country in 2018 — two years earlier than expected. It will be yet another achievement for a company that has already become a crucial part of the local economy despite its relatively youthful age.

P.R.S. OBEROI

EDIFYING WORLD-CLASS GETAWAYS

Oberoi family patriarch Prithvi Raj Singh Oberoi has decided not to choose his successor to run EIH Ltd from between his son Vikram Oberoi and nephew Arjun Oberoi, who currently serve as joint managing directors

PR.S. Oberoi, 85, stated that he executed his succession plan when in January last year he demitted office as CEO. A further decision on this matter is to be taken by the company's board, EIH said in a statement, in response to a query.

THE FAMILY LEGACY

Vikram Oberoi is chief operating officer and Arjun Oberoi is chief planning officer of the company; both are joint managing directors. P.R.S. Oberoi stepped into his father's shoes after the late M.S. Oberoi, a first-generation entrepreneur, died in May 2002 at the age of 103. By then, M.S. Oberoi's other son, Tilak Raj Singh Oberoi, had already died.

The current chairman of EIH is of the view that "the fittest and the most professionally competent" person should run the company, and that person need not necessarily be from within the extended Oberoi family, said a close associate.

"Not just the chairman, all of them are of the same view that the most competent person should be given the mandate to run the company," this person said, referring to the three Oberois on the board of EIH. So they

unanimously decided to give the top job to Mukherji, a professional who has worked in the hospitality industry for over four decades, he added.

THE RELISHING MANSION

On the ownership front, it isn't immediately known who will inherit

"The founders currently own 35.24% of EIH. It is almost evenly split between the two lines"

P.R.S. Oberoi's shares in EIH. His father had in his lifetime divided the family's shareholding in the company between his sons—P.R.S. Oberoi and the late T.R.S. Oberoi.

The founders currently own 35.24% of EIH. It is almost evenly split between the two lines of the extended Oberoi family. Arjun Oberoi has inherited his father's stake in the company under a will which has been probated, according to the person cited above. Four years ago, Reliance Industries

Ltd (RIL) bought a 14.12% stake in EIH, paying Rs.1,021 crore. The share sale to the petrochemical behemoth was seen as a bid by the Oberois to thwart unsolicited advances from ITC Ltd, which started buying into the company in early 2000s.

Currently, RIL owns 18.5% of the company. ITC, which runs hotels besides producing cigarettes and consumer goods, has a 16.1% stake in EIH.

From the time ITC started acquiring EIH's shares from the market, P.R.S. Oberoi has maintained that he didn't want any alliance with the competitor. At the same time, ITC chairman Y.C. Deveshwar has clarified several times that his company's interest was not predatory and that it had no intention to launch a hostile bid to wrest control of EIH.

Asked if RIL could have a say in choosing Mukherji's successor when the time comes, a key EIH official said as an investor with a substantial representation of the board the company hasn't shown any intention to interfere with the management. "There has been no unnecessary interference so far, and there is no sign either that things could change going forward," this person said.





DR. SUDHIR RUPARELIA

RECREATING DESTINY FROM ABYSS

An entirely self-made man, who persevered with different jobs in two continents, and emerged victorious as one of the richest in Africa and in the world, Dr. Sudhir Ruparelia has made an image of an innovative entrepreneur in Uganda

As founder, majority shareholder and the Chairman of Ruparelia Group – one of Uganda's largest conglomerates – he is the owner of a commercial bank, a chain of hotels and country clubs, and 200+ commercial properties. He has invested in the domains of banking, insurance, education, broadcasting, real estate, floriculture, hotels and resorts.

99% PERSPIRATION

The inspiring story of Ruparelia goes like this: His great-grandfather arrived in Uganda in 1903. His grandfather, father and he were born in Uganda, and lived there as an upper-middle-class family. However, due to political conditions, all Asians were expelled from Uganda in 1972. Sudhir Ruparelia was just 16 years old then. He went to the UK with his family, completed his studies and saved USD 25,000 doing casual jobs in supermarkets, factories and butcheries.

When political conditions changed in 1985, Ruparelia returned to Uganda and sold beer, spirits and salt importing them from Kenya. Four years later, beer importing was banned in Uganda, as the domestic market of alcohol was being adversely affected. Having created good relationships with foreigners during his beer business, he opened the first currency exchange

bureau in Uganda – Crane Forex Bureau. As he made profits, he started other businesses and opened the Crane Bank in 1995. Gradually, he brought all his businesses under one name and created the Ruparelia Group.

Through a life of struggle and perseverance, he created from scratch one of the biggest and most successful corporate houses in Uganda. He is the richest man in Uganda and works towards a bright future of his country.

“Dr. Sudhir Ruparelia has established from scratch one of the biggest corporate houses in Uganda”

PERFORMANCE FIRST

In the last 20 years, Ruparelia has established innovative, pioneering and enduring business practices in his organization, and has focused on values and performance. As a result, he has successfully developed more than 20 businesses in various fields under Ruparelia Group, most of which are Uganda's leading players in their respective sectors.

He is a strong man, yet his

success wasn't possible without his professional team of management, and the thousands of Ugandans he employs in his companies. He realizes it completely and is famous for his generosity. He believes in keeping his employees happy and investing in Uganda for its development and prosperity.

DISCIPLINE AND SERVICE

During his stay in London, the strongest trait Ruparelia learnt was discipline and he used it as one of the values in his business. Thus, he always ensures that the contracts he makes with the suppliers are respected and the suppliers' money is always readily available as agreed. In addition, he always creates a strong supply chain.

With a motto 'Serving to Grow and Growing to Serve', he introduced customer-centric business practices in all his companies. The result was obvious: everybody loved their work culture, and their business grew exponentially. The struggle in his life taught him to respect his employees, and in turn his employees accept the values he has instilled in his organization: meeting all orders from small to large in a timely manner, and keeping a high regard for quality of all products. His values also reflect in his philanthropic endeavours in alleviating poverty and adversity in underprivileged societies of Uganda.

VIMAL SHAH

MANUFACTURING PRODUCTS FOR EVERY POCKET

One of the wealthiest individuals in Kenya – the largest economy in the East African Community – Vimal Shah is renowned as a self-made businessman, strategist, entrepreneur and industrialist. He saw business potential where others could not, and though he had to struggle in the beginning, he has made impressive headway



Vimal Shah is the Chief Executive Officer of Bidco Africa. Vimal, his father and his younger brother work together, and all three Shahs are business partners in Bidco Africa. Bidco Oil Refineries is the largest producer of edible oils in East and Central Africa, and also produces detergents, soaps, baking powder and canola.

THE INCEPTION

His father, Bhimji Depar Shah, established several businesses in Kenya, including a petrol station in Nyeri. However, when he opened a small cotton garment factory, it caught the fancy of Vimal and his younger brother, Tarun. They realized the potential of cotton seed and its vast business value.

Finally, Bidco was founded in 1970 as a garment-manufacturing company. Employing more than 2,000 people, its about 50 brands cater to more than 350 million people in Eastern and Central Africa.

Vimal Shah's leadership qualities are phenomenal and he prefers to build his own financial base for the company, rather than listing on the stock exchange or taking a loan to expand his business. He is confident about the existing financial resources of his Group of companies and doesn't want to go public as of now.

He is the Chairman of East African Business Council, Chairman of Kenya Private Sector Alliance, and a Member of the 3GF (Global Green Growth Fund) in Amsterdam. He believes in the future of Africa.

TENACIOUS ENDEAVOURS

In 1985, when Shahs wanted to open a soap manufacturing business, banks in Kenya refused to give them loans. Shahs borrowed from family and

“Vimal Shah is renowned as a self-made businessman, strategist, entrepreneur and industrialist”

friends. Manufacturing oil locally for the soap was difficult, so they imported it from Malaysia. When they found it difficult to sell, they transported it themselves to the shopkeepers through vans, who paid only after the soaps were sold.

Today, they have a modern state-of-the-art soap manufacturing factory in Thika, which is valued at USD 12.7 million. They also have multiple oil-processing factories for various cooking oils and soaps. They have

made contracts with farmers, and are successfully responding to the growing needs of consumers in East Africa.

EMBRACING PRESENT & FUTURE

Vimal's exceptional leadership at Bidco has not only transformed it into a much respected business giant in the region and the world, but also won several accolades for him – East African Entrepreneur of the Year, the Moran of the Order of the Burning Spear, Chief of the Order of the Burning Spear, CEO of the Year, Professional Manager of the Year, and Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

Vimal Shah has a vision to quadruple his business before 2020. He wants to achieve it by establishing new manufacturing factories in Mozambique, Madagascar and Ethiopia in addition to the existing factories in Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda.

GIVING BACK TO SOCIETY

He believes that the economy grows with a growing community. Therefore, through his organization he plants more trees than he uses, and creates eco-products by recycling and reusing. He is also an active member of Global Business Coalition (GBC) on HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria. In addition, through the Bidco Peer Educators Group, regular community outreach activities and wellness programmes are conducted.



ANITA ARJUNDAS

THE GLOBETROTTER

“The company has launched its new business vertical focused on making quality housing at affordable prices accessible to a wider cross-section of people” says Anita Arjundas, the President & CEO of Mahindra Lifespace Developers Ltd (MLDL)



Ms. Arjundas has a Masters in Business Administration with 19 years of work experience. She joined Mahindra & Mahindra in October 2002 as Vice President – Marketing at Mahindra World City (MWC), Chennai. In June 2006, she was promoted as COO of MWC, Chennai and took on the added responsibility of COO of MLDL from 2007 onwards. Ms Arjundas has played an important role in building Mahindra World City in both Chennai and Jaipur.

She started her corporate career as a Management Trainee in the Murugappa Group with Parrys Confectionery Limited (now Lotte Confectionery) and went on to head the marketing function.

BRAND STRATEGIST

Anita is responsible for setting the strategic direction that will enable Mahindra’s real estate business to drive sustainable urbanization in India. She has been influential in successfully establishing the concept of Integrated Business Cities / Special Economic Zones (SEZs) as well as growing the residential business under the Mahindra Lifespaces brand. As the President of the Real Estate Sector of the Mahindra Group; a USD 16.9 billion, diversified federation of companies, Anita is responsible for

setting the strategic direction that will enable the real estate business to drive sustainable urbanization in India. Anita joined the Mahindra Group in 2002 in one of the subsidiary companies of Mahindra Lifespaces, Mahindra World City, India’s first integrated business city in a public-private partnership.

In 2007, Anita was made responsible for the integrated cities business

“Anita is responsible for setting the strategic direction that will enable the real estate business”

unit with two world cities at Chennai and Jaipur. In 2009, Anita took over as Managing Director of Mahindra Lifespaces and CEO of the Real Estate sector comprising two business verticals - residential and industrial developments. Anita is a member of the Mahindra Group Executive Board from April 2010. Prior to her career with the Mahindra Group, Anita spent 3 years in the IT industry and 10 years in the consumer goods space. Anita has served as the Chairperson of the

FICCI National Real Estate Committee in 2014.

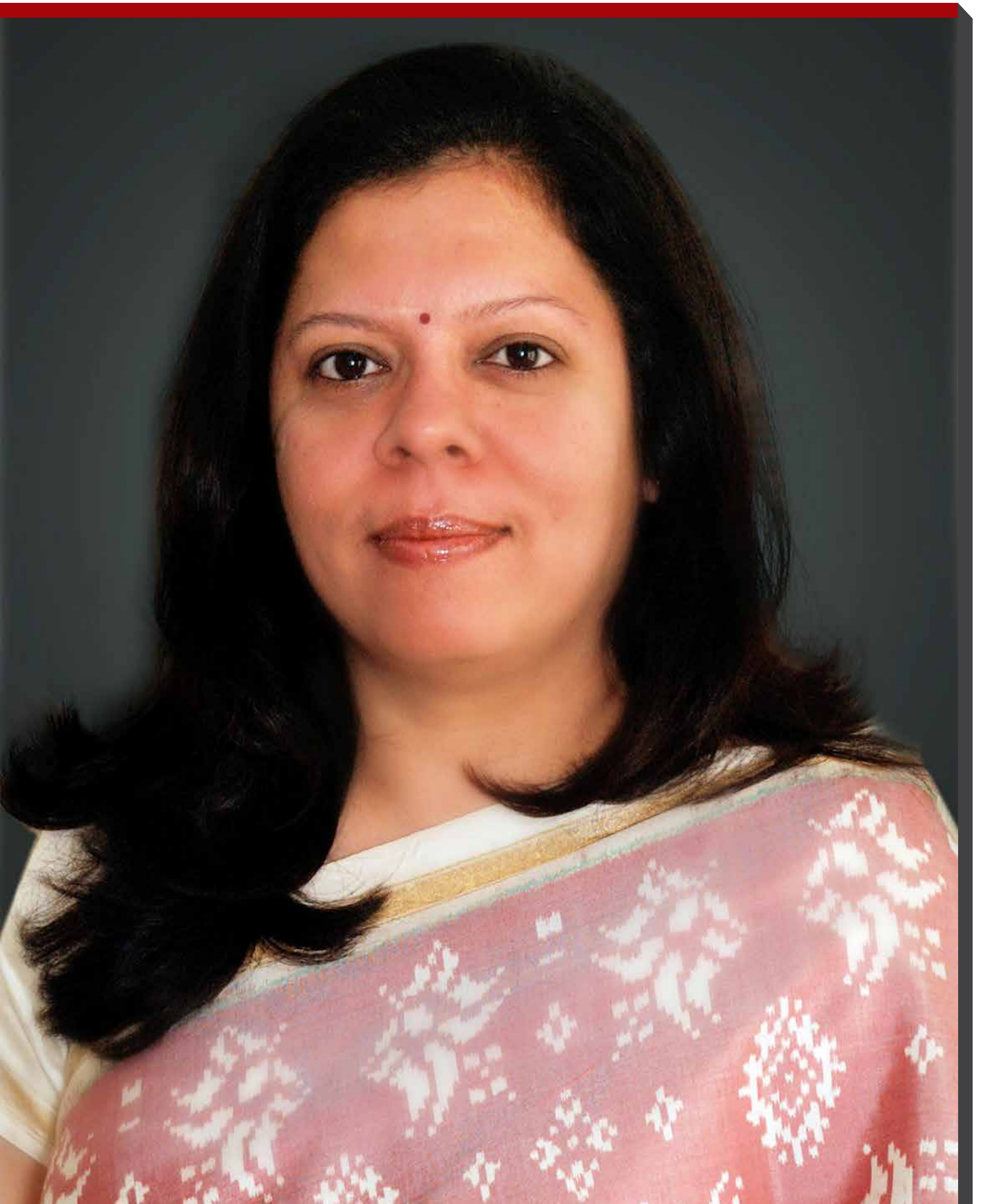
An MBA from Bharatidasan Institute of Management, Trichy, and a Wharton AMP alumnus, Anita has been named among the 50 “Most Powerful Women in Business” by Fortune India for the past four years as well as the “Outstanding Woman CEO of the Year” by NDTV Property Awards in 2013.

SETTING HIGH STANDARDS

Anita Arjundas sets the tone and lead the charge in our aspiration to be one of the world’s 50 most admired global brands by 2021. They direct the focus on technology and innovation, chart our global expansion, and lay the markers for the growth.

Her leadership ability to manage the operations and finances the world over, build and groom the global talent pool, and lead her endeavours in new markets and geographies help us to constantly move forward and offer the customers only the very best.

Handpicked to contribute their formidable skills to the collective purpose of enabling people everywhere to Rise, the leadership’s depth and breadth has been designed to allow her to reach for the skies - with her feet firmly on the ground. Meet the people who spur us to our summit, and inspire us to race along.



DR. BS AJAI KUMAR

REDEFINING CANCER CARE

Accessibility to cancer care can be only achieved with the introduction a network of cancer centres each equipped with technology, expertise and the right protocol to cancer management. A strong believer in the thought, Dr. Ajai kumar, Founder-Chairman and CEO of HealthCare Global Enterprise (HCG), it's a philosophy that can change the face of cancer care in India

Dr. Ajai Kumar began this journey 20 years back, and today his enterprise has morphed from a single unit—the Bangalore Institute of Oncology (BIO)—into HCG, India's largest cancer care network with 20 centres in India. He is the one to have incorporated the concept of accessible cancer care centres into smaller towns where patients often dread the disease as much as the travel and dislocation associated with it.

Today, when Dr. Ajai Kumar looks at the over-crowded centres in Erode, Ranchi, Shimoga and Vijaywada, he wonders where these patients went for treatment earlier. During these years, he developed a technology-backed system to create centrally managed customized care to treat 40,000 new patients every year. Alongside, he also assiduously built another model—making doctors invest in the enterprise, and in the vision. Today, out of 275 oncologists at HCG, a large number of them own a portion of it.

BUILDING WORLD-CLASS FACILITIES

Dr. Ajai Kumar didn't start out with

honed business skills in 1991 when he, along with a few doctors, set up BIO. Then, as a practicing doctor near Chicago, US, he'd spend four months in India and travel widely to assess

“Dr. Ajai Kumar didn't start out with honed business skills in 1991 when he, along with a few doctors, set up BIO”

the quality of cancer care. Most of it was at government or trust hospitals which were over-burdened and used old technology that under-treated patients and left serious side effects.

EXPANSION AND THE WAY FORWARD

“I was convinced that cancer care needed private enterprise,” he says. He returned to India in 2001 and acquired an oncology clinical research start-up called Triesta Life Sciences

in 2005, renaming the combined entity as HCG. Beginning 2007, private equity investors like IDFC, Premji Invest,

Evolve Life Sciences and Milestone pumped in money. With the inflow of funds, a rapid growth was observed in the brand. Its revenue grew five-fold. If this growth looks like a hospital on steroids, Dr. Ajai Kumar explains that scale is the only way to reduce per unit cost in this high capital expenditure business.

