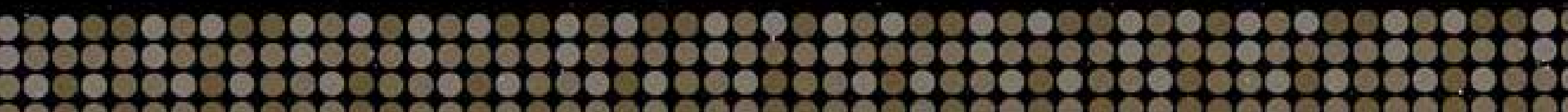


# HIGH FLYERS 50

## GLOBAL ACHIEVERS



SUCCESS STORIES OF OUTSTANDING ACHIEVERS





# HIGH FLYERS 50

*Global Recognition of Outstanding Achievers*

# Content

<b>Name</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Page</b>
Arun Govil	(India)	5	Harish Menon	(Dubai, UAE)	60
Komalika Bari	(India)	9	Dr. T. Rajini Samuel	(India)	62
Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi	(New Zealand)	13	SsanjayKumar Thanki	(UAE)	64
Ranjay Sikka	(New Zealand)	17	Chandrashekhar Reddy Chedabavi	(India)	66
Mr. Lufti Hassan	(USA)	21	Harish Kotecha	(USA)	68
Rohit Chadda	(India)	23	Debashis Haldar	(India)	70
John Clifford	(UK)	27	Anshul Singhania	(India)	72
Dr. Rajendra Bharud	(India)	31	Sanjeevani Bhelande	(India)	74
Sanjib Sahoo	(USA)	35	Disha Rathi	(India)	76
Sanjay Labh	(India)	39	Shri Bharat Upmanyu	(India)	79
Srinivasa Manapragada	(USA)	43	Dr M. Balasubramaniam	(India)	81
Raj Gandhi	(India)	45	Makrand Pataskar	(India)	82
Vipul Saran	(USA)	48	Jaideep Nagrath	(India)	84
Shailesh Kunnath	(Dubai, UAE)	51	Megha Sharma	(USA)	87
Captain Indraani Singh	(India)	52	Sammie Vance	(USA)	88
Dr. Zubin J Daruwalla	(Singapore)	54	Amit Bhandari	(India)	91
Shanta Patel Rabadiya	(Uganda)	56	Aditya Gaurav	(India)	92
Nick Katsoris	(USA)	58			



## Arun Govil (India)

The Lord Rama of Indian Screen

Actor Arun Govil has been known as the Lord Rama of India Screen for the past few decades. The actor, producer and director catapulted to fame with Ramanand Sagar's epic TV series Ramayan in 1987. It has been more than three decades since many movies and serials were made on Lord Rama but none could ever take the place of actor Arun Govil.

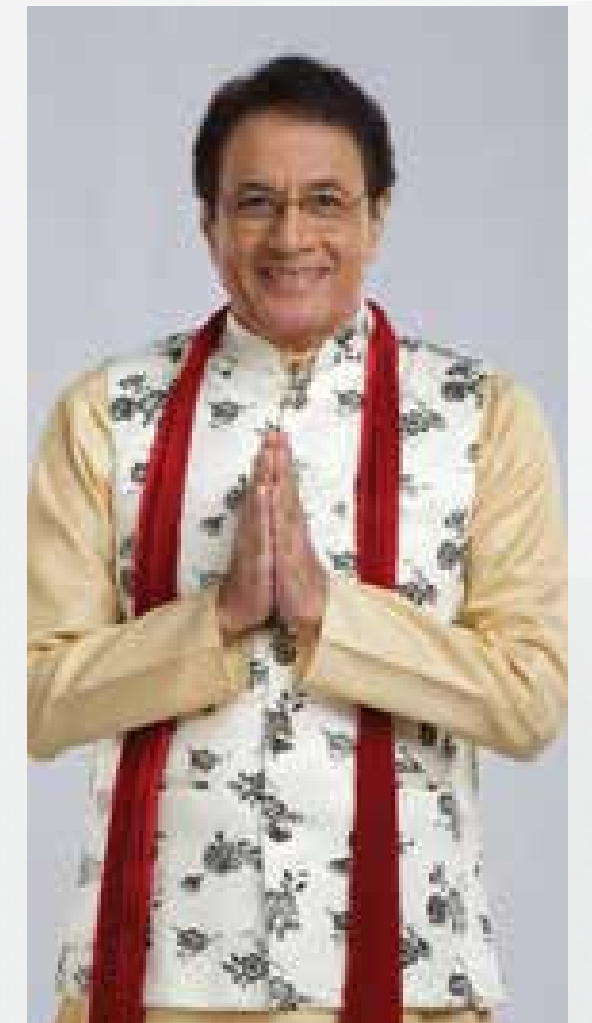
The actor says he was destined to play Lord Rama. "I was doing a serial named Vikram Aur Vetaal directed by Ramanand Sagar for Doordarshan. They had asked Ramanand Sagar to make Ramayan. I suddenly felt that I wanted to play Lord Rama. Although making something in Mythology was looked down upon. I went and told Sagar Saab and told him I wanted to play Ram. He said he would let me know when it happens. When the time came, he took my audition with all the costume and make-up and out rightly rejected me. He offered me Laxman's role or Bharat's role. I said I don't want to do any other role except Ram. They selected somebody else and decided to shoot with him.

He later called me and asked him to meet him. He said they want me to play Ram.

After outright rejection they asked me to play Ram again. I felt I was destined to play that role. The role just came back to me. I felt that I used to often say "Hey Ram" from younger days. Rama has got to do something to do with me. People asked me if there are changes in me after I played the role but I didn't find any changes" says Actor Arun Govil.

He achieved so much fame that his fans would come to literally wash his feet when he visited various places. He became so famous that none could replace him as Lord Rama ever. There are incidents when people come literally worshiping him. Recently a lady came to the airport and touched his feet asking him to bless her as her husband was in the I.C.U. The lady informed him that her husband had recovered the next day. An Autorickshawala saw him during the peak hour of traffic and stopped and bowed down to him. That's the kind of fame he is literally blessed with. Not only that, even today shops in U.P. sell Arun Govil's pictures as Lord Rama when we ask for it.

The aura of Ramayan was so much during those times that traffic and trains came to a halt when it was being aired, the roads





used to be literally empty. Political parties used to cancel their meetings. Even when it was re-telecast recently it still had the same aura. People loved watching the serial even today.

He made his small screen debut in Ramanand Sagar's TV series Vikram Aur Betaal (1985) wherein he played the role of King Vikramaditya. He got his first break in films by Rajshri's Pictures in a film titled Paheli directed by Prashant Nanda and immediately shot to fame. Tarachand Barjyata who had seen Arun Govil's films rushes and was impressed by his performance and he signed three films with him. Kanak Mishra's Sawan Ko Aane Do, Vijay Kapoor's Raadha Aur Seeta, and Satyen Boses Saanch Ko Aanch Nahin. He also appeared in films Jiyo To Aise Jiyo (1981), Himmatwala, Justice Chaudhari, Badal, and Dilwaala and many more.

Sawan Ko Aane Do became a major success at box office catapulting Govil to stardom. Raadha Aur Seeta was a box office failure while Saanch Ko Aanch Nahin was another hit at the box office.

He has worked with the legendary directors like Ramamand Sagar, B R Chopra, Shakti Samantha, Pramod Chakraborty, Hrishikesh Mukherjee, T. Rama Rao, K. Raghvendra Rao. He reprised his role as Rama in Sagar's Luv Kush and Padmalaya Telefilms Limited's Jai Veer Hanuman. He went on to do various Television serials like Vishwamitra and Buddha; he played Harishchandra and Buddha respectively.

He lent his voice as Rama in Yugo Sako's Indo-Japanese animation film Ramayana: The Legend of Prince Rama (1992). In the year 2020, he appeared in the Kapil Sharma



Show as a guest along with Dipika Chikhlia, Sunil Lahri and Prem Sagar to promote a book on Late Ramanand Sagar. He also turned producer with serials Happy Home and also co-directed and produced a feature film titled Uske Baad with director Dayanand. He has produced serials named Mashal, Bhagya Vidhata (Gujarati), Maasi Maa (Gujarati).

Born in Meerut Uttar Pradesh Arun Govil spent his teenage years in Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh. He completed his formal

education from Agra University where he studied science and at the same time also acted in some plays. He was passionate about acting and participated in many plays during his college days.

Arun's father, Shri Chandra Prakash Govil, was a government officer. Arun is the fourth of six brothers and two sisters. His elder brother Vijay Govil was married to actress Tabassum. In 1975, He moved to Mumbai to join his brother's business there.

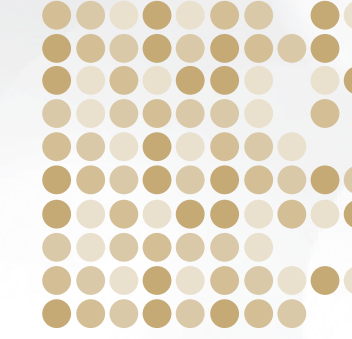
Arun's father wanted him to take up a government job but Arun wanted to make a place in millions of hearts. He wanted to follow his dreams and he came to Mumbai to fulfill them. After a brief stint he realized that he was not happy with the job he was doing and decided to do something else. His passion lay towards acting and he was keen on taking it up professionally. After playing Lord Ram, Arun Govil became a household name. His fame spread far and wide. He joined the political party Bharatiya

Janata Party on March 18, 2021,

Govil is married to actress Shrelekha, now a home-maker. They have two children together, Sonika and Amal. He will be seen again in web series Jubilee directed by Vikramaditya Motwane, Saargent directed by Prawaal Raman and a feature film titled OMG 2.

Even today, millions of fans of Arun Govil, tell him that when they sit and pray to Lord Rama they see his image in their minds.





## Komalika Bari (India)

On Her Mark

Young and sprightly, Komalika Bari is a force to reckon with in the world of archery. Her achievements at such a young age are worth all the medals she has won for the country so far.

Komalika kicked off the year 2019 with a gold at the Khelo India Youth Games in January. She then went onto strike 3 medals in the Junior Ranking Tournament in the 3 possible events in February and won gold in the women's team event in the Senior Nationals in March. To cap off a phenomenal year Komalika also won the World Youth Archery Championships (Cadet Category) in Madrid in August that year.

With a scintillating display across championships, Komalika has cemented her place in the Indian Senior Women's Recurve team at the age of just 18. Leading up to the World Cups, Komalika won gold at the 41st NTPC Junior National Archery Championship in Dehradun in March 2021.

After this achievement there was no stopping her and she went on adding more feathers to her cap Bagging 2 more Gold's with the Indian Women's Team at the Archery World Cup stages in Guatemala City and Paris.



**Komalika won gold at the 41st NTPC Junior National Archery Championship in Dehradun in March 2021.**

The three traits that her coach believes has aided her growth are humility, confidence and a Never-Give-Up attitude. On that note, to wrap up another star-studded year, Bari won back-to-back Gold's at the World Youth Archery Championships, this time in

the Junior Category in Wroclaw becoming the only second Indian to achieve the feat.

To further boost her development, Bari is now a part of the TOPS Youth Development Program as she has her eyes laid on Paris 2024.



Born in a decent middle class family, her father is an LIC agent while mother is an Anganwadi worker in Birsanagar in Jamshedpur, sports was never a priority for the young Kamalika. She started learning archery to improve her concentration

in studies. Slowly the love for the sport grew and she started pursuing her hobby seriously as a profession.

Following her cousin brother's footsteps, she started archery at the ISWP Training Centre in Jamshedpur in 2012 under the tutelage



of Sushanto Patro. She later joined the Tata Archery Academy in 2016, and trained herself with bows made of bamboo.

Though she was not serious about the sport she couldn't resist the offer from TAA and train under the likes of Dharmendra Tiwari and Purnima Mahato who have produced some of the finest archers in the country. Her

dedication was evident as she cycled 18 kms a day during her training years to improve her skills and focus.

Currently Kamalika is concentrating on strengthening, pressure management,

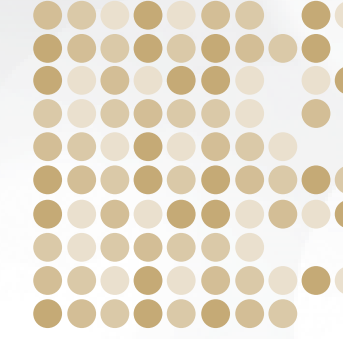
coping skills, motivation, positive mindset, resilience, and arousal control, physical and mental recovery. She also loves travelling and reading which helps her to refresh and refocus.







**He always believed that a leader has to connect with his people, talk to them and understand their necessities.**



## **Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi (New Zealand)**

**A Prolific Leader**

Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi always believed in perseverance and Persistence and this is exactly what drew him to become the first Indian Sikh Member of Parliament in New Zealand.

Today , known for his achievements and his hard work Kanwaljit has been felicitated by numerous organizations for his commitment to the community. In 2015, he was awarded the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (an award given by the Government of India to people of Indian origin, who have made their mark in an overseas country). In 2013, the Sikh American Chamber of Commerce recognised him at their annual celebrations. He has also been honored by both the World Punjabi Organization and the Global Punjabi Society for his contribution to improving the lives of migrants in New Zealand and safeguarding the culture of his origins.

Kanwaljit who hails from a political business family from New Delhi completed his schooling and tertiary education in Business in Delhi. Young and motivated he joined his family logistics and freight management business. On the first day





itself he was in for a rude shock when he was treated harshly than any other employee in the company. His parents assured him that he had to learn all the facets of business from the grass roots and nothing would be given on a platter. He was

told that he can rise up to their eyes with his hard work and dedication. With this thought in mind he worked hard and moved up in the ranks in his business particularly in marketing the good and services his company dealt with.

He later established an Audio-Video Studio. Under the home production banner, he produced many Audio-Video Documenters and religious albums.

Around this time, he made a move to migrate to New Zealand with his family. He

started his professional journey in the freight and supply chain industry in New Zealand. Here he built upon his previous experience whilst gaining crucial local knowledge. This knowledge gave him added impetus to embark on a path to highlight the

intellectual and financial acumen better Indians possessed to the wider Kiwi society.

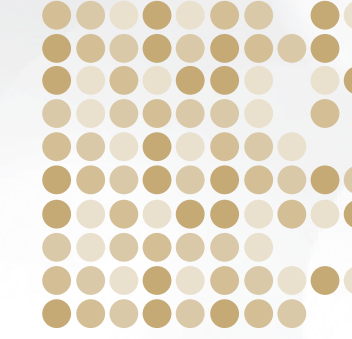
This quest saw him gradually become a platform to raise issues and concerns and better highlight the achievements of people of Indian origin in New Zealand. He soon became known for his leadership among Kiwis, Indians and the South-East Asian community. Joining politics full-time then beckoned, and he entered New Zealand Parliament in 2008.

Kanwaljit, by and large, found New Zealand true to its image of being a welcoming and friendly nation. His father, Late Bakshi Jagdev Singh, had always told him and his family to pay back to the community where they belong. It has been another guiding principle for Kanwaljit. He is always supportive of any cause that can lead the community towards a brighter future – the scale of the project notwithstanding.

He always believed that a leader has to connect with his people, talk to them and understand their necessities. Lead, guide and help people resolve their issues. Always remember that one size does not fit all; there are different available ways to ensure your message reaches out to the maximum number of people.

While he continues his tenure in the parliament he continues to enlighten the youth with his mantra to success. "Be Confident of your abilities. Be proud of your background and always strive to seamlessly merge into society – blending the best of both worlds you are fortunate to inhabit. Follow your dreams- the journey in itself will be an enriching experience."





## Ranjay Sikka (New Zealand)

Weaving Dreams Into Reality

There's an old Irish saying "a good laugh and a long sleep is the best cure in a doctor's book." Thus taking the adage seriously Ranjay Sikka began his success story. His success in life was like a classic tale of passion, and triumph over adversity.

Born in the holy city of Amritsar, Punjab, Ranjay always knew he wanted to be an entrepreneur. He knew that it was not easy in India so he set his sights on New Zealand. When he first visited New Zealand in 2003, he fell in love with the environment, the robust economy, and the Kiwi lifestyle. His passion for living in New Zealand made him work towards getting the status of Permanent Residence in the country, coupled with the strong support and active engagement from his business partner and wife Heena, he worked tirelessly to achieve his goals and start this new endeavor.

Ranjay was keen on retail business so he set up his own furniture store for five years where he developed a zeal for good sleep and began to explore the world of mattresses. "We started Super Furniture to provide for our family. At the time I never thought we would become a major manufacturer of mattresses and beds, but

we were guided in that direction when we found it wasn't possible to get what we wanted in a suitable quality by importing products." Informs Ranjay Sikka

It was not easy in the beginning as major brands refused to supply him with their premium mattresses as they had their own compulsions and reservations. This forced Ranjay to source his first lot of mattresses from overseas; however, the lot was much inferior in quality and, not wanting to supply customers with fickle products they had to be rejected. Not dejected, he learnt from his failures and understood that to survive in the New Zealand market, he had to manufacture a quality product that was on par with his high standards and get it branded as "Made in New Zealand". With his vast study and research in the mattress market, Ranjay came up with a solution that ultimately led to the establishment of Slumber zone New Zealand Limited in the year 2011.

"Ranjay literally pushed himself push from retail into manufacture and each time he'd come to me and say, 'I have this idea' and we would sit and talk it out," reveals wife Heena Sikka





Ranjay knew he wanted Slumber zone to be different and stand out from the crowd and he decided he would do this with the passion and determination that first got him started on this journey. He wanted a business focused on family, as that was a strong ideal that led him to this sector in the first place. He knew this was the missing element in the market, and if he wanted to stand out, this was something he would incorporate into his company's practices. He treated the staff of Slumber Zone as a family and when he interacted with each and every person on his journey, such as retailers, and most importantly customers that became a part of his wider family. However, Ranjay knew that it was not an easy journey and he would face obstacles. New Zealand's manufacturing sector was already overflowing with companies fighting to maintain momentum and growth through domestic and export sales. Regulations, currency fluctuations, workforce issues, and social issues were some of the issues he faced.