Technology has been a great leveler. HCG relies heavily on it by providing targeted surgeries and keeping the equipment tuned to its protocol. All linear accelerators are programmed from Bangalore.

All diagnostic tests are performed by Triesta. With a large number of cancer centres to be developed and commissioned in the coming months across India, the future is bright for those who are accessing cancer care in India and the way Dr. Ajai Kumar has redefined cancer care in India, be it technology, expertise, network or personalized care. It surely is a boon to cancer patients and he is a messiah to them.





DHANANJAY DATAR

A RICH HARVEST

By combining a sharp focus on sustainable profitability with innovation, the Dhananjay Datar-led Al Adil Group has created a financial powerhouse straddling multiple business lines

Fondly called as the 'Masala King', Dhananjay Datar has expanded his business in the Gulf, with Al Adil Group's 29 companies in the UAE.

At a young age of Dhananjay, a young boy from Akola district in Maharashtra, went to Dubai and started a humble kirana store. That business in two and a half decades has become 450 million dirhams Business Empire, with 32 entities spread across the Gulf. Today the world calls him the 'Masala King'.

Reaffirming the fact that 'Behind every successful man there is a woman', Dhananjay attributes the growth of his business empire to his wife Vandana. "Thanks to her unstinted support and commitment to the group, our turnover grew by 50% in 2010, and this despite a severe recession in the UAE. Perhaps, this was the best way to acknowledge and appreciate her", says Datar with a smile. Incidentally, this makes her the only Indian to own a Binz Limousine special edition.

SMELLING SUCCESS

His phenomenal growth has become even more rapid, after his wife Vandana joined him in the business and this despite heavy recession. Datar attributes all credit to her for the recent giant strides made by the Al Adil Group. Usually behind every successful man there is a woman, but this is a case where behind this successful businessman, there is a successful businesswoman.

So what makes this Dubai based Maharashtrian entrepreneur tick? It's his hands on approach, his business acumen and his modesty that has brought him, where he is today. And now he has spread his wings and is set to take a giant leap ahead. Dhananjay has set up an ultra-modern new export office with latest equipment and international standard interiors, and a huge warehouse, to successfully meet the rising demand of exports, aiming at almost 300 tons of Indian products per day, to Gulf countries, under 'Peacock' brand. This is up from 50 tons daily,

"Dhananjay is the only Maharashtrian to export & sell overseas, food items in such huge quantities"

three years ago. Dhananjay is the only Maharashtrian entrepreneur in India to export and sell overseas, food items in such huge quantities.

SERVING UP AN ACE

Thanks to this unbeatable combination, the Al Adil Group has been able to expand from just six supermarkets three years ago, to 32 supermarkets, and has grown from two companies to three other companies in Dubai, including a manufacturing unit. Today

Al Adil is selling more than 8000 food items and other products in Gulf countries, through their supermarkets, most of which are sourced from India. In spite of severe recession, the turnover in Dubai has gone up from 300 million dirhams to 450 million dirhams.

Back home, Vandana has also been instrumental in the rapid expansion in India, which has seen exports grow a massive 600% in three years. Besides, both Dhananjay Datar & Vandana have in this period set up 100 SMEs in Maharashtra, and helped them to meet stringent quality norms required in the Gulf countries, by their regulators, and for the first time they will be exporting the 'Peacock' brand of spices, instead of just the raw materials. They have also added on a large number of new suppliers.

Dhananjay has always offered an extended support to the Indian community through various CSR activities, making notable contributions towards his community and the Marathi language. All of Al Adil's super markets employ an 100% Indian workforce. He actively helps to provide an overseas platform for programs like 'Marathi Vishwa Sahitya Sammelan' and 'Gaurav Maharashtra'. This gave him huge recognition amongst the Indian diaspora settled in Gulf countries, contributing even further to the expansion of his business. The 52 year old Datar says sustainable and rapid growth is the mantra for the Al Adil Group.



EVELYN MUNGAI

CHAMPION OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Evelyn Mungai started the first school of design in East Africa in 1976, through which she transformed the design landscape in that part of the world. She is an entrepreneur par excellence, and many look upon her as a role model – not only in Kenya but also elsewhere in Africa

Before Evelyn Mungai opened the first school of design in Nairobi, there was no such industry as fashion design in East Africa, and so of course there were no fashion designers. She took it upon herself to train thousands of young people across the continent. Under her expert guidance, some went on to start their own businesses in this lucrative field, while others were employed in the related textile and graphic and interior design sectors.

GLOBAL APPEAL

Her graduates span the globe, grateful for the foundation they received at the college. Because of her hard work and dedication, the name Evelyn College of Design has come to be associated with quality. In 1981, she was invited to join the prestigious Africa Business Round-Table (ABR), the high-profile continent-wide private sector body of the African Development Bank. She was its first woman member.

She has also been closely associated with the establishment and promotion of the Corporate Council for Africa and the Global Coalition for Africa, two influential US-based bodies that bring the American and African private sectors closer together. She later served as a board member of the Africa Project Development Facility of IFC, the private sector development arm of

the World Bank.

VARIED INTERESTS

For many years, she published Presence Magazine, which provided a platform for strengthening and promoting women. She also published Kenya Women Reflections, a book about Kenyan women active in the struggle for independence.

She has several other business interests, including in property

“Evelyn Mungai is an entrepreneur par excellence, and many look upon her as a role model in Kenya and outside”

development, and at one time was Founder Chairman of Faida Biashara, a private-sector-driven micro-finance company that empowered small-scale business people.

She is also the member of the International Advisory Panel of the World Islamic Economic Forum representing Africa in this prestigious and influential global body that promotes business between Islamic countries and between them and the rest of the world.

She is a past Chairman of the Kenya chapter of Transparency International, and serves as a Trustee of the President's Award Scheme. She was a founder board member of the Nairobi Central Business District Association, and also of the Kenya chapter of Safety on the Roads International.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND AWARDS

As the first woman member of the Rotary Club of Nairobi, she launched initiatives in the fields of education, agriculture, health, infrastructure and income generation, and provided for a home for 50 AIDS orphans.

Above all Evelyn Mungai has been a leading champion of women economic empowerment, in Kenya and all around Africa. Her mission as the Founder President of the All African Businesswomen's Association (AABA), is to facilitate networking and personal development among senior women in the private sector.

Finally, she lives and promotes the best of traditional African values, in terms of respect for the family, awareness of cultural heritage, and integrity.

In 1993, she was awarded the Lincoln University President's Award for excellence in business and finance. President Kibaki honoured her with the national award of the Order of the Grand Warrior (OGW).

HEMANT BAHRI

CREATING PRECIOUS MOMENTS OF HAPPINESS

When Hemant Bahri started humbly more than a decade back towards building the world's best retirement community, he had but one office. Today, with six branch offices in India and good sales setup in Dubai & Canada, armoured with about 200 dedicated and trustworthy employees, he is being applauded equally in India and abroad



Hemant Bahri, MD of Bahri Estates Pvt. Ltd., has diversified from his initial venture real estate to hospitality and education.

However, his penchant for creating one of the best in the world sticks to him. As a logical consequence, he has created Anandam Retirement Community, the best in the world and the most awarded in India. Furthermore, in line with his innovative streak, to manage retirement communities and providing the residents with the best of services after construction, Bahri has formed a separate company – Bahri Realty Management Services Pvt. Ltd. – to serve the seniors in a professional way.

STRATEGIC GENIUS

Through his experienced eye, Bahri saw the execution of every detail in the building of the brand Anandam. Even the associations and tie-ups with the world's best brands were carefully chosen by him, and exclusive services were created for the residents under his guidance.

He employed high-skilled labour for a seamless construction process, and in-house manufactured material for construction to maintain high-quality standards and better rates for customers. Further, in-house ambulances, gensets for power backup, golf carts for easy movement on campus, black topping of the roads,

senior citizen site visits, treated water supply and underground electricity cabling are just some of the examples of his strategic genius.

LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATIVE TRAITS

He provides free access to all his employees regardless of their seniority or hierarchy in the organization. This not only creates a healthy working atmosphere and bonding in the Group,

“Hemant Bahri has created Anandam Retirement Community - best in the world and most awarded in India”

it also encourages free flow of ideas and creativity. His unique leadership style results in to-and-fro learning between him and his employees. Result: his employees stay with him.

Bahri's vision to create organized retirement housing in India serves dual purposes. He is contributing immensely towards the noble cause of elder-care, and he is also shielding the onslaught on nature in the name of urbanization. He gets his ideas by simply visualizing what could be the

best, transparent and in the interest of the people he wants to serve.

CREATING HISTORY

He has been the recipient of “Business Leader of the Year (Residential Real Estate Sector)” in Gloriole Awards for Excellence in Leadership 2015, “Most Promising Developer – Retirement Township of the Year” at Realty Leaders Summit & Awards 2015, “Entrepreneur of the Year (Retirement Housing Sector)” in Consumers Choice Awards 2015, etc. The number of awards received by him personally and by his brand Anandam speaks for themselves. Both are truly world-class!

BACK TO THE SOCIETY

Bahri believes in improving the quality of people's lives by involving personally and organizationally through various social responsibility activities. He has adopted the village G Kallupatti in Tamil Nadu, and has laid a water pipeline to the village. His organization of regular free health checkups with AVN Arogya is well known. His cordial relations with the police authorities have led to the construction of police check posts and barricades at several places in Kodaikanal foothills.

He believes in spreading happiness all around, and derives his own from others'!



NAUSHAD NOORALI MERALI

IN POSSESSION OF PRODIGIOUS BUSINESS EXCELLENCE

Counted among the leading industrialists of Kenya, Naushad Noorali Merali has spent more than 30 years of his life contributing towards the commercial development of Kenya. He is renowned as a go-getter in the Kenyan business sphere, and has powerful links and interests in the Kenyan government

Naushad Merali can be described as the largest single independent force in Kenya for the last three decades. He is the Founder and Chairman of Sameer Group – a Kenyan conglomerate dealing in agriculture, construction, information technology, property and finance. He is also a Director of Sasini Ltd. Formerly, he was the Chairman and the largest individual shareholder of Bharti Airtel in Kenya. However, he decided to sell his shares in 2014. He was also the Founder of Kencell – the Kenyan mobile service company.

ASTUTE ENTREPRENEUR

Merali started early and at the age of 25 as a fourth-generation Kenyan, he made his first move towards becoming a corporate titan and a billionaire when he started buying companies in loss – sold by departing foreigners – and later reviving them with his acute business sense. The first such company he bought was Ryce Motors, without any previous experience or vision of such buy-outs. The only tools he had was determination and persuasiveness, which he used to convince the Commercial Bank of Africa (then Bank of America) to lend him the money needed to buy out Ryce Motors. Today, it grosses Kenyan Shilling (Sh) 500 million annually, an outstanding figure compared to what it did when Merali

bought it – Sh 4 million annually.

A famous story that is a reflection of Merali's business acumen, grit, intelligence to identify profitable business opportunities, and convincing powers is about making a record profit of Sh 1.6 billion in less than two hours. The story goes that he convinced his wealthy friend and Founder of Celtel Group, Mo Ibrahim, to first give him a loan of Sh 18.4 billion (USD 230 million) to buy 60% shares of Kencell (then

“Merali started early and became a corporate titan and billionaire when he started buying companies in loss”

the second-largest mobile service provider of Kenya) from the French media giant, Vivendi, by using his pre-emption rights as the Co-founder of Kencell, and then sold these 60% shares to Celtel for Sh 20 billion (USD 250 million).

ROYAL CONNECTIONS

Merali's connections with the former President of Kenya – Daniel arap Moi – were more than conspicuous, and created an image for him that

he represented royalty. His royal connections were also one of the reasons he could build a vast business empire in Kenya – at one time he owned about a dozen companies.

When other businessmen bewailed their rejection of loan applications by Kenyan banks, Merali could raise any amount as was needed by his business establishment. He was also offered membership of several government committees on poverty eradication, export promotion, employment and even terms of service for civil servants.

Merali serves on several governmental and charitable bodies in East Africa. The President of Kenya has appointed Merali as Member, Kenya Export Promotion Council; Member, The National Poverty Eradication Commission of Kenya; and Member, The Presidential Committee on Employment. He also holds positions in the National Investment Council of Kenya, Kenya Export Promotion Council and the International Who's Who of Professionals.

BACK TO THE SOCIETY

Naushad Merali and his wife, Zarina, are very active towards contributing to the society through their charity organization – Zarina and Naushad Merali Foundation, which donates to hospitals and needy schools.



NAWAB SHAJI UL MULK

LEADING THE GAME

Nawab Shaji Ul Mulk hails from the Royal family of Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, India with a family history of 200 years. The Nawabs of Kurnool are inked in history as valiant heroes and one of the first Freedom Fighters who fought the British as an ally of Tipu Sultan



The World has produced many achievers and we often see top achievements in a single discipline or at best two disciplines of Academics, sports and Business. Mr.Mulk is one of those rare achievers who has excelled in all the three disciplines.

ACADEMICS:

Shaji Ul Mulk was a brilliant student and stood first in the Andhra State 10th Standard Board examination winning The Indian President's scholarship, which gave him free education for the rest of his student career in India. He continued his excellence by scoring 100% and gold medals in cost accounting and Statistics in his Finance Degree. It was no wonder that the world's top University the Ivy League Wharton Business School in USA granted him admission for his Masters in Business Administration.

SPORTS:

He excelled in sports becoming the Andhra State Badminton Champion as well as three times UAE and Gulf Champion. He captained SV University cricket team and represented Andhra State and UAE in cricket and currently holds the UAE National Record for bagging 27 wickets in 7 games in an A Division Tournament. His passion for cricket continues with him serving as the only Indian Member on the Emirates Cricket Board and having

developed a new Ajman cricket stadium. He provides jobs to cricketers and the company team ALUBOND TIGERS has this year dominated the Domestic season with 7 Titles.

BUSINESS:

Shaji Ul Mulk has demonstrated his unique entrepreneur skills by creating MULK HOLDINGS, one of the largest multinational groups of 20 companies with diversified business interests in manufacturing of Alubond u.s.a brand of metal composites, Fire Rated Exterior Facades, plastic industries, power generation, aluminium coil coatings, healthcare and solar energy.

“Shaji Ul Mulk has demonstrated his unique entrepreneur skills by creating MULK HOLDINGS”

The company with its headquarters based in Hamariya Freezone Sharjah, U.A.E is spread across Europe, U.S.A, Africa, Turkey, India and Middle East. Mulk Holdings' flagship brand Alubond U.S.A metal composites has grown into the world's largest metal composite brand with operations in 11 countries and market reach of 90 countries. The company is currently valued at over 2 billion USD and won numerous local

and international awards including the prestigious H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid's MRM Award as "The best foreign Manufacturer of UAE" The Sharjah Chamber of Commerce award for The largest manufacturer in Sharjah, The Ajman Chamber of Commerce - The highest exporter of Ajman and Power Brand of GCC by Her Excellency Reem al Hashmi, The UAE Minister of State, FORBES Middle East Award – The most powerful Indian in Arab World four times in a row.

He is currently ranked 11th by FORBES in the list of Top 100 Most Powerful Indians in the Arab World and Arabian Business lists him as the 7th Richest Indian in the top Ten Indian Billionaires of GCC

The company is family owned with wife Farha Mariyum Vice Chairperson and son Nawab Adnan Ul Mulk The Vice Chairman of the Group. Daughters Nida Mulk and Sania Mulk complete the beautiful family. Son Adnan has added significantly to the Mulk Holdings empire by expanding Metal Plastics and Fire Rated products manufacturing company with production bases in UAE & Oman.

CSR PROGRAM:

Mulk Holdings has a dedicated CSR team that sponsors many local and international charity programs. He also engages in by funding and operating free clinics, schools, mass orphan marriages and support various local and International sports programs.



RAJIV MALHOTRA

INNOVATING AVENUES INTO THE KITCHEN APPLIANCES SECTOR

Spearheading the kitchen appliances industry since 1984, Rajiv Malhotra, the Managing Director of Surya Flame, has displayed true leadership qualities and has taken special initiatives to bring all oil companies together in India, such as Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Indian Oil Corporation Limited in order to provide the best-quality kitchen appliances to the Indian households



Leading and making headway in a conventional sector such as Kitchen Appliances, where mostly people have accepted the norm that inventions are rare, is difficult. However, Mr. Malhotra takes it as a challenge, and not only makes special efforts towards innovations, but has also successfully organized the sector as well. While others find it challenging that the market is about 50+ years old, there is no monopoly and market has sort of spread out, Mr. Malhotra has turned these same challenges to his advantage.

Mr. Malhotra is the torchbearer of LPG Stove Manufacturers fraternity, as the President. He has co-branded with all oil companies to sell 'Suryaflame' products on their 19,000 outlets. 'Suryaflame' has the distinction of being one of the top five in India. Believing in the ethical manufacturing, marketing and selling of his products, he makes every possible effort to sell the best quality products in the most efficient ways and the most reasonable prices.

MAN OF ACTION

His efforts to bring all oil companies together were amply rewarded, though the task wasn't easy. However, that is not the only such achievement in his kitty. He also took the initiative to

convert market scenario from direct sales to institutional through the Oil Companies Gas Agencies.