The teething problems with Slumberzone started with local retailers refusing to stock his new, unknown brand. As the existing retailers didn't collaborate he teamed up with fresh entrepreneurs to start their own exclusive bed stores with the tagline "Comfortable Beds at Comfortable Prices". Slowly and steadily, with good quality, reasonable prices, and reliable after-sales service, Slumberzone started to create its own name in the market. Ranjay researched and gathered all the finest materials and technologies from around the world, such as Germany and Belgium, to be crafted into luxury beds in his Auckland factory with latest technologies making Slumberzone the fastest-growing



mattress company in New Zealand. Soon he upgraded from a small factory to a bigger factory, to an even bigger factory to keep up with demand. Then before he knew it, Ranjay was owning his own retail company with the purchase of the New Zealand Bed Company in 2018, and sticking true to his family values, helped others to open their own too. As of today Slumberzone has a strong network of over 40 retailers nationwide, more than 25 registered trademarks, and the widest range of mattresses.

Ranjay was not satisfied with the growth hence he started to tap into offshore markets, with his products finding their way to Australia, China, Pacific Island nations, and even the remarkable distance to Sweden. Ranjay has now ventured into the growing Real Estate and Hospitality Industry of New Zealand. He has already invested in projects of around \$30 Million and plans to increase his stakes in phases.

Apart from a successful business career, Ranjay believes in giving back to the society he is associated as a proud sponsor with

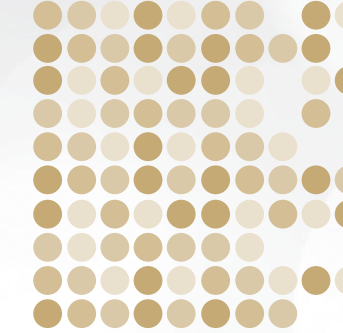
the Child Cancer Foundation, Life Flight, Westpac Helicopters, Oxfam Trailwalker, Taranaki Tri Festivals, and Northern Stars Netball. Recently he initiated the formation of a Trust under the name of the Indian Global Business Chamber (IGBC) to engage the Kiwi Indian community in getting together to help and support matters of common concern. During the second wave of COVID-19, when India was struggling for portable oxygen, IGBC organized 101 Oxygen Concentrators directly to various organizations in Punjab, Haryana, UP,

Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Gujarat. IGBC also associated with UNICEF and Vodafone New Zealand to send COVID-19 relief aid worth \$50,000 to India. Ranjay is currently the Founder Trustee and Chairman of IGBC.

What started off as an idea took shape of a dream and finally turned into reality from Amritsar to Auckland, Ranjay and his wife Heena's achievements shaped with grit and determination on the global map is a very inspiring story.







## Mr. Lufti Hassan (USA)

The Trendsetter

The founder of Apex Group of Companies, Mr. Lufti Hassan brings with him a wealth of knowledge in international relations through his consulting experience both in India and abroad.

For the last 40 years Mr. Lufti Hassan has been a resident of Houston, Texas and currently serves on the advisory board for several multinational companies in the U.S. and Asia.

Mr. Hassan has served as an advisor on Presidential, Gubernatorial, Senatorial, Congressional, Mayoral and Judicial campaigns in the United States for the last twenty years and has served as a national finance co-chair for Mr. Barack Obama during the American campaign in both 2008 and 2012. He has also served as a member of the Democratic National Committee on the National Advisory Board (NAB).

Mr. Hassan has been a pioneer in representing the South Asian community and has been elected to serve on the South Asian American Leadership Council (SAALC) based out of Washington, D.C. He is an established civic leader representing the South Asian community in mainstream American politics and as such, has



**Mr. Hassan was also a founder and former Chairman of the S. Asian American Political Action Committee (SAAPAC) of Texas 2000-2002.**

dealt with issues and concerns of the community at the highest level within the U.S. Government.

On Jan 9th, 2003, a US flag was flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C. by the order of House Of Representatives (United States Congress) to honor Lutfi Hassan for his decades of community service. It was later presented to him in a ceremony with the certificate of archives. Most recently, Mr. Hassan served on the board of advisory for South Asians for Biden, which mobilized a nationwide get out the vote (GOTV) effort among the greater South Asian community. Additionally, in 2018, he was appointed to serve as a senior advisor to the Chairman, Dr. Guru Reddy, on the US & Malaysian Sovereign Fund owned by the Continental Hospital Group located in Hyderabad, India.

In 2019, Mr. Hassan was appointed and is currently serving on the Board of Advisory for the Global Eternal Gandhi Museum, a non-profit organization seeking to create, through the life and work of Gandhi, a thriving, vibrant educational organization aimed at changing the world through its visitors while creating a sustainable and successful new resource for the Greater Houston area.

Mr. Lutfi Hasssan has been appointed on various platforms where he served with dignity. In 2017, Mr. Hassan acquired Swift ships Shipbuilders, founded in 1947 and based out of Morgan City, Louisiana, to implement a turnaround of the company and took revenues from \$13M to over \$300M in 2013 and various contracts with the US Govt.

He was also given a Presidential appointment to the board of Central-Asian



American Enterprise Fund (USAID) by President Bill Clinton in the year 2000-2004. Mr. Hassan was elected as a national delegate from Texas to the Democratic Convention in the year 2000. He previously served as the board of City Of Houston's GHCVB (Greater Houston Convention & Visitors Bureau). This entity is responsible for the incoming Trade Missions, Protocols at the airports, all Conventions & the City Of Houston Image.

He also served on the Advisory Board on (TSA) Transportation and Safety Administration (Homeland Security founded as an aftermath of 9/11) task force, formed by the Hon. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee.

He served as Chairman of the Mayor's Advisory Board for International Affairs and Development (MABIAD) from 1999-2003. He was the first ever South Asian to serve on the prestigious board of the Urban League

(oldest civil rights organization) in 1999-2000. He served on the board of the Memphis Tennessee based Gandhi Institute for Non Violence founded by Arun Gandhi, the Grandson of Mahatma Gandhi in 1999-2002.

Mr. Hassan was also a founder and former Chairman of the S. Asian American Political Action Committee (SAAPAC) of Texas 2000-2002. Over the last three decades, Mr. Hassan has played an integral role in assisting the South Asian community in

accomplishing significant milestones on both local and national levels and continues to serve as a leader of his community.

Mr. Hassan has extensively traveled with world leaders on various mission trips designed to promote U.S. trade and commerce including South and Western Africa, China, Japan, Taiwan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.







## Rohit Chadda (India)

A man of Many Talents

Rohit Chadda is a globally renowned business leader & entrepreneur with two successful exits behind him. He has been attributed for the turnaround of Zee Digital, he has been named among Top Tech CEOs of the Decade in India by DNA as well as India.com. A recipient of the prestigious Fortune 40 under 40 list, he was felicitated by Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Rohtak for his contribution to the corporate world in 2020. Rohit is currently President & COO for Times Network's digital business.

Rohit's contribution to the success of Zee was widely recognised as under his leadership, the company saw an annual growth of 120% in users whereas competing organisations recorded growth in the range of only 20-40% in the same period. His bold strategy to focus on vernacular languages along with a technology driven approach to content brought the company from the 9th to 2nd position in ComScore rankings among all media groups in India.

During his tenure at ZEE, Rohit also launched ZEE5, the flagship OTT of Zee group, in 170+ countries. He was responsible

**Rohit believes the key challenge for experienced professionals to work in a start-up environment is to unlearn what they have previously learned.**

for managing the fintech business strategy of Essel Finance covering insurance aggregation, mutual funds and personal finance before it was sold in 2019.

As a leader he focussed on creating opportunities for growth, there have been a series of successful launches undertaken by Rohit at various times in his career. He leveraged the critical time of US election to launch the English global news channel WION through a digital first approach across Asia Pacific, Middle East, UK and North America. Amid the TikTok ban in India, he launched Zee's short video platform 'Hipi' making it one of the leading short video apps in India.

While Rohit has always been forthcoming in leveraging market opportunities, there have been times when he created opportunities

where there were none. He was also responsible for developing the category of fastest growing ecommerce verticals in the World. This was foodpanda.com, the world's largest food ordering platform. Under Rohit's leadership Foodpanda expanded to 40+ countries across Asia, Middle East, Europe and South America and raised a total investment of over US\$500 million before being acquired by its global competitor Delivery Hero.

Rohit got his Engineering degree from the Delhi College of Engineering (now Delhi Technological University). After foodpanda, he founded fintech startup PayLo in order to solve the lack of payment acceptance infrastructure in emerging markets. In Feb 2016, he acquired Ruplee, India's largest dining payments app and transformed it into India's first omni-channel payments platform, PayLo POS which was tremendously successful in the wake of demonetisation in India. PayLo expanded successfully to 10,000+ merchants before being acquired by Immortal Technologies.

Rohit believes the key challenge for experienced professionals to work in a start-up environment is to unlearn what they have previously learned.

Rohit started his career as a software developer with Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) building their fintech platform targeted towards Health insurance providers in the US. Having

worked in the financial services group in CSC, he developed a keen interest in finance motivating him to take up his MBA from IIM Calcutta, the mecca of finance in this part of the world.

While at IIM Calcutta, Rohit was awarded the coveted Aditya Birla award for business leadership entitling him to a 100% scholarship for his education at the institute. He went on to get a pre-placement offer from Merrill Lynch's London office (Now Bank of America Merrill Lynch) in a year when the world saw its worst financial crisis with Lehman Brothers and many other investment banks going bust. He was, in fact, the only candidate across IIMs to have received an offer from Merrill Lynch's London office that year.

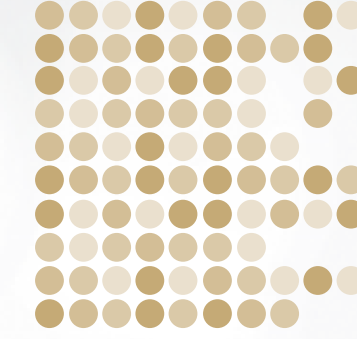
At the same time Rohit was passionate about sports. That is where he developed how to be resilient in this competitive world. Besides that he also expressed himself through singing and theatre and has been engaged with various theatre groups in India as well as UK during his academic and early professional life.

Through his professional years, he has been a strategic partner in the non-profit MukkaMaar, founded by actor Ishita Sharma, that works in partnership with government bodies to empower adolescent girls. He has been instrumental in launching their digital program and driving their scale journey through technology. Apart from

this, he mentors young entrepreneurs and is an angel investor in multiple technology start-ups. His personal mantra is, "You either succeed, or you learn. You never fail!"







## John Clifford (UK)

A Born Leader

John Clifford is the founder and Managing Director of The Conrad Family Office, a multi-family office based in London representing HNW and UHNW UK and international clientele

A highly experienced financial entrepreneur with more than thirty-five years of operational experience in property investment, lending and private client management, John is particularly knowledgeable in cross-territory regulation and compliance, having run successful finance companies since the 1980s.

John has worked with and has been a part of every level of compliance, acquiring vast knowledge in the UK regulated and non-regulated lending industry. With a penchant for philanthropy and a strong supporter of a number of major charities, John believes in giving back something to this world from whatever he has earned as there are more needy people around.

Having left University in 1984 at the age of twenty, with a first-class Honours Degree in Mathematics, John intended to go and work for British Aerospace. Having taken a summer job in a financial service-related business, he changed direction and has been in financial services related businesses ever since, building a mortgage and loan

brokerage which turned over £200M p/a in loans and mortgages until 2008, when the financial crisis at that time caused him to change his course once again.

“Unexpectedly, I moved into the privately funded Real Estate lending industry at that time, starting a Real Estate lending business at the height of a global recession, utilising my own capital and that of a few close business partners at a time when the UK lending market was in a deep freeze” informs John.

John is now the Managing Director of three London based Real Estate Lending

Companies and an advisor to five more. He is also the Group Managing Director overseeing global operations of the Family Office, with an emphasis on London, Monaco, Jersey & Guernsey, all utilising a wealth of experience that is virtually unparalleled in the industry.

“This business and affiliate companies have grown considerably in the last fourteen years; my companies were managing a loan book exceeding £250 million at one point. In the last fourteen years I have been introduced to and met a number of private UHNW clients who work with us as funders

# CONRAD CAPITAL

John is now the Managing Director of three London based Real Estate Lending Companies and an advisor to five more.





to our Real Estate lending companies and whom we represent also across other areas of their life and business. Whereas I continue to run the Real Estate lending businesses, I also now operate in a close quarter's space acting for UNHW Private Clients whom I know and respect, including their children and seven grandchildren " explains John.

Interestingly he says "we have been ten people for the past ten years, a few of my age, a few slightly younger or older. We are a close-quarters family with a common ethos and outlook on life."

John and his long standing team, senior members of who are located in major international jurisdictions, were originally involved in direct lending and private investment brokerage, an aspect of the business which flourished in the last ten years.

The Conrad Family Office grew out of their extensive and bespoke web of contacts around the world, offering a wider range of services to their clients including short-term property-based loans through their sister company Conrad Capital, wealth management and financial, legal and real

estate advice, especially concerning the high end of the London market.

John believes that it's important for a company to be the best as opposed to the biggest when it comes to delivering quality service to his clients. He says that they prefer to be a speedboat rather than an ocean liner.

Consequently, his approach to his work and clients goes beyond 'simply managing financial risk.' According to John, the key to a robust family office strategy is recognizing your additional role in preserving each

family's reputation and protecting confidentiality and privacy.

A regular invitee to Family Office conferences and speaking events, John and his team can be considered highly valuable partners in the Real Estate Industry in the UK & the Global Family Office arena.

So how does John look at success? "As a married man and father of thirty-three years, all I can say success is to be happy with who you are, with a focus on giving something back."

# CONRAD

## FAMILY OFFICE



**When his UPSC results were declared, Dr Rajendra was back in his village, and his mother had no idea that her son was now a civil officer.**

## Dr. Rajendra Bharud (India)

When Dreams Come True

Dr. Rajendra Bharud a doctor turned bureaucrat and a collector of Maharashtra's Nandurbar district is one fine example of a man who defied poverty to reach this position. His story is not just an inspiration but an example for people who make excuses for their money troubles and curse their luck.

Today, Dr. Bharud lives in government quarters with his mother, wife and children. Dr. Rajendra's journey towards becoming an IAS officer is a shining example of determination and solitary meditation and also inspiring. He says "It was not easy, but I was willing to work hard, and I achieved my dreams."

Poverty in small villages is so huge that no one realises that they are poor or illiterate. Every person lives happily depending on nature's resources. Dr. Rajendra Bharud's story is no less. He is one example who changed his destiny to come back to his village as an IAS officer.

Born on 7th January 1988 in Samode Village in Sakri Taluka, in a poverty stricken family, Bharud didn't even have the luck of seeing his father's face when he was born. His father passed away when his mother had

conceived him. They didn't have money to get a single picture of his father. Bharud's mother earned their livelihood by selling liquor, and the entire family stayed under one small hut made from sugarcane leaves.

Bharud revealed in an interview "I was three years old and used to cry out of hunger. My crying used to cause trouble for alcoholics. Some people used to put drops of alcohol in my mouth to silence me. Grandma would





also give me some alcohol instead of milk so that hunger would disappear to some extent and I would be silent. A few days later, he got into the habit of alcohol. He also said that our medicine was only alcohol even for a cold and cough."

Rajendra Bharud also added that he used to study outside the house sitting on the platform. People who came to drink alcohol would give him some extra money to buy snacks from a nearby shop. "I bought some books with the same money. I studied hard and scored 95 percent marks in the class tenth exam and 90 percent marks in the 12th standard."

He was consistent that he will not lead this life of poverty. Battling all odds he cleared his medical entrance exam in 2006. He earned his medical degree from Mumbai's KEM hospital and Seth GS Medical College. Dr. Bharud also won the 'Best Student Award' in KEM hospital and Seth GS Medical College.

When Rajendra Bharud was in the final year of MBBS, he decided to appear for UPSC (Union Public Service Commission) exams. This was no easy task; Bharud was studying for two exams even as his internship as a doctor was on. In the final year of medicine, along with his MBBS exam, he also wrote his UPSC exam and cleared it in his first attempt. When his UPSC results were declared, Dr Rajendra was back in his village, and his mother had no idea that her son was now a civil officer.

Rajendra explains that "I had dreamed of becoming a doctor since childhood so that I could help other people. But, as I grew up, I realized that to help people, I needed to educate them and provide opportunities

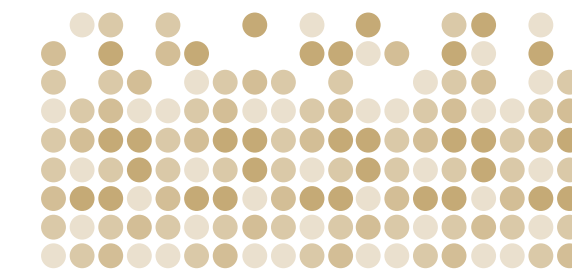


for a better life. For this I had to become a civil servant." However, he was selected for IRS service on the basis of rank in the first attempt. But he tried once again and in the 2013 examination, he achieved his goal by becoming an IAS.

Rajendra Bharud trained in Mussoorie the next few years and then he was posted as Assistant Collector and Project Officer in Nanded District in 2015. In 2017 he was posted as Chief Executive Officer of Solapur. Finally, in July 2018, he was made the Collector of Nandurbar.

During the second covid-19 wave of the county, when the rest of the country tirelessly tries to stock up on oxygen cylinders and provide more hospital beds for Covid-19 patients, IAS officer Dr. Rajendra Bharud, who is the District Collector of Nandurbar in Maharashtra which has a population of 16 lakhs, had things under control because he was prepared for it beforehand. He managed the situation so well during the pandemic and had kept an adequate supply of medical oxygen, hospital beds, isolation wards for Covid-19 patients and also made a well planned vaccination drive.

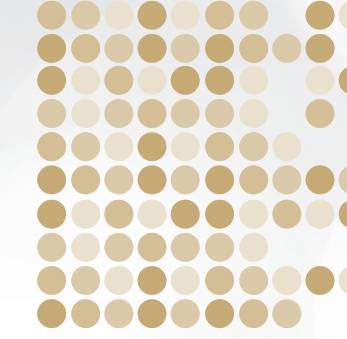
Dr. Rajendra Bharud has also written a Marathi book "Mee Ek Swapan Pahila" (2014), where he describes his struggles, travels and his mother's sacrifices for raising three children.