He doesn't stop here. In addition to several innovations he has introduced in his sector in terms of high energy-efficient products, he is consistently working towards developing even better thermal-efficient LPG Stoves to save the Indian Taxpayers' money, and

“Rajiv Malhotra is contributing positively in the prevention of global warming through his innovations”

at the same time contributing positively in the prevention of global warming and creating a sustainable environment.

However, accomplishment doesn't come easy, how much it may look simple. Mr. Malhotra attributes his success to his hard work, ethics, sincerity, dedication and utmost faith in teamwork.

INSPIRING MOMENTS

Mr. Malhotra is an inspiration to one and all through his innovations.

Consecutive accolades and felicitations have been showered upon him over the period of time by various authorities in the field. Mr. Malhotra's innovation of High Thermal efficient LP Gas Stove has been rewarded by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources, Government of India. A recent feat in his series of accomplishments is conforming the first Company certified by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), thus attaining the BEE Award from Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA).

BACK TO THE SOCIETY

He is a strong believer in paying back to the society at large. By effectively implying the Corporate Social Responsibility measures, Mr. Malhotra has been able to contribute to the enrichment of the society. He has appropriately rewarded his team over and over again for their loyalty towards the organization, resulting in great assets for the Company.

Taking the social responsibility further, his keen indulgence in the School for visually impaired Girls has given a new lease of life to the Institution and its inhabitants. His CSR measures do not stop there, his relentless contribution to the marriage of the impoverished girls of the society is an exemplary gesture on his part.





IRFAN RAZACK

BUILDING PILLARS OF HAPPINESS

As they say, it takes decades to build a brand. Such is the case with Prestige Group; structuring on strong leadership pillars Irfan Razack has made Prestige a household name in Bengaluru

In 1990, when Irfan Razack sold his second real estate project in his home market of Bengaluru for Rs 1 crore, he began planning his retirement. Elated with the money he had made, Razack thought he could spend his days indulging in his favourite hobby—horse riding. But twenty-five years later, the now 62-year-old chairman and managing director of Prestige Group is still hooked on to real estate. “My friend had warned me that making buildings is like a drug. He said, ‘You will become addicted to it,’” says Razack, who heads Prestige Estates Projects Ltd, the group’s flagship company.

LEARNING FROM THE FAMILY

Irfan Razack, the eldest son of Razack Sattar, is at the helm of the Prestige Group. A born leader, Irfan is blessed with the acumen to see opportunities where none apparently exist, the courage to take the untrodden path and the determination to see his vision through to fruition. His leadership acumen received national recognition, when he was declared Professional of the Year at the Real Estate Excellence Awards 2008. He has been Honorary Secretary of the Al Ameen Educational Society for 17 years, the President of Bangalore Commercial Association (BCA), and the Chairman of the Real Estate Committee of CREDAI,

Karnataka for 4 years.

PROFOUND VISIONARY

While Irfan propels the falcon to soar higher, farther and wider, what sets him clearly apart is his ability to simultaneously bring his formidable abilities to bear on philanthropic and social causes. A man of many facets, Irfan’s leadership skills have been at the fore right from his youth. As a student leader at St. Joseph’s College, Bangalore

“A born leader, Irfan is blessed with the acumen to see opportunities where none apparently exist”

he was the driving force behind many a laurel won by it. In recognition of his achievements the St. Joseph’s Old Boys Association has honoured him with the Lifetime Achievement Award. In an exclusive interview with MyBangalore.com, Irfan Razack, Chairman and Managing Director of Prestige Group talks about Bangalore’s progression, the real estate industry and his company’s growth plans.

A self-professed “clear thinker” who prides himself on being meticulous, he

believes that life is about conquering the next big milestone. “Money loses its charm after a while. It is the creativity that keeps you going,” says the billionaire, who, with a net worth of \$1.23 billion, ranks at No 77 on the 2014 Forbes India Rich List.

BUILDING PRESTIGE

Under the esteemed headship of Irfan Razack, Prestige Estates Projects, India’s second-largest listed real estate company, is on the brink of greater things. Now more than ever, it needs its leader.

Razack states that retirement is just not an option for him. He has led the Prestige Group to be committed to a cleaner and greener Bangalore and all our projects have 25% or more land area set aside for landscaping. The group is actively involved with the Public Works Department (PWD) in the beautification of Bangalore.

Inspired by the unmatched success of The Forum mall, the Prestige Group has plans of redefining the concept of shopping in malls by taking the Forum brand forward to several cities in South India. Seven more Forum malls are in the pipeline across Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Mysore, Mangalore and Kochi. Also, the popularity of Forum Value Mall, the only outlet mall in South India, has encouraged the company to develop more malls along the same lines.

RAJU MENON

THE SPLENDID BUSINESSMAN

Raju Menon was born in 1962 in a middle class family at Kodungallur, Thrissur and brought up at Cheekilode, Atholy, Nanminda village in Kozhikode, Kerala. His compassionate nature can be traced to the values instilled right from his childhood by his mother, an Auxiliary Nurse Midwife and his teachers



Raju Menon was born in 1962 in a middle class family at Kodungallur, Thrissur and brought up at Cheekilode village in Kozhikode, Kerala.

Growing up in a sleepy village deep in the townships of Calicut, Kerala, Raju Menon embraced the early-rising, hardworking life of a diligent boy brought up by strict parents. His parents instilled excellence in their son, a quality that helped him form the positive habits that would later on be the foundation for his overriding success in school and in life.

He completed his schooling at Kolathoor Government High School, Calicut. After completing his Post Graduation in 1984, he became a Chartered Accountant. His appetite to learning did not stop after becoming a CA. He pursued his studies by acquiring a degree in law from Government Law College Calicut and later passed his Certified Public Accountants Exam from United States of America in 2001.

Raju Menon was trained with leading chartered accounting firms in India & then in the UAE, before starting his own professional practice in 1994.

ESTABLISHING MORISON MENON

Raju Menon built the Morison Menon Group in the year 1996 as a three member CA practice and today Morison Menon is a well respected audit and

consulting firm in UAE. He is currently the Chairman & Managing Partner of Morison Menon Group.

Morison Menon's affiliation with Morison International was established in 1999. Morison International is a world- wide group of professional business advisors founded in the UK in 1989. Morison International saw in Raju a credible partner who was well established in the Middle East, had clients across several verticals

“Raju Menon was trained with leading chartered accounting firms in India & then in the UAE”

and had institutionalized business practices that met global standards. The alliance was a win-win situation for both with Morison International getting a strong foothold in Middle East and Raju getting the backing and strong global support and innovative practices of Morison International.

WRITING A SUCCESS STORY

To a large extent the credit of Morison Menon's success and growth is due to the Chartered Accountants and other

professionals that the firm continues to hire from India to build the audit practice in the Middle East. The credibility that the firm has been able to achieve amongst the local business community is a credit to Raju's vision and business acumen and the team he has been able to put at Morison Menon.

Morison Menon firmly stands by its principle of integrity and personalized client service and never compromises to its core principles, even at the expense of losing clients. The firm has consciously avoided the maxim of 'growth at any cost' and has systems and internal controls in place to ensure that the firm does not trade its credibility at any point of time.

A significant milestone that Morison Menon was able to achieve was in bringing about a paradigm shift in the mindset of the UAE government entities and local companies, about the professional competence of Indian talent, long before India began to be recognized as a global Information Technology power house. Today the clientele of Morison Menon include important government entities of UAE, large corporations and SME's.

Considering the recessionary trends in the market and the "hire and fire" approach practiced by many organizations, one cannot fail to notice the long years of service that employees have put in at Morison Menon.



SUDHA GUPTA

WEAVING STRONG CAREERS

One of the largest preschool chains across Delhi and NCR, Mother's Pride was established in 1996, and redefined preschool education in India. At the helm is Sudha Gupta, an educationist, entrepreneur, parenting expert and philanthropist



rs. Sudha Gupta is an educationist par excellence whose extraordinary vision encompasses children, parents and society at large. She is Chairperson of Mother's Pride Preschool and Presidium Senior Secondary School.

Mother's Pride, the preschool she founded in 1996, redefined early education in the country with its scientific approach, specialized staff, R&D, and emphasis on child psychology. Today it is India's most loved preschool with close to 100 branches where more than 1,70,000 children have had a magical childhood.

Mrs. Sudha Gupta established Presidium Senior Secondary School in 2006 with the mission is to create the leaders of tomorrow. Today Presidium is the fastest growing school, and the world's most awarded school.

She also founded The Knowledge Tree to address the dearth of talent in the industry, and to train those who are interested in a career in education.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Mrs. Sudha Gupta is a sought-after expert on parenting, a subject very close to her heart. She is known for Positive

“Indeed, the worlds of both education & entrepreneurship are privileged to have Mrs. Sudha Gupta”

Parenting, an acclaimed seminar she has been conducting with great success. Her articles on parenting have appeared in leading newspapers of India, and her programmes on radio and television channels.

She is also actively involved in running Sparsh Special School that helps under-privileged children with special-needs lead a life of respect and dignity.

Over the years, Mrs. Sudha Gupta has won several prestigious awards

and accolades in India and abroad. The prominent among them include The Golden Peacock Award for Excellence in Corporate Governance; the Outstanding Woman Entrepreneur Award by FICCI; the Emerging India Award conferred to distinguished businesses for Corporate and Leadership Excellence; the No .1 Teachers Training Provider in India Award for Presidium, conferred by Grand Jury at World Education Summit; and many, many more.

LEADING WOMAN IN EDUCATION

In the Indian entrepreneurial world, there was no playbook for bringing women into the workforce until Mrs. Sudha Gupta started writing one.

“I firmly stand for the transformation of the society. I want my students to become good human beings who will also contribute to the society,” says Mrs. Gupta. Hailing from a family of educationists, Gupta was a trendsetter with an entrepreneurial streak. Says she, “My father was in the NCERT, we lived on the campus and education has always been in my blood.”



TAWHID ABDULLAH

POLISHING THE NICHE SECTOR

Mr. Tawhid Abdullah is one of the most well known personalities in the gold and jewellery fraternity in Dubai



He is a co-founder of the well known jewellery brand Damas and the Managing Director cum Chief Executive Officer of Damas Real Estate. He is renowned for his forward thinking nature and his vision so much so that the standards he sets have been adopted by the jewellery industry in UAE.

His professional approach has earned him several accolades from all quarters ranging from Suppliers, Customers, and Media, Banks and Government bodies. In 2004, he received Italy's highest civilian Commendatore award for promoting Italian jewellery trade. The Arabian Business Awards named him Businessman of the Year in 2006. In April 2007, His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, awarded Tawhid Abdullah 'the Best Entrepreneurial Mentor' special award for his support for the young UAE businessmen. In 2007 he was named one of the top 100 CEOs in the region. As a strong believer in serving and giving back to the community,

Mr. Tawhid Abdullah supports several notable charities and has been the major sponsor for many prestigious events.

“Tawhid Abdullah served as CEO of Damas from 1990 until 2009. He also served as managing director”

CREATING A SPARKLING WORLD

Tawhid Abdullah, Managing Director of Damas Jewellery LLC, whose 141 stores across the UAE account for about 12 per cent – 170 kg – of daily gold sales, says the spike is temporary and won't dislodge Dubai's status.

“Our customers come from around the world. We think gold trade will continue to grow by 10 per cent in the next five years. Whether Dubai stands at No. 1 or No. 2 in the gold trade, it won't matter. It's already a big player.”

After India, the UAE is now the

world's biggest bullion trading point, selling about 1.4 tonnes of gold a day (of which 700 kg are gold bullions), 50 per cent higher than in 2000, says Abdullah.

A DIVERSIFIED VENTURE

Tawhid Abdullah served as CEO of Damas from 1990 until 2009. He also served as managing director of the company for over 10 years and was responsible for finance and corporate functions as well as marketing and the gold wholesale business.

Abdullah, who was instrumental in expanding the company's retail network and enhancing the Damas brand for over a quarter of a century, is also a qualified gemologist. He has held various senior positions at jewellery companies, including Chairman of Dubai Gold & Jewellery Group.

His responsibilities include Steering Damas into the forefront of International Industry. He sets the Vision, Mission and the Standards for Damas. He is renowned for his forward thinking nature and his vision so much so that the standards he sets have been adopted by the industry in UAE.





ABHISHEK LODHA

BUILDING ON STEADY LAND

The mid 30-year-old managing director of the Lodha Group, had a stint with McKinsey before joining the group as old as his age prefers to walk the talk. In the past month, the company has bagged the country's biggest land deal for Rs 4,050 crore and announced its plan to build the world's tallest residential tower at 117 storeys



Lodha Group launched one project every month in the last nine months and is developing 38 other projects over 29 million square feet, mostly in Mumbai. And not only premium luxury projects like Lodha Bellissimo. The projects include seven mid-income housing projects under the Casa brand, every apartment costing Rs 15 lakh to Rs 50 lakh, in Mumbai suburbs such as Thane and Dombivli.

Today, the group, run by brothers Abhishek and Abhinandan, and their father Mangal Prabhat Lodha, a Bharatiya Janata Party member of the Legislative Assembly in Maharashtra, has taken on jobs even the DLFs and Unitechs of the world would think twice about.

MAN OF MULTIPLE ROLES

Lodha Group Senior Vice-President R Karthik says the company was growing in a certain way but Abhishek and Abhinandan, who got educated abroad, brought a different thought process and vision to the company. The it has, of course, also been shaped by over 45 MBAs from the Indian Institutes of Management. During the last IIM placements, Lodha was among the first-day employers and picked five graduates each from IIM Ahmedabad and IIM Bangalore.

Mr. Abhishek M. Lodha serves as the Managing Director of Lodha Developers Pvt. Ltd. (formerly Lodha Group) and Lodha Builders Private Limited. Mr. Lodha is responsible for the overall Planning for the Lodha Group with core emphasis on Project Management. He served as Managing Director of Shreeniwas Cotton Mills Limited since April 1, 2012. His experience includes tenure

“Mr. Lodha is responsible for the overall Planning for the Lodha Group with core emphasis on Management”

at McKinsey and Company, USA. He has over 11 years of experience in the field of corporate administration and management and construction. He has been associated with Lodha Developers Pvt. Ltd. for seven years and is involved in the overall planning for the Lodha group of companies. He serves as a Director of Shreeniwas Cotton Mills Limited. He serves as Director of Lodha Developers Pvt. Ltd. (formerly, Lodha Group) and Lodha Builders Private Limited.

DEVELOPING THE INDIAN SKYLINE

While the group launched its flagship project, the 48-storey Bellissimo in 2006, investors such as JP Morgan (Rs 274 crore) and Deutsche Bank (Rs 1,640 crore) invested in the projects.

For the world's tallest tower and the land deal, Lodha says the payment option is staggered — 10 per cent upfront and the rest in easy instalments over five years and that arranging money isn't an issue. He plans to build the Rs 2,000-crore World One (for which the largest land deal took place) project through customer advances, debt and private equity. The group is believed to be talking to a clutch of private equities for funds till the time the IPO is finalised.

Although he declined to disclose details, Lodha is believed to have initiated discussions with leading Singapore funds GIC and Temasek, and a property fund of mortgage giant HDFC to raise over Rs 1,000 crore.

“We have strong internal accruals and are not in a hurry to hit markets. I do not want my investors to lose money in these volatile markets,” Lodha says. The fact is the IPO is crucial for Lodha, as the company said earlier it would use around Rs 1,833 crore from the IPO proceeds towards construction financing and Rs 299 crore to repay and prepay debt of its subsidiaries.

BALKRISHAN GOENKA

DOING DIFFERENT IN EXTRAORDINARY WAYS

Believing strongly that destiny would always give you what you deserve, and that's life, Balkrishan Goenka ended up doing things he never imagined and created Welspun India Ltd. – the largest terry towel producer in the world and Welspun Corp. Ltd. – world's second-largest manufacturer of large diameter pipes



Known as BK or BKG, Balkrishan Goenka is the Chairman of Mumbai-based Welspun Group, which he set up with his cousin Rajesh R. Mandawewala (the current Managing Director of Welspun Group). Considering it a stroke of destiny, Goenka explored avenues and plunged into areas that were quite challenging. His dynamism, vision and leadership became his immense strength and today he stands proudly as the Chairman of a more than \$3 billion multinational conglomerate.

CHARTING NEW TERRITORY

Showing disinclination to his well-established family business of export of foodgrains, and yearning to do something different, he established his own textile business in 1985. Soon he diversified into the manufacturing of saw or submerged arc welded pipes used for transporting oil and gas in 1995, began manufacturing steel and power generation in 2004, and recently started retailing. His wife Dipali supports him in his business endeavours, and in the capacity of Managing Director of Welspun Global Brands Limited (WGBL) and Executive Director of Welspun India Limited (WIL), takes care of home textile stores targeting lower and upper ends of the market.

SECURING DOMESTIC MARKET

Goenka gets a kick out of the foothold his textile business has provided him in the domestic market. Taking full advantage of the government incentives in the early 1990s in the form of export-oriented units (EoUs), he scaled up his production and quickly found new markets for his products. Very soon his efforts were rewarded in the form of stupendous success

“He never backed out and rather put extra hours of work sacrificing personal pleasure to grow his business”

as he became the largest terry towel maker in Asia and one of the top four producers in the world.

... AND THEN INTERNATIONAL

He exports to more than 30 countries, supplies his products to some of the top retailers in the world, and has also made acquisitions such as the largest towel maker in the UK – Christy's – and bath-rug maker in Portugal – Sorema. He is also setting up a green field project in Mexico in collaboration with

Zucchi of Italy.

Though most (85 to 90%) of the Group's revenues come from international operations, Goenka never strategically shies from devoting attention to the domestic marketplace to take advantage of the growth in the local market.

BEING THE BEST

He doesn't believe in getting into anything and everything, and believes that one must be focused in doing what one is doing currently and be the best in it. He loves dreaming and has set challenging targets for himself – becoming a \$4 billion Group in two years.

His ride wasn't smooth and he had his share of hiccups, but never backed out and rather put extra hours of work and sacrificed personal pleasure to grow his business. He was determined to prove to himself rather than to others that he could be one of the best in the world, irrespective of good or bad times.

His astute leadership and exceptional flair for entrepreneurship combined with practical attitude is evident from another fact: with no domain knowledge or experience, he took a gamble for saw pipes and plunged headlong into a business that is highly capital-intensive and technologically driven. Today, he supplies saw pipes to key oil and gas companies in the world.



HARISH TAHILIANI

FLAVOURING THE WORLD

A small Indian spices and pulses trading company that was set up in Sharjah Industrial Area in 1986, has now grown to become one of the largest pulses sourcing and processing firms in the Gulf

Harish Tahiliani, a businessman from India's Gujarat state, is a second generation entrepreneur in the UAE, knows the pulse of the world pulses market and directly communicates with farmers as far away as Canada, Australia, Myanmar, China and some African countries and buys their entire crop for the season even before the seeds are sown.

PATRON OF SPICES

"Foreign farmers are assured of a reasonable price for their crop and we are assured of regularly supply of pulses to feed our plant in Ajman and serve the world market," said Kumar. "We have 14 lines of production, all under one roof. In 2015, we plan to increase our processing capacity by 50 per cent," said Harish Tahiliani.

"There are different seasons for production of pulses in different countries and farmers quote a price even before sowing the seeds, based on cost of fertilisers and other production costs. We reach a mutually agreed price. In case there is a natural calamity like rain or draught, there is uncertainty and prices may go up, but I always ensure at least 40 per cent supply to my plant in Ajman

through agreements reached earlier with farmers in other countries. The agreements are registered with GAFTA – Grain and Free Trade Association - an international trade association with over 1,400 members in 86 countries".

STORMING THE INDUSTRY

Harish Tahiliani learned the pulses business from his father Kumar Tahiliani, who started a small mill

"Harish Kumar learned the pulses business from his father Kumar Tahiliani"

in India's Gujarat state to feed a 17-member family living in a single room apartment, and went on to become the mayor of the town of Nadiad, and now owns Asian Food Industries, one of the biggest food processors in Gujarat. Kumar Tahiliani also started the Sharjah plant.

"The banning of export of pulses by the Indian government was one reason for our tremendous growth but there

are other reasons like the growth of expatriate population in the Gulf and the recession-free nature of the food industry," says Harish Tahiliani.

"Seventy per cent of food brands here process pulses from Arab India Spices and give them their brand name. Our customers range from major supermarkets and hypermarkets in the region including Carrefour and Lulu and food manufacturers and traders like GYMA, Shama, Nellara, Jaleel, Eastern etc. A lot of processed pulses are exported to USA and Canada," he said.

"In 1946, my grandfather had to flee from our homeland of Sindh in Pakistan and start life from scratch in India's Gujarat state. He started a small mill in Gujarat to maintain a 17 member family who lived in a one bedroom house. My father later joined the business and from 1980 to 1983, he studied the UAE market and found that everything was imported here," said Harish Tahiliani.

When my father visited Sharjah to meet his sister, who had got married to an Indian merchant here, all the spices and pulses consumed locally was coming from abroad, sometimes taking a few months to reach by ship. It was then that he thought of starting a pulses mill in Sharjah," he added.



SANJIB ACHARYA

REDEFINING HEALTHCARE

A man who single-handedly owned and drove the idea of creating a 30 Cr brand called Serum Analysis Centre



nation like India should move forward by taking everybody together, not only is it about the citizens but also about the different sectors of the society. The need for faster growth and inclusive growth do not mean a lot when the healthcare of its people is at a stake.

SCALING THE UNREGULATED

It doesn't happen often. Several experts advocate that the government should maintain proper health and hygiene for its citizens, instead of waiting for the change there is a man who built a healthcare brand called Serum Analysis Centre, a name that stands for restructuring the unorganized segment of laboratory testing in India.

The reason is obvious; it is the sluggish attitude of the people and the government. We all rely on the laboratories whenever some close one faces any kind of health hazards. But these laboratories are more likely to be running on profit model instead of helping the needful.

It is when people like Mr. Acharya came into the business of healthcare, people from around all corners of

the country have increased their expectations by a great deal and, therefore, everybody today expects the sector to genuinely do good for the medical ill people. Anything and everything in the healthcare segment runs on the basic philosophy of trust.

“Mr. Acharya is the name who perceived the idea of creating a multi work station brand”

Many people today take the medical profession as any other money making business, but they forget that it is a profession as delicate as a flower, as it involves life. Mr. Sanjib Acharya on the other hand understood the need of the profession and the society and thought if he could have a lab of his own and people from across the country could send the patient samples to him, it will do good to both him and the patients. This way he will be able to serve a huge number of patients.

PREEMINENT COMMANDER IN HEALTHCARE

Mr. Acharya is the name who perceived the idea of creating a multi work station brand, in today's world he is known name in the medical fraternity for his contribution to the sector. A traditional healer and spiritual leader who has served his nation by first of his kinds analysis centres.

Climbing the success ladder, Serum today has 4 work stations in the vicinity of West Bengal with a staff strength exceeding 1400. He has a built a brand that is valued for more than INR 30 Cr with a lucrative franchise business model as well.

He today represents the paradox that is at the heart of the Indian healthcare system. An entrepreneur which a flourishing business, he never forgets to pursue the dream of providing a convenient sterile environment to all the patients who walk in with hope of getting diagnosed with the right disease at the right time. An active doctor who helps people fighting against Thalassemia, he is the one who believes in healing with a personal touch. Thalassemia is a disease close to his heart and he is contributing his bit in eradicating the disease from the country.



SANJEEV JUNEJA

IN QUEST OF QUALITY

Mr. Sanjeev Juneja (born on August 20, 1976) is the proprietor of Divisa Herbal Care, an Ayurvedic OTC (Over the counter) / FMCG Firm product firm based in Chandigarh, India. In parallel, he is also running a partnership firm SBS Biotech Unit II, Ayurvedic division



He is the founder of brand Kesh King, a leading brand in hair oil segment in India. In May 2015, Mr. Sanjeev Juneja sold brand Kesh King to Emami Limited for 262 Millions US\$ and has been recorded as second highest paid brand after Paras-Reckitt Benckiser deal among FMCG companies in India.

Divisa Herbal Care and SBS Biotech Unit II manufacture various products such as Ayurvedic oil and capsules, herbal face cream and face wash and syrups. The presence of these products in the market are prominent as Dr. Ortho in pain segments, Sachi Saheli in woman's health segment, Roop Mantra in skin care segment and More Power in general health segment. Accumass in Weight Gain segment.

EARLY LIFE AND UNDERSTANDING AYURVEDA

Mr. Sanjeev Juneja is the son of Late Dr. I K Juneja. Late Dr. I K Juneja was a well known Ayurvedic practitioner. His mother, Mrs. Usha Juneja is a housewife and occasionally uses to study Ayurveda. During his childhood, Mr. Sanjeev Juneja has been taught by his father on Ayurveda. He learned lots of things in Ayurveda and took this subject as his career for future prospective. Some of his friends recalled the days of their friendships where they have observed Mr. Sanjeev

Juneja to do something of his own. His father used to share the dream of having own Ayurvedic based company. But Mr. Sanjeev Juneja lost his father on 1999. Though the time was very tough and shattering, but he kept his morale high and stepped ahead with affirmed mind to establish his own business and launched a firm, Sanjeev Pharmaceuticals in April 2001. The first two years of his business was full of struggle where he himself walked door

“Mr. Sanjeev Juneja launched two firms; Divisa Herbal Care at Kala Amb in 2008 and SBS Biotech Unit II”

to door, shop to shop and convinced retailers to penetrate in the market.

ESTABLISHING AS AN ENTREPRENEUR

Mr. Sanjeev Juneja was very well aware of that a well equipped and modernized company is required to develop high quality Ayurvedic products. Mr. Sanjeev Juneja launched two firms; Divisa Herbal Care at Kala Amb in 2008 and SBS Biotech Unit II. The present firms are diversified with various ranges

of products covering various health segments such as pain, skin and health segments. Divisa Herbal Care and SBS Biotech Unit II protruded in the market and encompassed all barriers and recognized in the market as a fastest FMCG producing company. In July 2009, firm launched Kesh king, one of the leading brand in hair oil segment.

SUCCESS OF KESH KING

The success of Kesh King in India led the company in higher standards and produced its own niche in the market. Juhi chawla, a famous bollywood celebrity, has been remained as the brand ambassador of Kesh King for years. The brand raised the sale with a turnover of Rs 48 Million US\$ in 2014-15 and contributed more than 60% of total growth as compounded annual growth rate. The brand Kesh King consisted of hair oil, Shampoo and Ayurvedic capsules. Analysts estimated that these three products contributed 80% of total sale whereas shampoo contributed 15% of the total sale. The products in the name of Kesh King were very effective nevertheless they nourish hair but also prevented hair fall, dandruff and premature graying. The brand Kesh king was sold to Emami Limited in May 2015 for 262 Millions US\$, which has been recorded as second highest paid brand after Paras-Reckitt Benckiser deal in the history of FMCG companies in India.





SUDHIR PETER

MAKING INNOVATION AND UNCONVENTIONAL THINKING A HABIT

Chasing a childhood dream and turning it into a lifetime achievement – If anyone is looking for an example of such a feat, you don't have to look far

Sudhir Peter's achievement as Managing Director of Sheenlac Paints Ltd is one such phenomenal journey. While at school, Sudhir's role model was one of India's greatest industrialists and icon Shri Dhirubai Ambani. When he moved to college, he realized that his heart's calling was to transform his father's Industrial Thinners & Wood Varnish business into a full-fledged Paint company. Sudhir pursued his graduation with a Bachelor's degree in chemistry and followed it up with a Doctorate in Alternative Medicine. Mrs. & Mr. John Peter (Sudhir's parents) have always been his inspiration and motivational force. His sister Mrs. Shirley George was supportive of all his endeavours. Sudhir Peter's wife has been his support during the ups & downs of life. He fondly refers to his children as his "stress busters".

INSPIRATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Sudhir Peter started his career in Sheenlac as 'Director – Sales' with a mission to make it the best paint company in India. He realized that this mission involved 3 Ps – Products, Process and People. Working on these 3 variables he went about setting developmental goals – both short term and long term. All through his tenure at Sheenlac, he has always attempted to change the rules of the category and emerge as an innovator. His father had already pioneered two such innovations. The company had launched

a non-alcoholic wood polishing the 70's which proved to be a winning move. The company broke convention in 1983 and marketed Thinners in PET bottles. When Sudhir took over the reins of the company he leveraged this maverick culture and brought in several Process & People related innovations. He added many new products & increased the distribution network to cover the entire country. He positioned Sheenlac as a value-for-money brand with the highest standards of quality.

Today, Sheenlac employs over 700 employees across various

“He believes innovative management practices will help in transforming the company”

manufacturing facilities and 27 branch offices. Sheenlac has been able to expand its market presence not just because of market potential but also because of its policy to empower people. Sudhir is a people's person. He strongly believes in training and the creation of an "ownership mindset" among his employees.

THE VISION TO BE THE BEST

Sudhir has remained unfazed during difficult times by just continuing to

focus on his goal. Under his inspirational leadership Sheenlac has emerged as a huge force to reckon with in the paint industry. Sheenlac is currently ranked among the top 5 paint companies in India. Over the past 50 years, Sheenlac has become synonymous with wood finishes, automotive and decorative paints in India. In his quest for growth, Sudhir was inspired to go for joint venture partnerships as it was very much in the direction of his overall vision for the organization. Sheenlac set foot in Sri Lanka with Sheenlac Paints Lanka Ltd. Today Exports are also made to the Middle East, Vietnam & Mauritius. This was followed by a joint venture partnership with Noroo Coatings, Korea – making it the largest paint company in South India. Sheenlac has recently entered into another significant joint venture partnership with Jenson & Nicholson (I) Ltd - India's second oldest paint company, for marketing decorative paints.

Mr. Sudhir's goal is to make Sheenlac the largest paint company in India. He believes innovative management practices will help in transforming the company. The credo of Sheenlac is "why fit in when you were born to stand out?"

Sudhir points to his perseverance and unflinching determination as the reasons behind his success. Apart from being at the helm of affairs at Sheenlac, Sudhir Peter is associated with the Boards of many companies. He is also a philanthropist who is involved in various social service activities.

VIKAS OBEROI

LAYING A STRONG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION

Using his expertise in the formulation of corporate strategy and management, and concentrating entirely on the growth and diversification plans of his company, Vikas Oberoi has established one of India's leading real estate development companies with a prime focus on residential projects



Under the guidance of Vikas Oberoi, the Chairman and Managing Director of Oberoi Realty Ltd., the company today has a diversified portfolio covering key segments of the real estate market such as office space, retail, hospitality and social infrastructure verticals.

He is an alumnus of the Harvard Business School (HBS) and serves on the HBS's India Advising Board. Believing that personal habits and values can prove quite helpful in one's business practices, he keeps himself healthy with regular workout sessions between meetings. He maintains a healthy work-life balance and believes in the mantra of utilizing time to the fullest and to the best advantage.

PLAYING WITH CHALLENGES

84th richest man in India, Vikas Oberoi is a self-made man. He is based in Mumbai and has no relation with Delhi-based hospitality clan that owns the Oberoi and Trident hotel chains. Painstakingly, he has built a strong and empowered management team and has cultivated leadership around him to create an empire of \$1.13 billion. He uses the social infrastructure model of building hotels, schools and malls around residential projects to maintain the luxury appeal.

With more than two decades of experience in the real estate industry,

his thought leadership and contribution to the sector has been aptly rewarded with several awards and accolades.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

He experienced a sudden surge in his business profits when he invested in the 80 acres of Mumbai's largely ignored suburb of Goregaon. Within five years, he was able to increase his revenue nine-fold. He feels that India is a growing economy and with

“Vikas Oberoi is a self-made man, and has painstakingly created a real estate empire of \$1.13 billion”

better performance of the economy, his company would also do better year-by-year.

Further, real estate is not a fashion followed by people, which would go out of style. It can be banked upon. People will always need houses, not only for living in them, but also because in Mumbai a large portion of people consider it a matter of immense pride to be owning a house. Consequently, his investment decisions are based on the fact that people follow their sentiments

while buying property, and accordingly he utilizes his financial prudence in operations and land acquisitions.

STABLE AND ROBUST PERFORMANCE

Even in the face of the challenging market environment domestically and internationally, which has been generally prevailing for quite a few years, he has managed to maintain a robust order-book. Not many companies have been able to achieve such success and this is being considered in the market as a clear reflection of confidence that his customers have in his product and delivery capabilities.

As any business depends strongly on its collection chain, he has additionally maintained strong collections through customer receipts along with stable rental income coming from his investment properties.

BACK TO THE SOCIETY

He firmly believes in overall societal development and is passionate about contributing to society. As the founder trustee of Oberoi Foundation, he has been focusing on the development of educational institutions and other social infrastructure. The Oberoi International School in Mumbai is one such initiative of the Foundation and the school aims to provide world-class education focusing on the holistic development of young learners.





GAURAV AGARWAL

REVERBERATION IMPRESARIO

Sharply tailored clothes, sleek shoes and stylish accessories create a compelling vision of the quintessential Man and it also describes the salient features of the vivacious personality of Gaurav Agarwal

A visionary with a will as strong as stones, Gaurav Agarwal is a case study in what all you can achieve in an industry where you have no background, no benchmarks, no experience but a will to carve your own niche. Forever in marble.

Gaurav entered an industry that had lost its luster and transformed it with a style that the humble stones of the floor and the façade have become the most sought after home essentials.

Even before the start-up bug had bitten India, entrepreneurs were getting born in the clouds of vision. In the year 2000, Mr. Gaurav Agarwal along with his brothers decided to risk his golden years in the pursuit of happiness through the world of stones. Thus was born the dream of Stonex India, a company destined to raise the standards in the Indian and imported marble industry.

FAMILY MATTERS

No two family dynamics are the same, but some are definitely more closely knitted than others. When Gaurav entered the business, he & also his two brothers had no prior knowledge of stones, neither a network of quarries and agents backing him. It was sheer

determination to enter an unexplored territory with a dream of becoming a top name in the same.

In the year 2004, the young entrepreneur got his first order of imported marble by a hospitality giant. Without a moment's hesitation, he took up the challenge and landed in Italy, with just a little telephone diary and a big hope to get the best for his clients.

That was the start of a new phase for Stonex India and Gaurav. A new

“No two family dynamics are the same, but some are definitely more closely knitted than others”

world of imported marble opened up which could help Gaurav realize his dream of providing consistent quality, commitment and after-sales service to his clients. Something that was unheard of in the imported marble industry. In his endeavor, Gaurav was supported by his brothers Saurav and Vikas Agarwal.

BUILDING HOME IN CLOUDS

Together the trio travelled to the distant quarries that offered unseen beauties for the Indian market. Italy, Iran, Greece, Turkey, Brazil, Gaurav made sure that Stonex had no dearth of variety with quality, after all, sourcing the best marbles for India is Gaurav's forte.