**He was awarded the Global Icon for technology by Economic Times in 2021 and received the prestigious Indian Achiever's award in 2022.**



## Sanjib Sahoo (USA)

A Transcendental Thinker

Sanjib Sahoo, EVP and CDO, Ingram Micro Inc is a technology and business visionary. He has launched groundbreaking innovations and led successful digital transformation at leading organizations around the world. Sahoo has served as Chief Information Officer (CIO), Chief Technical Officer (CTO), and Chief Digital Officer (CDO) for start-ups and Fortune 500 companies across various industries, consistently steering companies to become top performers in their sectors. He specializes in launching digital platforms that lead to disruptive, exponential growth and market leadership.

Born in an exceptionally modest family and faced with adversity when he was eight years old, Sanjib Sahoo has come a long way in his career. Throughout this journey, he has always remained grounded, hardworking, disciplined, and eager to collaborate and driven to make those around him better. And although Sanjib is widely recognized in technology circles as a transcendental thinker, a disruptive entrepreneur, and a coach to the best of coaches in the world, he remains, at heart, a friend, philosopher, and guide to everyone who has worked with him.

Sahoo credits his family and community with teaching him how to be curious, purposeful, and empathetic. He has a bachelor's degree in economics from Calcutta University and a master's degree in computer applications from the Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad. He is also a graduate of Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program.

At the start of his career, Sahoo built applications for several leading financial services organizations, including Citibank, Charles Schwab (then Xpresstrade) and Deutsche Bank. He is fondly remembered as a humble, modest, extremely hardworking, conscientious, and purposeful young man with an incredible grasp of business, and an inspiring knowledge of technology by his colleagues. As CIO and CTO at tradeMONSTER (E\*trade/Morgan Stanley), he conceptualized, designed, and delivered the world's first streaming browser-based trading platform for web and mobile..

Sahoo was responsible for modernizing a global logistics supply chain as CIO at XPO Logistics, a top ten global logistics provider of cutting-edge supply chain solutions.



He launched XPO Logistics' XPOConnect platform, the first self-learning, multi-modal digital platform in the industry. Dubbed as "the future of transportation," the platform received a multitude of awards from industry groups and councils, with Forbes recognizing XPO's technology as superior to Amazon's for transportation logistics.

Today, Sahoo is Executive Vice President and Chief Digital Officer at Ingram Micro Inc., a \$54 billion-dollar worldwide industry leader whose solutions reach 90% of the world's population. At Ingram Micro, Sahoo directs the strategy and execution of a range of innovative, world-class customer experiences aimed at creating a

compelling competitive advantage for the business and for the tens of thousands of brands it supports.

In a matter of months, Sahoo assembled an A-list team at Ingram Micro, including a growing team of talent throughout India. In less than a year, the team laid the

foundation for Ingram Micro Xvantage, the company's experience platform for employees, customers, and vendors. The Xvantage digital experience platform is powered by a global real time data mesh containing many years of operational and transactional data, and driven by several purpose-built, proprietary engines



augmented by artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning.

Sahoo's successful career as one of the technology industry's top thinkers is well documented. He has won more than 20 awards for technology and leadership, including the 2020 Constellation Business Transformation 150, which recognizes top global executives managing business

transformation efforts in their organizations. He was awarded the Global Icon for technology by Economic Times in 2021 and received the prestigious Indian Achiever's award in 2022. He also won several awards for his leadership and technology innovation, including the CIO of the Year Award from the Association of Information Technology Professionals

(AITP). He holds several patents on Dynamic Communications and Streaming for Mobile Devices.

Widely recognized for attracting and leading high-impact teams, Sahoo's mission is to inspire his team members to dream big and make the impossible possible. He believes that digital transformation is not just about technology, but about people.

One of Sahoo's mantras is "Be Your Own CEO." Don't focus on technology and miss the bigger picture he says. "You must understand the business. How do your decisions impact financials and demonstrate tangible business results? Take accountability for what you do and focus on value."







**Sanjay Labh has a proven track record in the construction industry for his timely delivery of projects in a cost-effective manner.**

## Sanjay Labh (India)

BE-Civil, MBA, LLB, Man With A Vision

Mr. Sanjay Labh is truly a man with a vision. A well-known accomplished professional in the field of Real Estate Construction with immense experience for more than 3 decades, Sanjay Labh has worked hard to reach where he is today. He has always seen to it that his projects are completed in record time giving no reason to complain.

Sanjay Labh has a proven track record in the construction industry for his timely delivery of projects in a cost-effective manner. He currently holds the operational head post of the Delhi-NCR for the Prestige group and is responsible for Profit & Loss, Overseas business development, Sales & Marketing, and Construction for all projects. He has more than 3 decades of experience across areas encompassing various Real Estate segments, Hospitality, and infrastructure projects. He was one early introducer of PT technology & Higher-grade concrete in building projects in the year 2003 to which he was exposed in his previous experience (i.e., PT Technology at bridge project at Satara, Maharashtra, and Higher-grade concrete in Bandra Worli Sea Link, Mumbai) during tenure at HCC/Skanska Ltd.

His renowned achievements are that of completing 17 No's - 5 Stars Hotels of different brands - Marriott, Taj, Sheraton, Conrad, Leela, and Bharat Hotels along with Ultra-Luxury Residential Projects, Retail, Corporate Office Spaces, and Mix-Use. He has been known for his past cross industry experience which were fastrack projects but were completed on time by Mr. Labh.

Sanjay did his Bachelor's in Civil Engineering and to increase his expertise further completed an MBA in Marketing from Symbiosis Pune, LLB from Mumbai University. As a part of his professional journey, he has held leadership positions in DLF, K Raheja Corporation, and Taj Group of Hotels.

He is innovative in his thinking and he has always brought in new approaches to take his work forward. In the Year 2011, at Taj Group of Hotels, as Director of Projects – he froze all details in advance and awarded a lump sum contract for Taj Vivanta at Guwahati at the peak of insurgency in Assam State to avoid uncertainty and to complete the hotel project within scheduled time & budget. It is one of the few instances of hotel projects, awarded as lump sum



contracts. Mr. Sanjay strongly believes in the early adoption of advanced systems and technology, as the only way to meet future challenges. He introduced an ERP and other advanced systems in the organization in the Year 2005 for construction management which helped him to streamline the system and work. He believes in digitization and automation. India's growing economy, rising per capita income, and the emergence

of the new economy provide ample opportunities for our workforce.

He completed a few projects like Morgan Stanley General Office, Mindspace, Malad, Mumbai in a record span of 7 months, including fit-outs. (Fastest Building Project in India)

He also completed the 2nd phase of Renaissance Hotel (300 keys) at Powai,

Mumbai in just 27 months. (Fastest and best value-added 5 Star Hotel projects in India) 14465 cum of Concreting in Prism Tower, Mind Space, Malad, Mumbai in a month (30 days). – In 2004 he successfully transformed the 'Convergys' building ready to fit out in just 4 months in a record time.

He played a pioneering role, in designing and building up lump sum contracts for

Taj Vivanta, Guwahati (First of its kind in the Hospitality Industry) handover and completion of DLF - The Camellias (4.6 million sq ft), and The Crest (3.6 million sq ft), Ultra luxury residential projects in Delhi-NCR.

Preceding his embankment with Prestige Group, his leadership endorsement is with some of the key Real Estate players in India

with DLF, K Raheja Corporation, K Raheja Construction, and Taj Group of Hotels.

Currently, He is leading the Prestige Group in Delhi NCR, establishing premium projects under Hospitality, Corporate Offices, and Residential Sectors having a construction area of 6.5 million sq ft and furthermore 10 million sq ft area that is already under finalization. The current Iconic hospitality project - Prestige Trade Centre, Aerocity at New Delhi is India's largest hotel with 779 Keys and 6.1 Lacs sq ft of leasable office spaces constituting a total area of 3.5 million sq ft.

Prestige Bougainvillea Gardens at Sector 150, NOIDA – a meticulously planned, 15 acres themed residential community with 1038 apartments offers recreation in keeping with a superior lifestyle.

Recently, he was awarded "Excellence in Real Estate 2022" by Indian Achiever Forum and "ET Inspiring Leader 2022 – Global Icon" by Economics Times for his exclusive contribution to the field of Real Estate and Construction. Furthermore, his constant contribution towards boosting the young generation by sharing his valuable industry experience and professional learning in business schools like ISBM- Pune, TAPMI – Manipal, SIBM – Nagpur & others which makes them ready to step into the industry and prevail in their excellence. He always shares his expertise and views with the industry through different media like Business World and others.

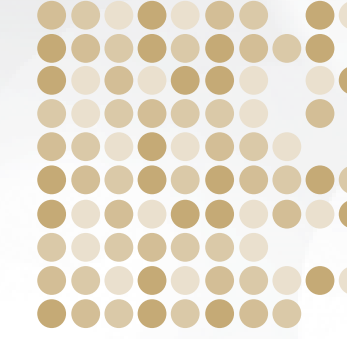
His immense belief in "Hardships often prepare ordinary people for an extraordinary destiny" hence it has often led him to carve milestones in his career because he never shied away from taking on challenges.







**He holds Guinness World Record in Unique Singing Category for the Patriotic song Saare Jahan Se Achcha - Maa TujheSaalam - Vandemataram sung in 277 Languages**



## Srinivasa Manapragada (USA)

A Winner All The Way

Srinivasa Manapragada has always been the achiever and winner all the way. A Technical Hands on Professional with over 20 Years of experience on Leading Hands on Management Quality Assurance and Technical Program positions; it has not been a smooth sailing success for the man. When Srinivasa is not busy he loves to indulge in music.

So far he has held senior level positions in Integration, Data Privacy, System UI Test and Development of QA procedures, QA Process Governance and Oversight. Applications and Product best practices for testing of independent software modules, Web-based Ecom applications, Mobile Ecom Applications, Internet software, telecom data analysis and localization projects. Experienced in both AGILE, Waterfall and traditional methodologies. Extensive experience in Financial and Banking applications and products which deals with Data Privacy, Payments, Transactions, Security, notifications, Complaints and Authorizations. He has experience in the Information Technology Industry and has extensive experience in software testing and development. SME on various test methodologies, test

documentation and testing tools. He has also Worked for leading IT Companies like Wells Fargo, Blackhawk Network-TRADE Financial, VISA, Intuit, InnoPath Software, Inc, Paypal, Inc, eBay, Tenet Healthcare and Sony Play station.

Srinivasa has also had great experience in the field of QA Automation, System, API Services, UI Test and Development of QA procedures for testing of independent software modules for Mobile Applications, Mobile Optimization Pages, Web-based applications, Payment Processing Applications, Internet software and telecom data analysis. Worked for Financial, Travel & Tourism, Banking, Telecom, Health, Wireless & Gaming industries handled offshore and onshore teams (Singapore, China, India, UK and US) . Extensive hands on experience in Data Privacy Domain, E2E, Black box testing, Functional testing, Mobile Automation Testing(Calabash – iOS SDK, Calabash – Android SDK) and SOASTA-Touch Test Tool, Integration testing, Data Driven Testing, Security Testing, Regression testing, White box testing, GUI testing, Back-end testing, Browser compatibility testing, Localization Testing, Security Testing (XSS),API Services SOA Testing, in different stages of QA process.





Not only that he has had the experience in the QA processes pertaining to the reviews and business requirements in maintaining and following efficient test procedures for the projects handled. He has successfully driven and analyzed scope and planned to prioritize the projects and tasks. Define testing and requirements in the analysis phase of complex business systems. Experienced in technical program/product management, including delivery of quality solutions to customers, team building, and meeting critical delivery dates on schedule.

He has worked for the top-notch IT clients and companies in the USA & UK. Born on October 3, 1971 in Hyderabad to Janapada Brahma Sri Manapragada Narsimha Murthy, Srinivasa has been instrumental in getting the name of TANA in Guinness World Records as Event Organiser in 2010. Srinivasa's brother Sri Manapragada Sai Chakrawarthy, Triple Guinness Record Holder). Not only that, Srinivasa Manapragada has himself received many awards and accreditations for his contributions to the society. He has received The Commendation from City of Milpitas from Mayor Jose Esteves for Srinivasa Manapragada contributions to promoting culture in the community as Cultural Ambassador of Indian American Community

He has been the recipient of United States Of America The President's Time Achievement Award 2022 from President Joseph R Biden Jr - The White House, USA. Medal of Honor & Pin - The President's Volunteer Service Award Recognition Award from President Joseph R Biden Jr - The White House, USA.

He has also won the Bharat Nirman Excellence Award in 1998 and Vikas Ratna



award in 2000 by Government of India.

The London School of Music and Drama, UK, have recognized his services to the music industry in 2001. He has been featured in Top 25 in NRI Podium for Pravasi Divas, India. He has also initiated a Folklore Research Award on his father's name Janapada Brahma Manapragada Narsimha Murthy, which has helped many Folk artists in conducting Jana pad a Vibhavari to encourage folk talent every year since 1999 to encourage Folk Arts of Andhra Pradesh

He holds Guinness World Record in Unique Singing Category for the Patriotic song Saare Jahan Se Achcha - Maa TujheSaalam - Vandemataram sung in 277 Languages

Besides Srinivasa has donated funds to many organizations in US and India being a philanthropist and Initiated and Showcased Tiger Awards in USA in Community, Journalism, Art. He has also got Recognition and Appreciation from former President Barack Obama and First Lady Michael Obama





## Raj Gandhi (India)

A Leader On A Mission

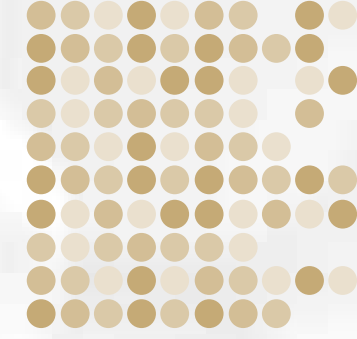
Mr. Raj Gandhi's name has been synonymous with the legendary Shapoorji Pallonji Real Estate. Having been the Executive Vice President and Facilities Management for the last 13 years, Raj Gandhi has been striving hard to make Shapoorji Pallonji a name to reckon with.

A distinguished Veteran Naval Engineer, who relentlessly served the Nation for 19 meritorious years with the Indian Armed Forces, it was no cake walk for Mr. Raj Gandhi to transition from his earlier job when he landed himself in the corporate world.

Yet being a fighter even off field these skirmishes in the corporate world did not deter the Armed Forces man from achieving his dreams.

Mr. Raj hails from a humble middle-class family in Kota, Rajasthan, and alumnus of Kendriya Vidyalaya. During his teens, he nurtured a dream to become a Star on the Silver screen and indeed got selected to Film Institute, Pune at a tender age of 17 years to make a grand beginning.

However, as the saying goes, "While Man plans his future in accordance with his



## He began his journey as a Chief Engineer of a 5-Star Hotel wherein he had a remarkable tenure with magnificent display of Professionalism.

present, The God plans Man's present in accordance with his Future." He was destined to become the frontline soldier of our Nation in the Three-Dimensional Force "The Indian Navy", to Groom him as a Leader and influencer. A humble Journey of his maiden career in Indian Armed Forces that began in 1978 laid the foundation to a "Leader in the making."

His relentless service has not only brought laurels to the Forces but also transformed him as a distinguished leader who led the crew from front and also transformed many young soldiers into mighty leaders of today with his expertise.

In recognition of his professional excellence, Indian Navy, MoD has deputed him to then USSR for 18 Month period for training on Advanced engineering systems & acquisition of technology for Naval vessels post which he was appointed in Naval Engineering College, Lonavala, Maharashtra as faculty to train the future generation of soldiers.

After 19 years of illustrious service to the nation, Mr. Raj Gandhi bid adieu to his military career in 1997 with sense of pride and Head held high to mark another glorious chapter in the corporate leadership role, "a vision which he has garnered to establish himself in the league of leaders shaping the mighty corporate world of our country.

He began his journey as a Chief Engineer of a 5-Star Hotel wherein he had a remarkable tenure with magnificent display of Professionalism, Leadership & innovation befitting his role. Having groomed by the Indian Armed Forces, leadership, Discipline, Integrity, Honesty, ethics, Servitude to society, People management, tiding over the challenges with tact & finesse and passion towards work has always been innate, his Mantra and Soul's inner craving for Raj Gandhi.

In his quest for such a profession, he finally embraced the job of a Facilities Management and never looked back ever since. He earlier worked with Knight Frank (India), Future Group-Pantaloon Retail (India) and finally landed with the legendary "Shapoorji Pallonji and Company. "

He has headed the famous "Sterling Towers" and "Imperial Towers" at Mumbai, SP Info city (Chennai) and now heading Facilities operations of 13 million Sq. Ft of retail

properties at SP Info city (Pune), SP Info city (Nagpur), SP Info city (Mohali), SP Info city (Manesar) and 8 million Sq. Ft of Residential spaces at Bengaluru, Pune and Mumbai.

His salient contributions to the Facilities industry are Transition Management of Condominiums, Customer centric model of Facilities Governance, Deployment of technological Platforms for Property & Asset management, Electronic Waste (E-waste) Management system in Residential properties to name a few.

He has been recipient of coveted commendation by Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief for rendering meritorious services in classified missions onboard Naval Warship and the famed "High Rise Award" for his outstanding contribution at "The Imperial". And recently had been honoured with prestigious "The Indian Achievers Award" & "Man of Excellence Award".

His success Mantra in life has been "Service before Self", Charismatic Leadership, Servitude, Transparency, strong ethics and "Never give up" attitude that led him to achieve his goals in life.







## Vipul Saran (USA)

### Soaring To Greater Heights

They say that sky's the limit for Vipul Saran, an entrepreneur who has been passionate about agriculture and commercial farming in the emerging economies. He has been working in the food processing sector for the last ten years and has been focused on intensive and commercial farming.

An investor currently living in the United States, Vipul Saran has founded two businesses, one to empower farmers and the next is to improve the food supply chain systems.

Currently based in the US and along with his partner and co-founder Michael Annunziata, a fellow Cornell graduate Vipul has scaled Farther Farms to its first pilot facility in New York State and expects to begin international expansion of the technology in late 2023. The company has garnered support from some of the world's leading investors and agribusiness companies and has been featured in several global news outlets.

Prior to moving to the states in 2016, Vipul founded a new export venture to support small & mid scale farmers across different geographies of India. The company, Vibhuti

## Prior to moving to the states in 2016, Vipul founded a new export venture to support small & mid scale farmers across different geographies of India.