Today one can easily make out the difference between Stonex India and other players of the industry by the sheer number of stone types and the continued service post the sale for all clients.

Gaurav gives credit of his success to his family that stood by his decisions and became his source of unending energy, his initial clients who trusted his capabilities and shared his vision and his team that matched his zeal to offer nothing but the best.

Beyond business, Gaurav has his eyes set on creating world-class medical facilities for the underprivileged section of the society. Along with free medication, dispensary for the needy, he is also planning to open up a hospital for advanced treatment in a no profit model. He believes that when you grow, the society must grow with you from which you have emerged.



ABHISHEK GOYAT

BRINGING DYNAMISM TO REAL ESTATE

Riding on the exciting success and treasured experience of 50+ projects and thirty years, Abhishek Goyat, Managing Director of The Antriksh Group, has emerged in the Indian real estate sector as a young visionary and implementer. He has immense passion to make a global transformation of the real estate in India through smart cities



Abhishek is carrying forward the carefully built establishment of his father Mr. Rajbir Singh Goyat, and like his father, is winning the goodwill and trust of people rather than just earning money. Every day is a fresh beginning that brings its own excitement and learning for him, creating new opportunities for experiments with old and new ideas culminating into extraordinary designs, drawings, construction processes, and finance and marketing initiatives. He insists on learning from every dimension of the business process, and then uses it to the absolute betterment of every detail.

LEADING TRIUMPHANT TEAMS

Realizing that nothing can be achieved alone, he finds strength in his team and has painstakingly built an extraordinary force that believes in his dreams, ideals and values. Consequently, the collective efforts of the team and the guidance of Abhishek have made The Antriksh one of the leading real estate development groups in India.

Leading a winning team is not easy. He understands and endeavours towards doing the right things, doing things the right way and keeping right and competent people engaged and motivated, while never shying away from granting them autonomy and decision-making power with trust.

STRONG-WILLED PERSONALITY

Since childhood, he had a clear idea of what he wanted to do: carry forward the family business and become a great real estate leader. His forte lies in following best business practices clubbed with development of his business. His mental resilience and enthusiasm is hereditary. His father Mr. Rajbir Singh Goyat is his biggest inspiration in life, and a reason for his high performance in his personal and

“Abhishek has immense passion to make a global transformation of the real estate in India”

business life.

Armed with determination, a dynamic and fresh approach towards business, and a keen eye to spot opportunities, he has driven the company on an aggressive growth path. The competitive targets he creates for himself and his team are made easy to achieve because of his personal and corporate philosophy of going the extra mile and taking relentless action till the goals are realized.

EYES ON TOMORROW

Abhishek considers every down an opportunity for an up tomorrow, creating ladders from every setback personally and professionally. Keeping every project close to his heart, he puts his interminable energy into it and stops only after he achieves complete satisfaction – both for himself and his team, and the customers.

Keeping high standards for himself and thus creating benchmarks for others, he works hard today for future successes – his latest being entry into international markets and the re-commerce business where he has launched an easy buying option for the customers.

BACK TO THE SOCIETY

Being a high net worth individual, he understands his responsibility towards the society and participates variously towards triggering important changes and contributing economically for the transformation of the underprivileged, as he feels that every success and achievement must be complemented by an awareness of society's needs and a mission to transform it into a better place to live for all. His initiatives such as blood donation camps and cleanliness drives have not only made some remarkable differences, but have also inspired others to do the same.



AHMED MANSOOR BEKAL

PIONEERING ONLINE ETHNIC WEAR IN THE UAE

Ahmed Mansoor Bekal has made a name for himself in the UAE. He has opened UAE's first online ethnic mall for ladies. His concept is innovative. He uses social media to his utmost advantage as his entire company mammoosss.com is based on an online market place concept

He is the founder and CEO of mammoosss.com. Hailing from the Kasaragod District in Kerala State of South India, he studied at PA College of Engineering (PACE), Mangalore. Right after his engineering, he decided to go to Dubai to make his dreams come true, which he had been seeing during the days as well as at nights.

He started with just one online store in Dubai. Gradually, he expanded to other countries and soon started delivering all over the world through stores in the UAE, Qatar and Oman. When he came to Dubai looking for opportunities, he immediately realized that there is a huge demand of Indian ethnic wear in the UAE. Cashing in on the opportunity, he started contacting the suppliers in India and established online stores. Today, he has a presence in Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, India, Pakistan, Egypt, Lebanon and Turkey.

Realizing the need and popularity of designer clothes among all classes of customers, he got a group of designers working for one brand, i.e. mammoosss.com. He keeps the interest of his clients alive by introducing several contests on his websites. He encourages his customers to buy and then post their

photographs on his websites. The best are then selected and awarded in different categories. In addition to online platforms, he has also roped in broadcast media – radio and television – to make his brand immensely popular in the UAE.

He is famous in the UAE as “the style maker”. He has established an

“Ahmed Mansoor is planning to franchise his brand of quality wear & accessories in different countries”

exclusive client-oriented organization, which is dedicated to provide quality wear and accessories for ladies, girls and babies. His goal is to promote the famous Indian clothing and Indian designers before the entire world.

Another of his innovative initiative is “bullet delivery” for the provision of his commodities at a pace faster than any of his competitors. Client satisfaction is supreme for him and he takes every care to create the best impression on his clients. For that, he has employed

a fleet of two-wheelers and four-wheelers, with a facility to deliver 24 hours in a day anywhere in the world.

He also understands the significance of festivals because of the Indian cultural background. Consequently, he makes special offers on festivals with special collections on the occasions of Karva Chauth, Navratri, Eid and Diwali.

To maintain quality and originality of his products, he takes a direct interest and has a team of supervisors who check every product before delivery to ensure no mistake is committed. He is a very active entrepreneur, and keeps on travelling between different countries to make his establishment successful.

He has also introduced an order-on-phone facility for his products, where orders are just one call away. His collections boast of creations of best Indian designers. To suit his clients' requirements, he has also instituted the facility of customization of his products according to the specifications given by the clients. He is also conscious about the latest fashion trends and regularly introduces the trendy designs that make his customers drool for more. In a nutshell, he has single-handedly created a one-stop online shop for Indian clothing generally in the world and specifically in the Middle East.



ANKUSH NIJHAWAN

THE PERSPICACIOUS TYCOON

In a battle to prove his strong leadership skills, Ankush Nijhawan emerged as a new face in the field of web solutions with his innovative and pragmatic ideas. Now, he is one of the successful magnates in the travel industry

Innovation and the determination to achieve success are two qualities which can help an individual reach the highest spot in any field. However, it is also true that not everyone is blessed with these qualities. The Co-founder of TBO Group, Ankush Nijhawan is that person who ventured into the travel industry with these qualities and is now a well-known personality. A graduate from the Bryant University, USA, Ankush Nijhawan has come a long way on the path of success and growth due to his extraordinary strategic and innovative vision.

After completing his graduation, Ankush started working in ESPN. He was also thinking of pursuing an MBA degree. However, when he was 22 years old, he left this idea and convinced his father to let him enter the business field. He recounts that it was quite difficult to work with people who were older than him. They didn't take him seriously and believed that he was just a young upstart. Thus, with a motive of proving himself, he strived hard against all the odds, and in 2006 started India's first and largest B2B travel portal "Travel Boutique Online"

along with Gaurav Bhatnagar. At that time, it was a revolutionary act in the online travel industry.

Like his grandfather B L Nijhawan, Ankush also has the twinkle in his eyes with which he started the journey of a successful future. He thought of

“Ankush not only thinks about his own company but also works towards the country's development”

reaching out to travel agents based in smaller cities who had little idea of online process of ticketing and now due to his extraordinary management skills, the company has acquired thousands of travel agents as their customers across the world. He believes in a philosophy that customer satisfaction comes first. He accepts the dynamic nature of digital world and ensures that his costumers can enjoy all the new technologies that are being introduced in the market.

Because of his responsible nature, he personally involves himself on a day-to-day basis to ensure that TBO becomes a towering name in the sphere of tour and travel. Under his leadership, TBO has won various awards including the award for "Innovative Edge in Online B2B Market place".

Ankush Nijhawan not only thinks about his own company but also works towards the country's development. He recently met Delhi's Chief Minister Mr. Arvind Kejriwal to promote Delhi Tourism. Apart from being a successful businessman and a socially responsible person, Ankush is also a sports lover and is quite passionate about cricket. His TBO team attained a winning position at the Turkish Airlines Bowling Tournament. This new age tycoon also knows how to maintain his personal life and hence pays attention to his family as well.

Over the past couple of years, he has emerged as one of the successful youngsters of Indian travel industry. Ankush Nijhawan's clairvoyant attitude allowed him to realize the potential of B2B market. He has definitely proved himself and today, he is regarded as one of the pillars on which TBO is standing with a head held high.

BHARAT AGGARWAL

AN INSTINCT FOR EXCELLENCE

The year 1989 marked the beginning of a world-class product based company called "Sheetal". It was Bharat Aggarwal's vision to see India with a supply of abundant, safe and hygienic water, which was accomplished by products like Sheetal Water Tanks, pipes and pipe fittings

Perseverance is the one thing that's guaranteed to move anything over time, and Mr. Bharat Aggarwal is a testament to this thought. Mr. Aggarwal has positioned the brand to be a household name known for its superior quality Water Storage Tanks in North Indian states of Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan & Madhya Pradesh.

LAYING SOLID GROUNDS

The Group stands tall today with a current capacity of 10,000 tonnes of Plastics and at the same time it is eyeing to expand its horizon across the Northern and Eastern part of the Indian Sub continent in the near future.

The empire that Mr. Aggarwal has built over the past two decades spans in everything from garden pipes, plastic pallets, stainless steel pipes & fittings, chemical tanks to land fill sites.

MAKING THE RIGHT MOVE

It happened almost 25 years from now when Mr. Aggarwal decided to built a multi-product company and spread it in every nook and corner of India. It was that time when Sheetal Group of Companies was conceived and nurtured to be the best in class today.

"Mr. Aggarwal decided to built a multi-product company & spread it in every nook and corner of India"

Under his esteemed guidance, Sheetal Group of companies possesses the largest range of water storage tanks, both in terms of design as well as the size. They have it all starting

"Mr. Aggarwal has built a multi-product company & spread it in every nook and corner of India"

from 100-liters to 10,000-liter plastic tanks to large landfill sites.

Sheetal is a name known in the industry as a market leader that utilizes the best technologies/machineries to give its client best in the Industry. Mr. Aggarwal personally takes account of all the quality checks from using the best raw materials to a good end product. Sheetal also holds the pride of having the best quality testing labs throughout the industry.

Mr. Aggarwal realized that water will

be one of the acute problems faced by the country in recent times, considering the same he forecasted the relevance of Waste management products 10 years back. His vision gave birth to the humongous range of Dustbins that caters to homes, industries and Municipal Corporations. Sheetal Group manufactures dustbins from 10-liter capacity to Dumper trucks to Landfill sites that covers several acres of land.

His vision got special boost from the current Government of India when it launched Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan. Today, Sheetal manufactured waste management products are found in 28 States across the country, making Sheetal one of the largest Brands in this field.

Mr. Aggarwal leads a team of over 200 faithful employees who look up to him as a fatherly figure and a source of inspiration. The Sheetal Group manufactures products ranging from Water storage tanks, Chemical tanks, Waste Management products, Road Safety & Traffic control products.

Passion is the key to success, innovation is the way to life & perseverance leads the road to next level in business and Mr. Bharat is a testament to this principle.



SACHIN VATS

LATERAL THINKER

More than 14 years ago, when education business in India was in its infancy, Mr. Sachin Vats came up with an institution which would change our belief in school culture

Sachin Vats is amongst the handful educationist who has made big in the field of education. Mr. Vats strongly believes in the words of Pablo Casals- 'The CHILD must know that he is a MIRACLE, that since the beginning of the world there hasn't been, and until the end of the world will not be, another child like him.'

A gold medalist in B.Tech, Masters in Education and Administration, Mr. Vats is not only a learned man but also a theatre artist back from his days at school. With a magnetic drive and a rippling resolution to give back to the society, empowered young learners who 'influence the home and transform the society', the Founder Director of, what the world knows as the brand Gurukul - The School, Mr. Sachin Vats, plunged into the most challenging field of education at a remarkably young age of 25.

With a humble startup of 50 little children and a dedicated staff of 15 people, Sachin has taken his school to the career high point of more than 2500 students and a team of 450 members within a decade of its inception and is the pronounced possessor of an overwhelmingly reciprocated new branch with a world class- setup.

INSTINCT FOR EXCELLENCE

Standing tall amongst the contemporaries, Gurukul -The School,

under the encouraging captaincy of Mr. Vats, is place among the top 5 schools of Ghaziabad N.C.R. by Times of India & Hindustan Times Educational C-Fore survey.

Mr. Sachin Vats has bagged many laurels both for his contribution to the sector as well as Gurukul- The School. Some of them being the Best School Award in the Infrastructure Category, British Council International School Award, Outstanding School

“Mr. Sachin Vats has bagged many laurels both for his contribution to the sector as well as Gurukul”

Award by Tony Blair Faith Foundation, Peace through Service Presidential citation by Rotary International along with Saraswati Gyan Samman by ACE Foundation, Mr. Vats has carved a niche for himself, with a long trail of accomplishments in a short span of time.

Pioneering with the path-breaking concept of a 'School With a Mom's Heart', his core value is driving his team with a vision, and keeping the organization 'Traditionally Sharp

and Progressively Focused'. For, he believes that the stress and anxiety that has seeped into the children's hearts due to the want of emotional cushioning at home can be dodged only by creating a homogeneous environment at school - the second home and the first society for children.

THE ALL ROUNDER

Proliferating social responsibilities, Mr. Vats is a part of Rotary Club of Ghaziabad since years and is currently heading the District Chair of Interact Clubs. He is Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International. He is the president of District Kuraash association and also the Vice President of District Hockey Association and thereby promotes optimum exposure to the sports activities, facilitating the promotion of these sports and opportunities for the budding sportsperson.

In 2012, he was awarded Avenue of Service Citation and Rotarian of the year award. He is also the Vice President of Manovikas Charitable Society which is a civil society organization that's goal is to successfully help those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He has been a speaker and a panellist in many International and National Conferences & Seminars. He has also presented a paper on Transformation of Education sector in India- New Soft Power Element, at University of Warsaw, Poland.



VIVEK PATNI

ADDING THE YOUNG STREAK

Young Indians have the potential to reshape every industry, but in order for them to lead the next industrial revolution they must embrace their own creativity



Following the same, Mr. Vivek Patni inherits the glorious business legacy from his renowned family members belonging to the house of Patnis. He is the eldest son of Mr. Vimal Patni and his ambitions for the company are no less illustrious than his father's. After completing his schooling in Udaipur, he travelled to the UK for higher studies. Upon returning to India, he earned a further degree in commerce in preparation for his upcoming plunge in the highly competitive cement industry.

CREATING WONDERS IN THE CEMENT INDUSTRY

Now in his early 20s, Vivek evinces keen interest in all the corporate affairs of the company and plays a pivotal part in all the key policy making decisions. A keen observer with an analytical mind, he spearheads the branding, communications and marketing, which he has identified as a thrust area for the company.

He is an avid sports enthusiast with a special inclination for cricket and always stands at the forefront in Wonder Cement's sports building initiatives. His

passion and dedication will prove as guiding forces in achieving his aspiration to make Wonder Cement into a leading global brand.

Wonder Cement is a cutting-edge cement manufacturing company with

“Vivek evinces keen interest in all corporate affairs & plays a pivotal part in key policy making decisions”

an ambition to establish itself as a leading player in the industry. Enriched with the heritage of R.K. Marble, a leading name in the marble industry, the corporate culture of the brand is built on the values of quality, trust and transparency. An emphasis on technological superiority enables us to differentiate our offering through impeccable quality and effective communication. With an extensive network of dealers, we endeavor to earn a place in the premium segment

of the market.

WINNING LAURELS

This year, Hon'ble Governor of Rajasthan Shri Kalyan Singh Ji and Smt. Suman Sharma, Chairperson of the Rajasthan State Commission for Women presented “Shan-e-Rajasthan” for his outstanding contribution in taking the company to great heights at the event.

Under Mr. Patni's leadership, Wonder Cement has become one of the fastest growing cement brand in Rajasthan and neighbouring states like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Haryana.

His vision has enabled the company to achieve tremendous success within a span of four years.

Speaking on this award, Vivek Patni – Director, Wonder Cement said, “It is an honour to win this coveted recognition. Wonder Cement is the youngest company in the sector that has adopted and implemented best technology, with a continued focus on consistent growth.”

Wonder Cement is committed to contributing to the state's social and developmental growth and such accolades reinforces our commitments.”





DR. CHENRAJ ROYCHAND

EDUCATION CAPITALIST

Dr. Chenraj Roychand exemplifies the principles of truth, peace and love. His presence instils awe and admiration among his students. His versatile personality has been a source of inspiration for millions who want to learn from his takes in the professionalism of his working life, the affection for his family and friends and the idealism of principle and intuition

Dr. Chenraj Roychand's extensive inter-personal, communication and management skills are a product of his years of business experience. Having entered the business world at the tender age of 13, he started off as a dealer for Reliance Industries. He then went on to distinguish himself as the No. 1 dealer of the Reliance banner from 1978 - 1990 with a wide network of more than 8000 customers throughout South India. He also had the opportunity of working with Dhirubhai Ambani of Reliance Industries.