Agro, strives to support farmer's access to new international markets for their produce while providing higher quality products at fair prices to consumers across Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

Vipul was born in a small village in Western Uttar Pradesh in a family of doctors and farmers. His parents continue to live at the family farm established and named by his grandfather 'Dayalpur' which means abode of peace & grace. Vipul was exposed to the contrast between abundance and scarcity. This exposure taught him both the survival and leadership skills that define him today. He always engaged himself in deeper intellectual discussions with his father who has been an inspiration and role model for him. His discussions with his father regarding varied complexities of practicing agriculture in developing nations gave Vipul an appreciation for the challenges

that used to and in some cases still exist within the agriculture ecosystem. With limited avenues of high quality education near the farm, Vipul's parents sent all their children to boarding schools. Due to their undeterred commitment and sacrifices, he was fortunate to receive schooling at Mayo College, Ajmer and pursued higher education within the field of food science & engineering at Cornell University. He has been nominated as spotlight alumni for his work and achievements within his field for the past 3 years.

He started locally with small farmers to develop the first of its kind Co-op model in India with a vertically integrated business model - A farm to ensure financial independence and shield members of co-op from unpredictable market forces and an unreliable supply chain. From exporting the first shipment to Bangladesh, Vipul led the expansion into GCC countries and other parts of the Middle East over the next two years. He also co-launched new brands in high demand food service markets.

Vipul was yet again inspired and decided to pursue further specialization within the field of food science to explore technology that can help reduce post-harvest dependency on cold chain for the agriculture sector at large.

His work at Farther Farms has attracted the interest of the federal government for its potential impact on the food system. The

company is a recipient of awards from the the National Science Foundation to fund further development and to unlock new applications that can increase accessibility of quality food globally.

Seen as an emerging entrepreneur with the business acumen within his field, he is called upon to give talks at several government led organizations including Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Central Potato Research Institute India, International Potato Center and universities.

Vipul is also a part of the Stanford Business School's Seed program, an initiative that partners with and supports entrepreneurs in emerging economies to build thriving businesses that transform lives.

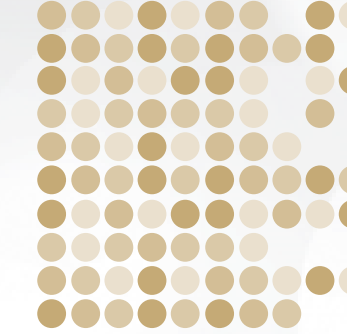
Vipul is blessed as a family man. Vipul is the youngest of three sons and shares a deep sense of gratitude for both his parents and his two older brothers who have all supported him with his decisions and share the credit for his successes. His eldest brother Anurag Saran works for the Government of India in Customs, Mumbai and Prafull Saran, his other older brother works in the family business. Vipul lives in Rochester NY with his wife and 2 year old daughter, Anora. Vipul's wife Erica Beversluis Saran is a writer and consultant. Through her education in public affairs from Cornell and nonprofit, government and literary pursuits she is interested in promoting diversity, challenging stereotypes and finding ways

to help the next generation flourish.

Tangentially, Vipul is also passionate about aviation. He has been fortunate to have been able to pursue aviation professionally. Vipul is a certified private pilot with high performance endorsements. Aviation has taught him the importance of discipline and balancing the consistency between the macro viewpoints of life with his day to day execution of work. Vipul's journey is best encapsulated within his motto to remain 'a farmer at heart who loves to fly'.







## Shailesh Kunnath (Dubai, UAE)

A Talented Investor

Shailesh Kunnath is not only talented but also a Passionate advocate for block chain - a new technological paradigm that can change the way we work and add value to our lives.

A well-known investor in over 50 start-ups, he utilizes his unique enthusiasm and understanding of block chain technology, decentralized finance, and crypto currency to serves as legal, operations and strategic advisor to a number of companies and high net worth individuals on a variety of block chain topics, including NFTs, DeFi, interoperability, finance, tokenomics, revenue models, wallets, and more in the web3 , block chain space projects.

Shailesh believes that the block chain is going to revolutionize trust. Shailesh is also a great proponent for regulation in the block chain ecosystem and hence co-founded a MENA focused VC - Masary capital, assisting regulated and reputed block chain / crypto companies grow and scale in MENA.

An Avid reader and lifelong learner, Shailesh holds a master's degree from University of Bolton, Finance certificates from Corporate Finance institute in addition to ESG , AI ,

Blockchain , Digital Transformation courses from IIT and other institutions.

Bitcoin `s White paper on the ability of bitcoin to transfer value through the internet, peer 2 peer caught Shailesh `s interest early on. In the early nineties, he used FTP for

distribution and sharing of media files such as books, music, movies, and games.

Shailesh believes that block chain will change the world as it comes with complete trust and the database is not governed by any single organization.





## Captain Indraani Singh (India)

Rising Above Success

Captain Indraani Singh has always been a strong and resilient woman who firmly believed that the fundamental right of every child is education. A Pilot and a giver this very thought is what made her do what she firmly believes in. She set up Literacy India in 1996 based on the four guiding principles – Education, Empowerment, Employability and Environment.

In its journey of 25 years, Literacy India has impacted the lives of 6.5 lakhs children, women and youth in India through its various projects in 15 states of the country. Capt. Singh continues to enthusiastically dedicate her time to Literacy India's initiatives, espousing the causes of the community.

"There comes a point in our lives when we want to do something that makes a difference to the world. Choosing our mission among multiple options is always based on the difference we want to make; whether it is implicit or explicit. When it is time to pay back to the country, there is a time to involve others and a time to simply take control. One can choose to be a soldier

## She was the first woman in Asia to fly Airbus 320 and the world's first woman commander on a wide bodied Airbus 300.

and defend the country's borders, or one can focus on the pertinent issues that the country has been facing. There are many issues where our country needs the support of every individual: population, poverty, hunger, health and illiteracy. At Literacy India, we focus on initiatives that we believe have the potential to create maximum socio-economic impact at the widest level."

Capt. Singh is a recipient of the International Congress for Women's Godfrey Philip Special Award for Bravery in Social Cause and the Women Achievers Award (2009).

She was the first woman in Asia to fly Airbus 320 and the world's first woman commander on a wide bodied Airbus 300.

"My parents are a mix of Rajput and Bengali. Life was not easy for them as they got married in those days intercaste marriages were not acceptable hence they fought a lot of opposition from their parents. They migrated to Delhi after marriage."

"My Mother being a Bengali was taking care of her mother as she lost her father very early in life. My mother was a very strong lady. So I come from a generation of ladies who managed their lives on their own and are very strong, resilient and courageous. I was brought up like that. I had seen them manage their home in a paltry sum as they had migrated to Delhi. I was the oldest of three children and have seen their struggles and hardships. It was not an easy life for them. Hence my father always told me to become an all rounder and the gender did not matter because he always favored women empowerment. Since I was brought up in such an atmosphere my upbringing taught me to be tough. I had two strong headed folks who supported me" says Capt Indraani.

"I always dreamt of becoming a pilot but girl pilots were very rare in India. I joined NCC and that completely changed my life. It made me more organized and disciplined. Then I became a fully fledged Delhi Glider Pilot and won the championship over there. I did not know that I would become a pilot. It was a fun experience for me. And through NCC I started flying. My father was really excited when I told them that I want to become a pilot. He immediately started organizing funds for my training."

Indrani then served in Indian Airlines through and through and even when it was taken over by Air India. "After that so

many airlines came in but for me Indian Airlines will always be close to my heart because I became the Commander of the world's 1st Airbus-300."

"Switching airline jobs was an easy option but I felt that I owe it to the airlines for giving me opportunity and some identity. When I became a captain for 300, I changed a lot and started looking after the organization. You get into different positions, examiner ship, general manager, director and all that in the organization."

That 's when Indraani realized that she has to do something unique in life. "I remember we used to adopt a few children for studies. She also collected money for the underprivileged children. We started Literacy India with 2-3 kids and now we have over 800,000, many programmes.. We have 102 plus centers across the 15 states. Each center has a technology-based solution and we have set up robotics and education programmes which have been created by us. All the centers are tech based. All the programs are tech based for basic literacy" informs Indraani.

"Late actor Farooq Shaikh had launched our innovation in 2009 and was associated with various programmes and campaigns. Aamir Khan also supported us to speak about the Gyan Tatra. Our children do theater and many of our students have worked in Aamir's films 3 Idiots, Neeli Chatri and Bhaag Milkha Bhaag. Whenever there

is any casting for shooting in North India, many casting directors contact us to cast our children for various roles in films."

"We have a center of good space where we call visiting faculties to train our children in acting, Music and dancing. Palash Sen Euphoria and some music directors from the south used to give music for our plays" she adds.

"In Fact I wrote to former president Dr. Abdul kalam to watch the production as I met him many times in the flight and he has invited us to perform a show in Rashtrapati Bhawan and he watched our performances eagerly," she explains.

"We always had great support from Pratibha Patil, Kr. Kalam, Aamir Khan, Farooq Shaikh and Kapil Dev. In fact, Kapil Dev launched our app called DOCO where children can put up their documentaries made for the purpose of social welfare. During the covid time our children of Literacy India made a campaign documentary on how to prevent Covid 19."

For Captain Indraani, success is not achieving something but becoming the world 's first, "success for me is going and making sure that I can make something inspiring for others."





## Dr. Zubin J Daruwalla (Singapore)

A Doctorpreneur and Philanthropist At Heart

Doctorpreneur, futurist and thought leader Dr. Zubin J Daruwalla was named One of the Most Influential and Emerging Voices in the Global Health Industry, 2021 and Top 50 Most Influential Voices of Healthcare, 2022.