LAYING STRONG GROUNDS

Dr. Chenraj Roychand laid the foundation of an illustrious institution in the form of Sri Bhagawan Mahaveer Jain College at V.V. Puram in 1990 and since then has never looked back. His single-handed perseverance has culminated institutions of unparalleled stature in terms of infrastructure and personnel. Besides initiating courses in Science, Commerce, Sports and Business Management the institutes provide holistic education by supplementing university curriculum with regular sessions on Personality Development, Time Management, Stress Management, Memory Techniques, Transactional Analysis, Goal Setting, Communication and Presentation Skills among others; many of which are conducted by himself. Today, JGI Group stands with 85 institutions, 45000 students,

around 4500 people toiling to work for his vision.

His oratory skills, charismatic presence & magnetic persona have made him a much sought after counsellor and adviser. Dr. Chenraj Roychand continues to be the guiding light for innumerable individuals looking for assistance, in everything from education & careers to business.

BUILDING A WORLD-CLASS INSTITUTION

Dr. Chenraj is a person whose life centers on the attainment of a purpose.

“He has also organised a number of programs for the rural populace of Kanakapura Taluk, Bangalore”

And with the kind of responsibility he has taken upon himself, every accomplishment, no matter how great, continually points towards even greater realizations. So, apparently, for him, every moment of silent contemplation is one of tacit restlessness.

Jain Vidyaniketan - An opportunity School located in Kanakapura is another initiative undertaken by Dr. Chenraj Roychand. Established in 2000, the school provides education from UKG to the 10th Standard and is

affiliated to Karnataka State Education Board (KSEB). Each of the grades has English and Kannada as a medium of instruction. The classes have been kept at only 35 students to ensure a personalized attention. Regular medical checkups and treatment is provided to the students at the health center of its sister institution, Jain International Residential School. In sports, the children are exposed to elitist sports disciplines that remain a dream for their city bred counterparts. Jain Academy for Sporting Excellence, a JGI Institution has put at these children's disposal an array of national and international class coaches and training facilities.

He has also organised a number of programs for the rural populace of Kanakapura Taluk, Bangalore District (Rural), besides the Cataract Free Kanakapura Project - Eye camps held every week. Eye testing and cataract operations are performed free of cost.

Blood donation camps, health checkups, medical facilities and preventive care awareness in addition to the free distribution of clothes to a large number of school children, every year, have been some of his attempts for a better world, the world of his visions and dreams.

Dr. Chenraj Roychand has served as a member of the State Level Apex Body for Quality Assurance & NAAC Accreditation, Collegiate Education, and Government of Karnataka and as Vice President, Federation of Jain Educational Institutes (FJEI).



FASAL RAHMAN

CREATING LASTING RELATIONSHIPS IN THE INDUSTRY

A decade earlier, Fasal Rahman sat with two of his friends and the trio decided to open an electromechanical company in the UAE. They did start it, and their determination, hard work and quality of products paid off. Consequently, in a span of about 10 years, they have been busy with some of the most prestigious projects in the UAE



he three are Partners in their venture and are professional engineers. Fasal Rahman is the Operations Director of the UGroup of Companies, Rashied Ali is the Commercial Director, and Jahir Ali is the Associate Director. UGroup offers Electromechanical Contracting, Facilities Management and Retail Outlets. The Group includes Unicorn Electromechanical LLC (in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Umm Al Quwain), Safehands Facilities Management Services, etc.

The trio started Unicorn with just 5 employees and a goal to create a customer-centric company dedicated to serve the electromechanical sector of Dubai. They never like to sit idle. Utilizing their accurate vision and determination, they are currently providing MEP Engineering services as well as Firefighting and Security Solutions to both public and private sectors. Today, the trio has created a highly skilled team of more than 200, with offices in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Umm Al Quwain.

They have utilized their management skills well, and have successfully completed multiple projects in the world's tallest tower – Burj Khalifa – as approved contractors by various government authorities including DEWA, ADDC, ADCD, etc.

Under the leadership and guidance of the trio, Unicorn has some prestigious

projects in its kitty, which include Headquarters of Tecom, Abu Dhabi Housing Authority, Federal Authority of Nuclear Research, Ministry of Energy, Abu Dhabi Municipality, Sheikh Hamdan Awards Committee Office, and the world's largest Debenhams in Yas Mall.

Unicorn's success is entirely a team effort. Every employee, in addition to the three Partners, has played a crucial role in the success of the company. The trio feels that a healthy work

“Fasal Rahman has created a reputation in the markets of UAE for delivering the highest level of services”

environment helps people perform their best.

Rahman is quite specific about his business choices and has led the organization with a kind yet determined leadership. His efforts have proved fruitful and he has created a reputation in the markets of the UAE for delivering the highest level of services continuously. Committed to excellence, he believes that on-time delivery of the highest quality projects for the best value is only part of the

equation. Because he has created a customer-centric company, he has also created lasting relationships with his clients. He further believes that his actions are guided by his belief in high principles and values. He highly appreciates such relationships and makes it a point to invest his talents and resources towards their success.

His aim now is to emerge as the market leader in Electromechanical Building Services Installations and Contracting Works in the Construction industry of the UAE, by consistently providing high-quality operational systems and services that meet clients' absolute satisfaction and desired requirements.

He has made it his mission to be an MEP Engineering as well as a Firefighting and Security solutions service provider committed to providing maximum customer satisfaction. He is confident of achieving his goals because of his unique capabilities in providing innovative quality solutions, which will very soon make them the highest-quality service provider at fair prices and on time in all the markets.

All Partners believe in internal and external partnering, and utilize these to provide maximum value to their customers. They are determined to become their customers' preferred partner in MEP and Firefighting and Security solutions.



GAURAV BHATNAGAR

THE TECHNOPHILE ENTREPRENEUR

A perfect entrepreneur in this new digital world, Gaurav Bhatnagar is that individual who believes in a progressive technological future. This brilliant techie has a kind nature which has earned him respect among people

A pragmatic personality, kind heart, a tech guru and one name Gaurav Bhatnagar... this computer science graduate from elite Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, managed to create a breakthrough in the tour and travel industry by establishing the famous B2B online travel portal "Travel Boutique Online". This IIT alumnus possesses a prolific experience in the travel industry and web solutions with which he leads the company towards a progressive future.

Prior to becoming an entrepreneur, Gaurav Bhatnagar used to work with Microsoft at their headquarters in Redmond but his toils took him to a position where he is now— the co-founder of an established enterprise that has been placed among the top 100 IT innovators by NASSCOM.

His vision behind starting this company was the scope and power of travel industry in a developing economy. With the amount of investments involved, travel industry is the powerhouse of any nation. There are a lot of people involved in the process, which makes it an exciting experience. Bhatnagar feels that involvement of several people is a challenge as it

entails bringing everyone on the same wave-length of technology. However, he happily accepts the challenges and keeps on brainstorming to find new and innovative ways to make his business easily accessible to all – be it costumers, travel agents, hotels or third-party vendors.

“Bhatnagar also believes that there is no auto-pilot mode when it comes to running businesses”

Bhatnagar also believes that there is no auto-pilot mode when it comes to running businesses. For him companies are like plants that grow as long as one lovingly nurtures them. That is the reason he is actively involved in all the dealings of his business and company. Further, he makes sure that the business is profitable not just for his company but also to the large number of third parties involved with him. His conviction is the driving force in his life.

Gaurav Bhatnagar is a person who is

known for his excellence in technology and kind nature with which he not only endeavors to bring success to his own company but is also interested in giving advice to various companies to help them in scaling a better future through technology. In addition, he likes to spend quality time with his family. He is a doting father to two cute sons and handles the responsibility of a father with the same conviction with which he handles his business. Being a travel enthusiast, he always finds time to go out on a vacation with his family despite his busy schedule. He perfectly manages both his roles – a strong businessman and a responsible family man.

Gaurav Bhatnagar is a strong personality who doesn't shy away from speaking his mind out and is ever-confident in his conduct. He surely is an inspiration to this new generation of young entrepreneurs who are striving hard to make a name for them in this competitive world.

Pat Williams once said "Great leaders have a great heart for people". This quote certainly suits Bhatnagar as he takes every possible step to help people and also invests in new startups with creative and strong ideas to attain something big.



HARDIK VARMORA

TILING UP THE WALL OF FAME

Even if you have never actively been a part of the tiles and ceramic industry, chances are you have heard of the name, Hardik Varmora, a name synonymous to excellence in the sector

In the beautiful city of Ahmedabad, every one follows their passion to achieve their goals. Here is one of them who has followed them and proved to be a follower of the young generation which you can say he has demonstrated nothing is impossible. He has all set in his mind to cross the all possible milestones in his coming endeavour.

SUCCESS RUNS IN THE FAMILY

With a degree in management, he represents the young energy that flows amongst the Sunheart Group. Hardik, is a perfect example of a vivacious entrepreneur who is not only gifted and accomplished, but also unassuming and humble. The creative blood has embodied the spirit of true entrepreneurship: a titan who is always above the petty politics of the business.

He took the company's production capacity to be 16 Mn. SQM in a year, which is also considered to be one of the tile and ceramic industry's most bankable names. It has become a brand of the tile industry in less than a decade's time with eight own manufacturing units. Hardik's reputation has been built on the utmost hard work and diligence he has put in to recreate and under his hard work & diligence Sunheart brand will touch 500 cr turnover in this year & the group turnover will reach 800

cr. which will be another landmark in the shortest period of time in the tiles industry. This also lifts the company as an emerging brand of the organized tile industry. Expand a family business to unconditional success.

SEEKING GROWTH PROSPECTS

Hardik is very rightly called as a skilled genius, a marketing wizard and a raging hedonist- these are only a handful of terms that can define the charming persona of one of the most ebullient breed of Sunheart tiles. His charisma

“He is one of those brand heads who will always want his company to progress along with his own team”

has always overwhelmed people with chivalry yet his commercial success has not blunted his daring aesthetic. This compels him to get immense success in the export business to almost 47 different countries and comprises of almost 40% of the total business. He has taken the initiative and launched 1MT x 2MT GVT tiles in International fair conducted in Spain which is highly appreciated by

international viewers.

Teambuilding Employee engagement, empowerment, delegation of work, make them understand to take the ownership of the activities are the other key factors that Hardik relies upon to make the company employee friendly & bring innovative thoughts in their mind as they are the first level customers of the organization.

He is one of those brand heads who will always want his company to progress along with his own team. He personally indulges in the day to day affairs standard operating processes of the organization at Sunheart tiles as he wants his team to work in tandem to ensure higher productivity and performance.

A strong believer in a common goal for both the organisation and the employees so that great amount of efforts and energy put in to flourish a world-class brand does not go down the drain.

Across generations and professions, an administrator will always think about breaking the industry barriers and to build a brand which ensures quality at the best prices, so that good range of products are available for majority of people. Hardik did not let go of the basic fundamentals on which his family started the business. He wants to be a part of the fraternity but without compromising on the core values of the organization.

PRIYANK SUKHIJA

ELEGANCE IN EVERY MOVE

Both food and ambience have the feel to rejuvenate time and spirits, and transport us to an all new world, a toast to the man who gave us a combination of both in a perfect proportion



way and beyond the madding hustle of India's city of dreams, Delhi-nestled in the quaint serene spaces like Fork You, Boom Box, Raas- is an untouched, unspoiled haven for those who yearn for a couple of hours in the lap of opulent hospitality.

George Bernard Shaw once said, "There is no sincerer love than the love of food." Experiencing the romance of gastronomy, Priyank Sukhija, the country's most successful restaurateur takes you on a journey of global flavours curated by the best-in-class restaurants in and around the posh vicinity of the National Capital Region.

At the young age of 34, Priyank has achieved more than what most of you can only plan while hallucinating. Hospitality is driven by the prospect of experiencing something beyond our ordinary lives. Soon after completing his bachelors from Delhi University back in 1999, Priyank felt the need of a good restaurant, which gave birth to Lazeez Affaire and today even after 15 years of its inception the Malcha Marg eatery is considered to be one of the most preferred restaurants of the Capital.

LEARNING THE ART OF DIVERGENCE

When the skies come pouring down, it's time to escape to an idyllic retreat

away from the monotonous daily routine. This young entrepreneur gives us the Party enthusiasts and food connoisseurs a reason to be out till wee hours, experience exotic global food, innovative drinks and high-octane nightlife like never before.

The never ending journey kick started with Priyank giving Delhi its first dynamic nightclub-bar called the RPM and the success story continues with

"At the young age of 34, Priyank has achieved more than what most of you can only plan while hallucinating"

numerous names like Lights Camera Action, Warehouse Café, Hybrid, Fork You, Boom Box Café, Out of the Box, Boulevard, the Flying Saucer, Raas, The Project, Tamasha And Teddy Boy, added to the list.

Priyank can rightly be called as one of the founder members to built Hauz Khas village to be an entertainment zone every night, to its gills and judging by the tiaras and people high on life. It is safe to assume that there one or the other celebration going on in

the vicinity.

True to his millennial status, Priyank has always been an easy-going kid who refuses to take life very seriously. His happiness comes from seeing happy faces of his guests leaving his restaurants. He personally gets involved in commercially bringing up his restaurants as he strongly believes that you can only relax and unwind in a place that brings peace and vibrancy to your mind.

DINNING OUT WITH CLASS

Walk into any of his cafes in Delhi and you will witness new demographic and unprecedented young high-roller eating both because they enjoy the food and the space.

In a recent statement he stated that of course there's a certain section that doesn't mind paying more but 80 per cent of the crowd that frequents his establishments wants a VFM experience. With the exception of Lazeez Affaire, he deliberately keeps the presentation not too stylised because he wants to maintain that casual vibe. He also feels that in the current scenario, fine-dining spaces are losing customers and space to casual cafe's. Clients demand value for their money, and he is focusing on delivering that by creating a casual vibe at his restaurants and including comfort food on the menu.



PUVIKUMAR

MAVERICK OF POULTRY BUSINESS

A hands-on person who believes that 'God lies in details', Puvikumar is the Managing Director of Kavi Protein and Feed Pvt. Ltd. He knows every point in the entire business process from rearing breeder chicken to appointment of franchisees, and is thus the most reliable decision maker in the business of fresh meat in the country



Bachelor of Engineering who decided to become an entrepreneur, Puvikumar has established 5 companies under the Kavi Group out of which the recently started four businesses have become profitable from the very first year of operation. Starting the business in 1997 as poultry vaccine distributor, and standing at \$60 million annual turnover today, Puvikumar has achieved stupendous success in a record time.

DECISIONING AND INNOVATING

Puvikumar has created an intensely refined decision-making system in his organization. He has built a core team of decision making, comprising business heads, business advisors and himself. All major decisions are taken by the core team. However, he is always available with his expertise to resolve difficult situations whenever they arise.

He is not the one to hesitate when he sees opportunity, as is evident from his decisions regarding introducing innovative business practices in his organization. He believes that his success is largely dependent on people's innovative contributions to products and processes. One such example is when he allowed the relatives of senior employees of his organization to run fully built stores for his products,

which resulted in creation of a strong employee-employer bond and brought additional business to the company.

He considers every businessman as his inspiration, and scrutinizes with the help of his core team every business opportunity that comes across. In case it is found to be falling in the ambit of his business interest, he pursues it and experiments with it till something fruitful is derived.

“Puvikumar has created an intensely refined and expert decision-making system in his organization”

USHERING OPPORTUNITIES

Puvikumar has been pioneering new territories and new processes since beginning through planning and expanding into newer areas such as state-of-the-art research and analytical laboratory, spice marketing, etc. He is further planning to improve sales in his restaurants by adding more synergetic products.

His long-term vision matches his leadership style of continuous

innovation and investment, as he plans to become the second-best in the country in terms of sales in the fried chicken restaurant business, and number one in fresh meat business in the markets he operates in. By achieving such targets, he also succeeds in his long-term goal of bringing prosperity to all the people associated with him.

BACK TO THE SOCIETY

Believing that it is important for everyone, especially the high net worth individuals, to be responsible to the society we live in, he takes special care to provide all the necessary comforts to his employees who in their turn are fully devoted to him and his organization. To the extent possible, he employs people from remote locations who are deprived of even basic livelihood, and then provides them a place to stay and trains them on the job. Thus, his strategy is two-pronged: It not only helps these people get out of drastic situations, but also results in lower attrition.

In addition, his organization is exploring efficient and green waste management practices to handle organic waste from their processing plant. He has already established a pilot biogas plant, a first-of-its kind, which is running successfully on the premises of their processing plant.



DR. RAMESH BETTAIAH

POPULARISING GYNAECOLOGICAL LAPAROSCOPY IN INDIA AND ABROAD

A renowned doctor in the field of laparoscopic surgery, who has done more than 35,000 major laparoscopic operations, Dr. Ramesh Bettaiah is an inspiration for thousands of practicing gynaecologists, doctors and postgraduate students

Currently working as a laparoscopic surgeon at Altius Hospital for laparoscopy, Dr. Bettaiah has established three hospitals in Bangalore, India. In this capacity, he has not only done major laparoscopy surgeries for the benefit of people in all sectors – government, semi-private, private, rural and urban – but has also been involved with teaching and training for the last 20 years.

He took the decision to become a doctor after watching several women suffering from gynaecological problems, without access to facilities for good and modern treatment. He chose to become a gynaecologist and a laparoscopic surgeon and has treated thousands of patients, acquiring great skill and knowledge in his profession. He was the first in India to start an 18 months' fellowship in laparoscopy.

His uniqueness is that he is specialized in gynaecologic laparoscopy, limited to the field of gynaecology. His success has motivated young doctors to learn laparoscopy. He has not only established three world-class laparoscopy centres in Bangalore, he has also played a key role in establishing several other laparoscopy centres across India and in neighbouring countries.

He has written two test books on laparoscopy, which are widely read. The writing was possible because of his

20 years' experience and perseverance in the field of laparoscopy.

His thirst for achievement has not yet reached an optimum level, and after establishing three centres of excellence for laparoscopy, he wants to establish many more so that he is able to reach thousands of patients, providing them good healthcare at affordable cost at a place near them. He also wants to train doctors from rural areas in laparoscopy and

“Dr. Bettaiah’s thirst for achievement has not yet reached an optimum level; he wants more”

gynaecology so they can in turn provide quality healthcare to poor sections of the society.

He also wants to establish charity hospitals in villages in addition to the charity clinics he is already running. He also wants to support schools in villages. Further, he wants to establish corporate hospitals with multi-speciality facilities at affordable cost in suburban areas, and to extend his training programmes to help young doctors become good laparoscopic gynaecologists.

Realizing the significance of corporate social responsibility in the healthcare sector, he works in three areas: he provides quality gynaecological laparoscopy to women with gynaecological problems in rural and semi-urban areas; he helps young gynaecologists train and practise all over the country; and he supports – as much as possible – primary education in villages.

In addition, he has treated poor patients free of cost, and has performed high-tech laparoscopic surgeries in private hospitals at minimal cost to the needy. He also runs a charitable clinic distributing free drugs at a village in South India. He has constructed school buildings for a government high school in a village. He has provided furniture and utensils to a mid-day school programme. He has given scholarships to 10th standard toppers in rural schools. He has provided drinking water to cattle in villages. He has been conducting several free health camps for the last 20 years. He has been regularly conducting an international workshop and conference on Gynaecology and Laparoscopy called RAGE, once a year for the last 15 years, for importing high-quality knowledge to young gynaecologists. He has donated to various NGOs for charity work towards health and education.



SUREKHA SHETTY

OPENING DOORS FOR MYRIAD DESTINIES

A specialist in education management, Surekha Shetty has extensive expertise on a variety of topics. She believes that a teacher may have to work hard for the sake of her students, but it is worth the effort – as helping students create a destiny for themselves gives her immense satisfaction



Commerce graduate and an MBA, Surekha Shetty is currently the Director – Admissions at IFIM Institutions. Prior to that, she was in a similar capacity for about 16 years in Alliance University, Bangalore.

MOVING WITH THE CHANGING TIMES

She has been a guiding light to her students in various ways and engages them in creating an awareness of their inner motivation, independence and self-confidence, which then helps them reach their full potential and – more importantly – helps them become competitive from within.

As Director – Admissions, her role is crucial as she has to move with the changing times and utilize flexible and adaptive measures in accordance with the growing needs of the society. Understanding that the existing models of mainstream education in India often lack the compatibility with the rapidly changing world, and unless she makes the extra efforts towards meeting the needs of her students, she wouldn't be able to do justice with their future, she is always ready to walk the extra mile. Towards this cause, she constantly endeavours to be up-to-date in the areas and disciplines of study, which may directly help her students. She tries to make a balance between the contemporary and conventional learnings, taking the best of both, to

render her students with the capability to think different and excel in multiple facets of studies, career and life.

BUILDING LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS

Travelling extensively across the nation and abroad, she believes in learning from everything she encounters. Her travels are mainly in connection with her professional activities, and it provides her ample opportunities to come to term with her inner self,

“Surekha Shetty is a leading light to her students, instilling inner motivation and self-confidence in them”

which she utilizes in building long-term relationships mutually fruitful for the growth of herself and her students. She takes keen interest in counseling, mentoring and grooming students across all platforms, and creating a framework of mutual learning with students and their parents.

With hard work she has created a sphere of expertise around her, which helps her build and work with high-performing multi-country Educational and Corporate Communication Teams.

Her areas of expertise include Public Affairs & Media Relations, Counselling Students and Parents, Crisis Management, Analyst and Vendor Relations, Government Relations, Corporate Identity and Brand Management, Institutional Ranking, Corporate Collaterals Programs and Promotions, Launch of New Brands, Institutes & Positioning, Strategic Internal Communication Strategies, Change and Transformation Communication, Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability.

BRIDGING GAPS

Believing that the current educational system has created a huge gap between the expectations of the society and the quality of education that is being imparted, she has been working in a leading role in her institute to create skills and confidence in her students, thus grooming them to become independent human beings and socially responsible & continuously employable professionals who can face any challenge at national or international levels.

Though she has a mild and kind demeanour, she is an inspiration to her students who find her passion to help others lead a purpose-driven life contagious. Moreover, needless to say, her expertise on subjects leads to ignited minds who respect her as a modern contemporary Guru.





DR. VINEET HINGANKAR

HUMANITY FIRST

Dr. Vineet Hingankar is providing modern medical facilities locally, under one roof. He is a pioneer in multi-speciality services in the Vidarbha area in a distance of about 150 km in radius, after Nagpur, in Maharashtra. A great feat to be achieved by any standard

Rural healthcare initiatives are growing by leaps and bounds in India. This is the time to create a new India with unlimited opportunities. At such a time, Dr. Vineet Hingankar is making an extraordinary contribution towards rural healthcare in the Vidarbha area of Maharashtra. The pace he is growing at, he is ready to make a national and very soon global mark – with a glocal (global + local) touch – with further expansion and growth of healthcare services in India.

Dr. Vineet Hingankar is the Chairman of VNRR Health Services Pvt. Ltd., Akola. He is the man behind the establishment and the vision of creating the Ozone Multi Speciality Hospital. He is an MBBS, DA from Mumbai University.

His entrepreneurship qualities are appreciable and he has utilized them well. Consequently, he is into multiple businesses: Pharma wholesale as well as several Pharma retail shops. He has also established an MRI machine in Washim district (a backward district, adjacent to Akola), very first of its kind, and his efforts have been well received by all.

MAN OF DISCIPLINE AND VALUES

He is truly dedicated towards his work. He believes in discipline and punctuality, as in his job both of these

are immensely important. He would get up at 5 AM in the morning, and would perform operations the entire day. This has been his daily routine for years. He has given countless hours to practice. His achievements are a true symbol of the stupendous efforts he has put in.

He not only believes in high values and standards, but also expects others to follow them with positivity. He is able to contribute so much, because

“Dr. Vineet Hingankar is making an extraordinary contribution towards rural healthcare”

of the mental satisfaction he derives from his work. He has attracted NGOs now, and together they have created an environment where maximum number of people are treated and taken care of.

He has great leadership capabilities. He is known for his out-of-the-box thinking, leading from the front, his phenomenal vision, compassion with employees and his team, belief in inclusive growth (growing with everyone), and last but not the least belief in human values.

EXTRAORDINARY YET HUMBLE

He has a humble disposition. He cares for his employees and patients. He provides free care (one has to pay only for the medicines) for all his employees and their relatives – not only close or first-blood relatives but all relatives.

His ideals are very high. He believes that nothing succeeds like success. Sky is the limit! He is ever-ready to take risks for success. In his own words, “My vision and anticipations guide me”.

PROMISING FUTURE

He sees himself and his organization doing great things 10 years from now. He visualizes satellite centres at all nearby talukas, under three districts. Primary care would be done at these satellite centres, and at the headquarters special care and cases would be attended.

He was the organizing secretary for MISACON (Maharashtra Chapter of Indian Society of Anesthesiologist). He has been active in organizing walkathons in Akola for the last seven years. He has so far performed more than 500 cataract operations at a concessional rate of Rs. 1,200. He organizes camps regularly for the needy and poor. His hospital has a glocal approach and appeal. He wants to continue doing these things and more.

YOGESH LAKHANI

FIRST CHOICE OF SUPERSTARS

Hard work, commitment and sincerity are three principles on which Yogesh Lakhani lives his life. He is ruling the out-of-home advertising industry of Mumbai today, yet his simplicity is what makes him a favorite among his clients



A simple man with a pleasing personality and a vision to hold the monopoly in outdoor advertising industry of Mumbai, Yogesh Lakhani is the perfect example of a self-made person. After losing his father at the age of 16, he made his way to the top on his own, fighting all the odds. He now heads one of the biggest Out of Home (OOH) media organizations in India – Bright Outdoor Media.

HUMBLE BEGINNING

Yogesh Lakhani was born in Mumbai to a lower middle-class Saurashtrian family. He was a class 10 student when his father breathed his last. He believes that it was his father's illness that made him the person he is now. There was no one who supported his family then, which made him decide that he will make it on his own, and he will make it big. He worked in many small-time jobs before starting Bright Outdoor Media in 1980 from his home.

His first office that he had set up in a garage was demolished only after a few months of commencement. But that

did not bar his spirits, and he continued to work from home with the same zest, and later advanced his business with tablespace acquired from his friend. He has worked tirelessly for 35 years since

“ He believes that the loss he faces today will be covered tomorrow, and if not tomorrow then in his next life”

then. Yogesh Lakhani had started the hoarding business in 1987 by investing Rs. 1,000 in a hoarding at Malad railway station. Today, his company proudly hosts about 700 exclusive hoardings in Mumbai, and has operations outside the city as well. Bright Outdoor Media has an array of 600 clients from varied industries including telecom, retail, entertainment, etc.

BOLLYWOOD'S FAVOURITE

He is a favorite of Bollywood industry.

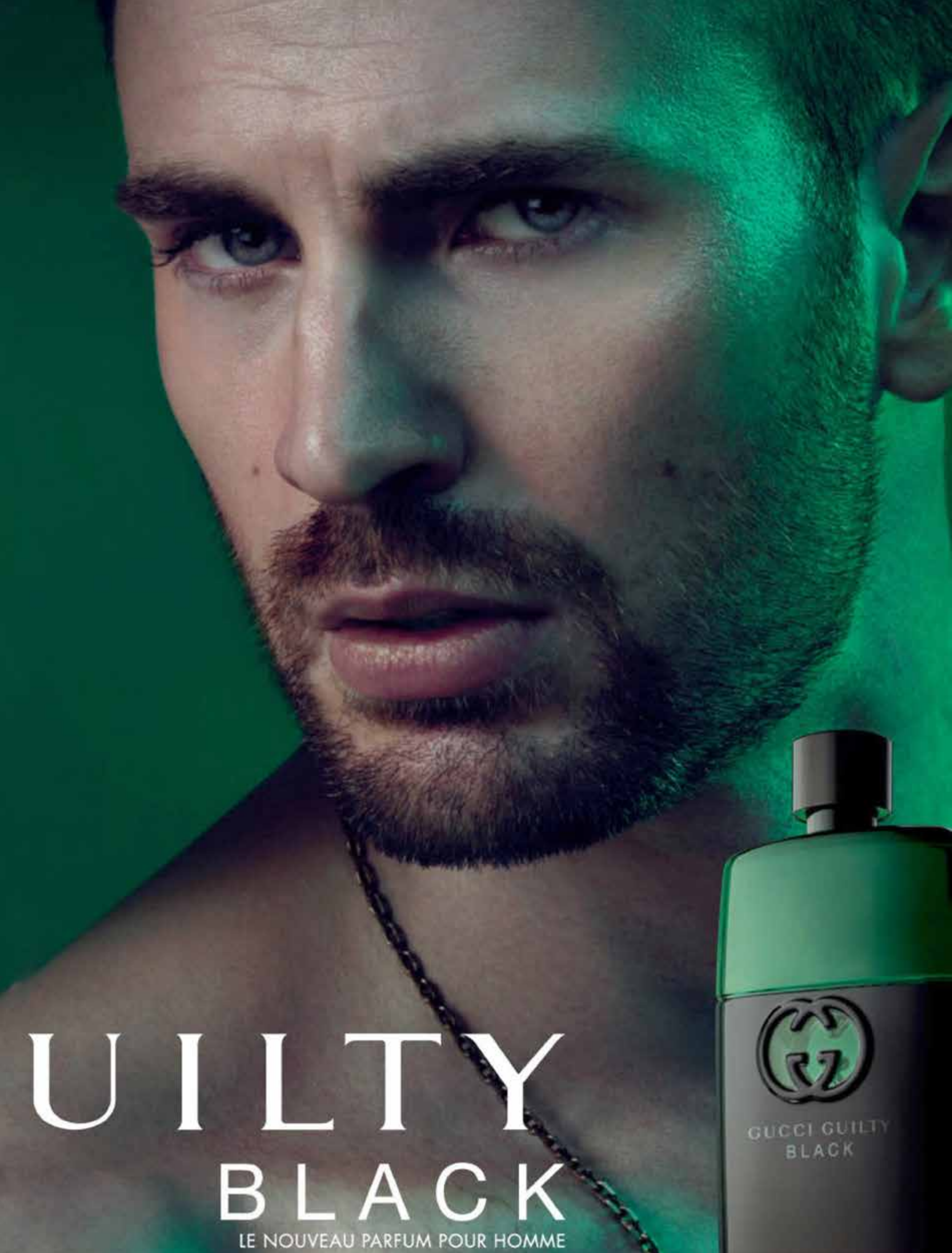
He initiated advertising for Bollywood movies in 1992 with Venus Films being his first client for the movie 'Pyar Kiya To Darna Kya', and today 90% of the Bollywood movies seek his support for advertisement and promotions. He is also working with prestigious award functions like Filmfare, IIFA, and Femina for the last two decades. Mr. Lakhani is the first choice of all superstars in outdoor publicity due to his easy availability and supportive nature. He maintains close and cordial relationships with industry insiders. He is very relaxed with his clients and makes sure to cut expenses if a movie fails to earn enough money. He believes that the loss he faces today will be covered tomorrow, and if not tomorrow then in his next life.

He reckons in keeping a clear vision to ensure success. He believes that success is not instant but a slow and sure process. He also believes that to achieve success one has to sacrifice certain things for he too had to sacrifice his family life to achieve this stature. He has worked as a one-man army to achieve his dreams.



Regardez la nouvelle annonce publicitaire dirigée par Frank Miller sur www.youtube.com/gucciiparfums

GUCCI G



GUILTY BLACK

LE NOUVEAU PARFUM POUR HOMME







THE TRAVEL CONNOISSEUR

Creating the enchanting majesty of eras past, these are the thoughts that spring to mind when it comes to the cultural capital of India; Bihar has an amazing hold on those who visit. It draws people time and again, year after year

BY EKTA MAKAN



B EAUTIFUL LISSFUL IHAR



Sometimes all it takes is the written word to lift your soul from the humdrum of everyday life. These are the wordsmiths that can take you by the hand and induce the most austere sense of wanderlust, taking you to the edge of the world - and back, evoking the same spell of travelling with the land of sophisticated and creative civilization- BIHAR.

In recent times, many of us have witnessed Bihar being metamorphosing into an escape where guests lay into lazy rhythm of the nature. If anyone would have heard about Bihar some decades back for the first time, what they would have learnt must be about the state giving some of the most diligent IAS officers to the country.

CONNECTING WITH THE HEART OF BIHAR

Patna Sahib

Tranquility is easily found in the French Quarter, but nowhere is it as compelling as in the meditative silence around the serene vicinity of Patna Sahib.

Patna city has the unique distinction of being honored by the holy presence of the Buddha, Guru Nanak and Guru Tegh Bahadur. Besides, it is also the birthplace of Sri Guru Gobind Singh.

Gurudwara Patna Sahib is one of the most important Takht. As a place that enjoyed the presence of three Sikh Gurus, Gurudwara Patna Sahib is worth visiting. This shrine is one of the most important centers for the Sikhs in eastern India. The various relics preserved here also make it very important.

The place will be bejeweled in all its glory on January 10th when hundreds of people will gather there to celebrate the 350th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

Nalanda University

Located in the town of Rajgir Nalanda is a postgraduate, research intensive, international university supported by the participating countries of the East Asia Summit. The University came into being on November 25, 2010 by a special Act of the Indian Parliament and has been designated as an "institution of national importance".

Nalanda is inspired by the academic excellence and global vision of its historic predecessor and aspires to meet and set global standards of academic excellence and research and enable capacity building in all areas of higher learning. The University is being supported by all the Member States of the East Asia Summit and Intergovernmental Memorandums of Understanding to that effect have been signed by 17 countries.

Bihar is currently focusing on nurturing four diverse genres, namely:

Budhist

The legendary spiritual enlightenment site of the Buddha under the holy Bodhi tree has become the magnetic point for human congregation ever since. The magnificent Mahabodhi temple that had been declared as a World Heritage Site by the UNESCO is a great source of peace.

Hindu

This place is considered holy among the Hindus, the Buddhists and the Jains. It is surrounded by small rocky hills (Mangla-Gauri, Shringa-Sthan, Ram-Shila and Brahmayoni) by three sides and the river

flowing on the fourth (eastern) side.

Jain

The Cradle of luminous Jain Spiritual souls lies in Bihar. Bihar is the sacred destination as the birthplace of the 12th Tirthankar "Vasupujya" and 24th Tirthankar Mahavira. Their non-violent ascetic path became very popular and become one of the prominent religions of India.

Sufi

Jehanabad is mentioned in the 'Ain-i-Akbari', written by Mughal emperor Akbar's court historian and poet Abul Fazl. Jahanara Aurangzeb's sister supervised the Mandi herself and spent a lot of time at this place. Later, the area became known as Jehanabad.

BLURRED LINES OF ART

Few could have predicted the rise of Bihar as an art destination. The city always had political diversities, demographical parameters, finance community- but as a destination for art and culture? Yet, today, art lovers around the world speak of Bihar in the same way they speak of Berlin and Sao Paulo.

Art fairs emphasizing local talent may evoke images of tents filled with bad seascape paintings. But Bihar's stone pottery and madhubani paintings eviscerates any piece of art from the nook and corners of the world.

Art and Bihar go hand in hand, the rich and prosperous history of Bihar has also promoted the music, dance, paintings



“With a view to develop a healthy socio-economic scenario the Bihar Government promotes the festival spree as one of the most critical tools. It creates financial opportunities and rendering harmony in this multi communal society”

and crafts throughout generations. The various folk cultures form a unique style of performance and genre which originates or have been imbibed within the regional pattern. The spiritual music of the Bhajaniayas and Kirtaniyas are quite popular during religious events of the Hindus. The classical music was also nurtured in the region with the regular exchange of artists and performers from neighboring areas of Lucknow, Benaras and Delhi.

FESTIVITIES BEGIN HERE

The beauty of the place unfolds with the larger than life picture painted with the onset of its festivals. The traditional festivals not only mark revelers but also keep alive the deeper meanings of bonding with nature which are indeed thought provoking.

With a view to develop a healthy socio-economic scenario; the Bihar Government promotes the festival spree as one of the most critical tools. It creates financial opportunities as well as rendering harmony in this multi communal society.

The major religious festivals of Bihar most of the time revolve around Nature as the deity to be worshipped. In the Chatt Puja the ‘Setting Sun’ is worshipped by all the devotees. Although Sun had been worshipped as a god by most of the civilizations the worship of the Setting Sun by the Biharis gives it a special unique feature. Celebrated twice a year in Chaitra and Kartik months of the Hindu calendar, the rituals to be performed near any water bodies make the rivers, lakes and the ponds of Bihar a colourful panorama. The Deo Sun temple is most revered amongst numerous Sun temples around rivers and tanks believed to be sacred and visited by scores of devotees. Through the passage of time, people from other religious beliefs also have started to participate in the festival giving it a true secular flavor.

A SILENT MELODY

If one wants to find real inner calm, the peaceful Buddhist region of Bihar in eastern India will definitely rebalance

him/her better than any spa retreat. Lee Marshall checks into some homestays. Any elaboration of the state Bihar is incomplete without the mentioning one of its best attractions called Bodh Gaya.

It is a city in Gaya district in the Indian state of Bihar. It is famous for being the place of Buddha’s attainment of Enlightenment.

Siddhartha Gautama, the Buddha-to-be, had been dwelling on the banks of the Nairanjana River with five ascetic followers for six years practicing austerities. Realising that austerities could not lead to realisation he abandoned them. His five ascetic companions disgusted at his seeming failure, deserted him and left for Sarnath.

He then moved towards the village of Senani where he was offered rice milk by a Brahmin girl, Sujata. Accepting from a grass-cutter a gift of kusa grass for a mat, the Bodhisattva took a seat under a pipal tree facing east. Here he resolved not to rise again until enlightenment was attained.

For Buddhists, Bodh Gaya is the most important of the main four pilgrimage sites related to the life of Gautama Buddha, the other three being Kushinagar, Lumbini, and Sarnath. In 2002, Mahabodhi Temple, located in Bodh Gaya, became a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

THE POSH SPICE

Sometimes on late afternoons, when the sunshine is mellow and warm, one ambles through the narrow, snoozing lanes where trees meet overhead where commercial establishments hum beside crumbling Bihar houses, held fast by sturdy old pillars and verandas built for weary passers-by in a more trusting age.

And then it happens. That familiar twinge of the surreal as one acknowledges that it is possible to leave behind one world and step into a starkly different one by the mere act of crossing a canal.

While the broad, sun-dappled boulevards greet the people sitting on the roof top of a serene restaurant and relishing the most authentic Khajuria ever, on the other side lined with mustard, apricot and tangerine walls with bursts of bougainvillea cascading over them; there is often a bicyclist pedaling by.

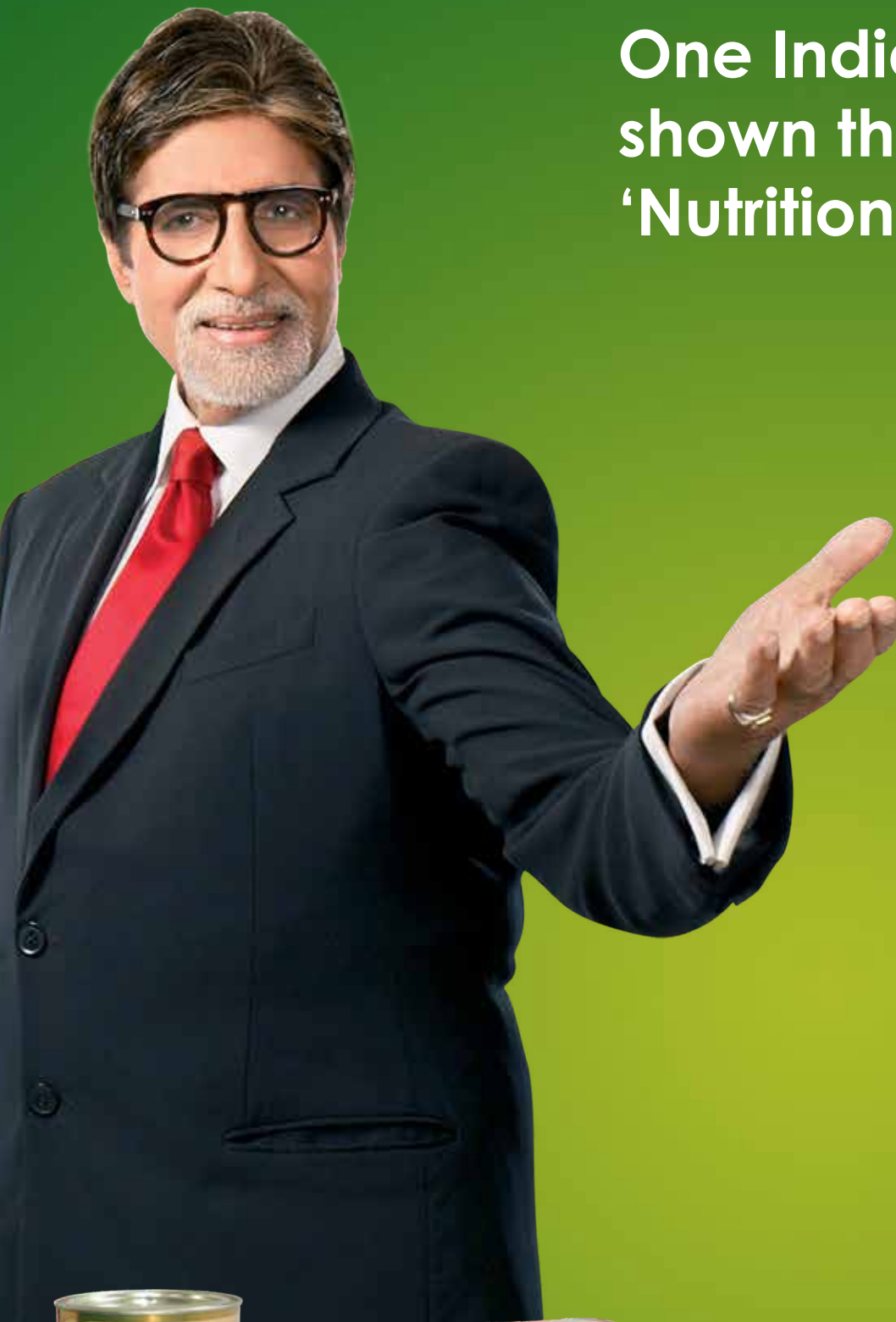
Catching glimpse of the clear blue sky and having steaming hot Litti Chokha is one feeling that is hard to be replaced by anything in the world. Beyond the stretches of the holy Ganga water, cordoned off by craggy rocks, which the river sometimes whispers to and sometimes whips, its waves crashing all over them. ■

GET SKILLED, GO!



With a vision of a “Skilled India”, the first-ever World Youth Skills Day on 15th July 2015 witnessed the launch of Skill India Campaign by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi formally launched on this day the ‘National Skill Development Mission’, unveiled the new ‘National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015’, and started a pan-India scheme namely ‘Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)’

BY ANAM KUMAR



One Indian brand that has shown the world, what is 'Nutrition Science' all about.



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NUTRICHARGE
WORLD CLASS HEALTH SUPPLEMENTS

Our large population which was once considered a burden on the economy has proved to be a blessing in disguise. As our latest economic policy, if this same large population is provided opportunities to be skilled, it would turn into the world's largest skilled human resource. India's average age is less than 30 years, so the country will not be grappling with an old population in the next two decades as compared to China, which will have more dependents for each employable person in the near future, if it continues with its "one-child norm".

The initiative of Skilling India seeks the rightful participation of the youth of India in its growth by skilling and re-skilling it. Skilling India is needed, because skill shortage is considered as the real cause of unemployment. Thus, skilling the youth with Speed, Scale, and Standards across India is the motto of the Skilling India campaign. Logically, Skill India logo depicts a clenched hand in which a spanner and pencil are firmly held, exemplifying the empowerment of individuals through skilling.

Skilling India offers an online platform for the skill development movement in India. It empowers millions of Indians to turn their career dreams into reality by providing skill development in the field of government, corporate, private institutes, academia, professionals, etc.

Skilling India has set a target to provide skills training to 40.02 crore people by 2022. Skilling India tagline, 'Kaushal Bharat, Kushal Bharat' implies that skilled Indians (Kaushal Bharat) will result in a happy, healthy, and prosperous nation (Kushal Bharat).

The training programmes are planned to be at par with the international levels so that the Indian youth meets skill requirements of not only our country but also countries such as US, Japan, China, Germany, Russia, and the West Asian countries.

As the world is shifting to a services economy from a goods economy, having a large population is no more an economic crisis. India has a large young population, which has definitely gone in its favour as it means a strong foundation for progress. This is based on the fact that if this same young population is skilled and given employment, it can do wonders to our economy.

Because of the current high growth rate in India – 8% to 9% – with savings rising to about 36%, we also have a high



"Skilling India has set a target to provide skills training to 40.02 crore people by 2022. Skilling India tagline, 'Kaushal Bharat, Kushal Bharat' implies that skilled Indians will result in a happy, healthy, and prosperous nation"

disposable income. If skilling is done systematically now, entrepreneurship will flourish in India and so will job creation.

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is helping in this job creation through skilling. NSDC is a one of its kind, Public Private Partnership in India, under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship. It aims to promote skill development by catalyzing creation of large, quality, for-profit vocational institutions. It skilled about 3.3 million people in 2015 and is planning to skill 6 million people in 2016. It was formed to achieve the target of skilling and up-skilling 150 million people by 2022.

GLOBAL CHALLENGE

The initiative aims to take advantage of the demographic dividend in India, which is both the biggest opportunity and the biggest concern for the country. With only 2.3 per cent of the total workforce in India having undergone formal skill training as compared to 68 per cent in the UK and 52 per cent in the US, the quantum of the challenge is quite high.

The government has launched this

initiative to improve the physical and mental development of the youth of the country and to eliminate the unemployment problem. It aims to open up avenues by which the youth accepts responsibility and no one remains idle, because an idle youth is a burden to the economy. This would also help the economy concentrate on job creation and social security schemes. However, ground level implementation of skill policies needs to be done at the same speed at which the youth are coming into the workforce.

Other challenges include aligning students' aspirations with industry expectations on salaries and job roles, and convincing employers to hire the skilled force rather than looking for a cheaper resource.

ATTRACTIVE INITIATIVES




The four landmark initiatives of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship are: (a) National Skill Development Mission, (b) National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015, (c) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) scheme, and (d) Skill Loan scheme.

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Skill Loan scheme offers loans ranging from Rs 5,000–1.5 lakh, which will be made available to 34 lakh youth of India who seek to attend skill development programmes over the next five years.

Skill Cards and Skill Certificates have been awarded to trainees who have completed training through the Pilot Phase of PMKVY, which started in May 2015.

These Skill Cards and Skill Certificates allow trainees to share their skill identity with employers. Each Skill Card and Skill Certificate features a Quick Response Code (QR Code), which is readable through a QR reader on mobile devices. Trainees can use these to share their skill qualifications with employers in a quick and reliable way during their job search process.

ADVANTAGES GALORE

Skilling India emphasises on providing

skills to the youth in such a way that they get employed and can also start entrepreneurship. The real idea behind Skilling India is to raise confidence, improve productivity, and give direction to the youth through proper skill development, which will enable them to get blue-collar jobs.

Skilling India's one of the most striking features is to create a hallmark called "Rural India Skill" to standardise and certify the training process. Skill development is set to reach the rural and the remote areas of our country.

For this, the corporates, the educational institutions, the NGOs, Government, and the society are supposed to contribute so that better results are achieved in the shortest time possible.

It provides training, support and guidance for various traditional service

providers such as carpenters, cobblers, welders, blacksmiths, masons, nurses, tailors, weavers, etc.

Also, sectors such as real estate, construction, transportation, textile, gem industry, jewellery designing, banking, tourism and various other sectors, where skill development is inadequate will be given comparatively more importance.

For specific age groups, need-based trainings on language and communication skills, life and positive thinking skills, personality development skills, management skills, behavioural skills, including job and employability skills will gain importance.

The course methodology of Skilling India is quite innovative; it includes games, group discussions, brainstorming sessions, practical experiences, case studies, etc.

SKILLING IS THE REAL ANSWER

Skilling bridges the gap between the less fortunate people who could not complete their studies and those who did. After a certain point in profession, skills are more important than degrees.

Thus, skilled people have a better chance to survive and progress in jobs.

The Indian government, private sector, and India's youth should work together to make Skilling India a success. The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is aiming extensive modernization of the existing ITI ecosystem and establishment of new ITIs and Multi Skill Training Institutes (MSTIs).

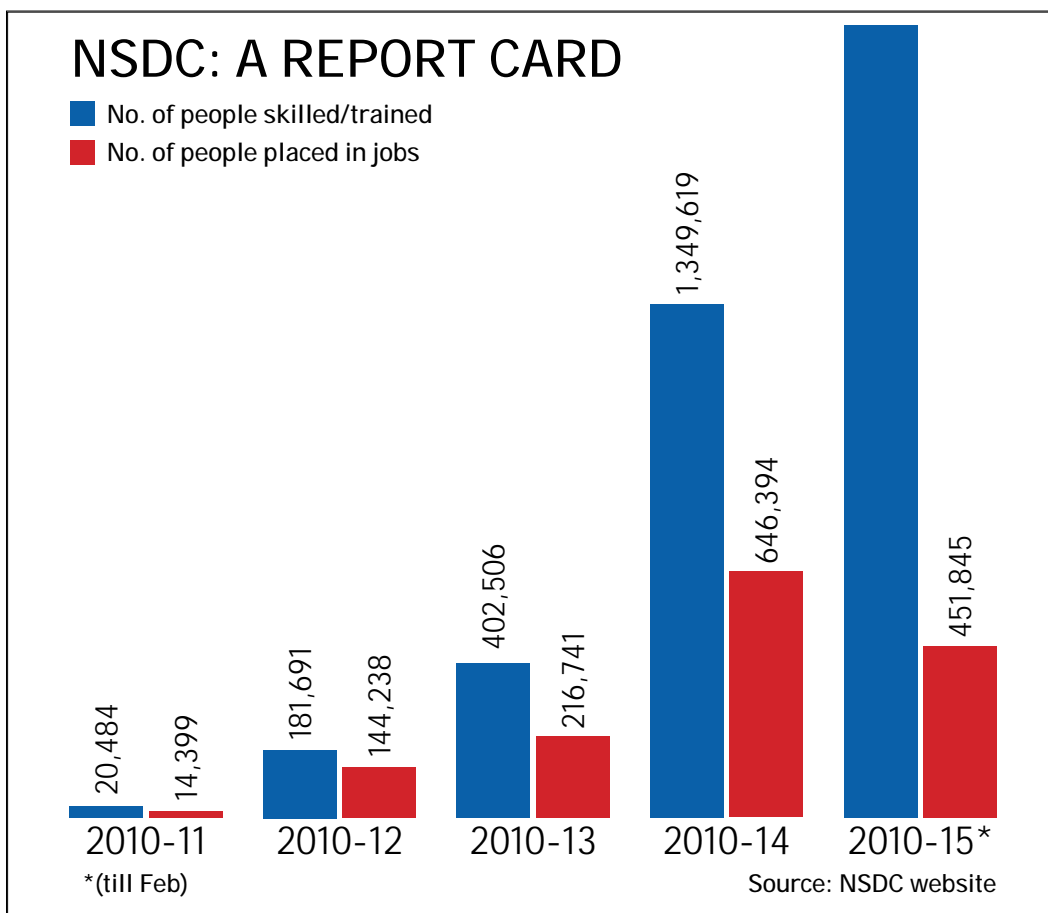
The Ministry is also working towards the establishment of one Model Skill Center in each district of the country, which would be operational in more than 500 districts by March 2017.

The formation of the proposed National Skill Certification Board will result into a new era of training, assessment and certification where both government and industry will collectively enable a joint framework for quality skill training and certification.

India's growth story will reach a new dimension once its youth gets trained on the right skills and starts contributing directly to the country's economy.

Unemployment problem will soon be a thing of the past as India moves ahead to be a global leader in production of goods and services, and the youth is enabled to mentally and physically contribute its best potential to the country's growth. ■

"Skilling India's one of the most striking features is to create a hallmark called "Rural India Skill" to standardise and certify the training process. Thus, skill development is set to reach the rural and the remote areas of our country"





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