Dr. Daruwalla works as PwC Singapore's Health Industries Leader, sits on PwC's Global Health Leadership Team and some years ago started an exciting and innovative approach to help guide start-up HealthTech companies from conceptualization to commercialization in a successful and sustainable manner for five days a week as part of PwC Singapore's Venture Hub. He also conducts virtual telemedicine clinics and continues to bridge the gap between corporate and clinical words by merging consulting with the clinical practice of medicine and his insights and perspectives from the latter.

Born in a Parsi family, Dr. Daruwalla hails from Mumbai (then known as Bombay), before his parents moved to Singapore when he was 18 months old. The youngest of three boys, he was the only one who did not heed his father's advice to all three sons of not pursuing a career in Medicine and followed his father's footsteps to become an orthopaedic surgeon. Zubin was always drawn to Medicine and although he admits

his A-Level results suffered as a result of his love of playing hockey and the time he dedicated to it, he nevertheless graduated with multiple Honours degrees from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) in 2005.

The Parsi community has historically been known for its philanthropy, and Dr. Daruwalla works to contribute to that legacy. To him, a generous attitude is borne of upbringing, and he thanks his late father – Dr. Jimmy Daruwalla, a prominent orthopaedic surgeon himself and founder of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore – for being his role model. “He was known for his ethics, honesty and integrity,” Daruwalla says warmly of his father. “He told me that orthopedics and medicine in general were in crisis, locally as well as globally, and that it was becoming a business. That people are starting to forget the human side of it.”

“My Dad - Dr Jimmy Daruwalla - used to try and dissuade all three of us from becoming doctors. He used to tell me that practicing medicine would mean I'd be the poorest but happiest of the three,” Zubin recalls with a grin.

Zubin's mother who played just as pivotal a role, if not more in his upbringing,

## The Parsi community has historically been known for its philanthropy, and Dr. Daruwalla works to contribute to that legacy.

unfortunately passed away from an avoidable medical mistake when Zubin was just 20. This was a very unexpected loss and just prior to him having to move miles away from home to Dublin in Ireland where he had gained admission to pursue the study of Medicine at RCSI. Many years later, he turned down a role at Waterford Hospital for an Orthopedic Trauma Registrar post in Oxford, UK which he regrets. “I had applied twice in Ireland, unsuccessfully, for the Orthopedic Training Scheme. A combination of impatience and frustration led me to take the job as Trauma Registrar in Oxford ahead of the role in Waterford. I learned from the experience though and it definitely played a part in the decision for my wife and I to return to Singapore and start developing our careers and putting down further roots here,” he reflects. At the same time however, he enjoyed his tenure in RCSI so much and felt so connected to it that he continues to be closely affiliated with his Alma Mater and serves as a Mentor to students and is part of an invited External Advisory Board. “RCSI

is a truly unique place where the focus is on developing students as people, not just as healthcare professionals. The fact that the alumni community spans 94 countries is also very rare and I actually see huge potential for RCSI's alumni community as a sort of consultative network through which different perspectives could be sought and global problem-solving could occur.”

He studied and graduated from RCSI from 1999 to 2005 after a stint in the army during which time he also represented Singapore in Men's National Hockey, something he states was a big component of shaping his life. He spent years in medical and surgical training in Dublin and Oxford, only to return to Singapore in 2012 where the previously British system of training had been replaced by the American system of residency, which meant starting orthopedic surgery from scratch. Dr. Daruwalla holds additional medical qualifications and Masters degrees in Orthopaedics from the RCSI and National University of Singapore (NUS). In his final year of accredited training in Singapore, Dr. Daruwalla began looking into other career opportunities to help people, and an old army friend and schoolmate of his who had started a teleradiology company as well as a digital health platform called MyDoc, sparked Daruwalla's interest in digital health.

Conscious that his work as an Orthopedic Surgeon gave him an, “Unparalleled satisfaction,” Dr. Daruwalla took his time to consider an alternative career and

a move into the HealthTech sphere. A chance encounter with a patient, who was working with Singapore's Ministry of Health as a freelance consultant ended up providing an opportunity to explore the world of consulting that ultimately led him to PwC where he has spent his last six and a half years even though his wife and two brothers had dissuaded him from the career switch as they were concerned the corporate world was too far from the practice of medicine and what he loved. “The reality is that healthcare as we know it needs to change. And change radically. And I want to be part of that change. My good friend, Professor Shafi Ahmed started Barts X Medicine, a new curriculum at Barts' medical school in the UK that aims to teach medical students about the future of medicine and covers a range of subjects, including entrepreneurship, finance and technology. I think doctors can really benefit from having a greater understanding of commerce,” he explains.

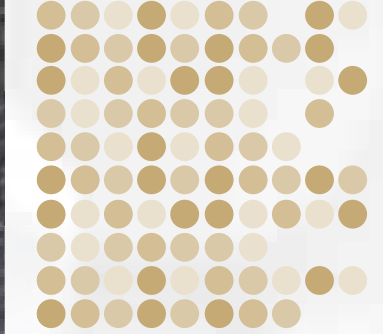
The above and Zubin's interest in bridging the gap between the clinical and corporate worlds was ultimately what led him to move into consultancy in 2016, on a part-time basis initially. It gave him the opportunity to work on projects with organizations such as the World Health Organization, the United Nations and the World Bank to improve accessibility, affordability and quality of healthcare. Around the time that Zubin started working with PwC South East Asia Consulting,

PwC Singapore launched their Venture Hub. In 2019, Dr. Daruwalla was appointed as PwC Singapore's Health Industries Leader as well as the Venture Hub's HealthTech Leader.

More recently and in the context of being a strong collaborator and believer in what he says PwC defines as the New Health Economy, Dr. Daruwalla excitedly also shared more about a venture launched earlier this year that saw him partner with the world's two most watched surgeons, Professor Shafi Ahmed in the UK and Dr. Rafael Grossmann in the US, where the three act as collective thought leaders and clinical ambassadors. In addition to serving in the role of Health Industries Leader, Zubin also occupies the role of Clinical Advisor for multiple HealthTech startups and has also been invited faculty and an evaluator for Harvard Medical School's Surgical Leadership Capstone program.

In his own words, Daruwalla sums up his philosophy with, “Another doctor once said that, ‘It's tough, this healthcare business. Or maybe it's tough because we are treating healthcare as a business’. That's what I want to fight. I want to lower costs and make quality healthcare more accessible and affordable for all globally, while ensuring that the morals and ethics behind the practice of medicine are never compromised.”





## Shanta Patel Rabadiya (Uganda)

The Guiding Force

Shanta Patel Rabadiya is a selfless woman with an epitome of both internal and external beauty. Having believed in the adage Unity in Diversity Ms. Shanta has worked persistently for Apar Foundation. Today she is a name to reckon with. Shanta has been the real Santa to millions of children and women for whom she has strived to give them a decent living.

Apar Foundation which in Sanskrit means Infinite has believed in holistic approach of a child's wellbeing. Beginning with a basic meal which is essential for both physical and emotional development, Apar has fulfilled the needs of millions of children. Good nutrition also promises less illnesses and more attentive happy children. Most families in slum areas can barely put one single meal on the table per day due to low earnings.

Shanta's humanitarian service journey started in 2017 when she was inspired by her Guru Parmukh Swami Maharaj. She



**she has served more than 1000000 meals , served more 20000 people with free healthcare , distributed 6000 sanitary pads, done 6 borewells serving 200 people per village,**

believed in saying ""in the joy of others lies our own". His energy was always channeled towards the best interests of others. His teachings and life are a living example of how selfless giving can create a harmonious world around us.

Shanta started her life in Uganda but her family was worried about her personal safety and how she would conduct activities in remote areas and in places where most would not dare to go. With no mentors to guide her it was her sheer determination and encouragement from a friend that let her lead the path with Apar Foundation. Shanta reveals that it's an acronym of my mother-in-law and Dad. From whom she learnt to serve the less privileged.

She is the voice of the voiceless and also lends support to the essential with education and scholastic items. They

provide basic amenities like bags, shoes, books, pencils, pens and sanitary pads for girls. Menstrual hygiene and health talks are also conducted in schools during which free sanitary pads are distributed. This supports girls who otherwise would miss classes eventually many would drop out of school. Some bright ones are also given bursaries to complete their education.

She conducts health camps where they are provided with general physicians, laboratory, women's health including postnatal and ante-natal clinics, family planning, cervical and breast cancer screening, dental services, eye screening and a pharmacy with free medications for the patients. Our team also emphasizes a lot on prevention of most illnesses. Health talks are also given during these camps in the local dialects.

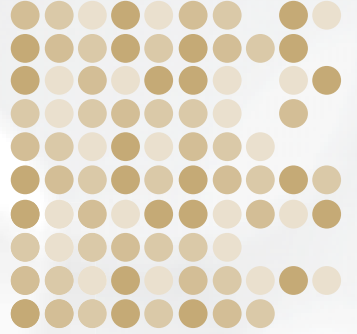
Most rural areas in Uganda have barely minimum healthcare facilities. Those which are there are mostly located far so many have to walk miles to access them. Planning and executing the health camps are probably the most strenuous for the whole team as commuting to remote villages means traveling overnight to cover long distances. At times if we fall short of any medical supply, we cannot acquire it in surrounding areas. Safe water in the form of bore wells was also incorporated as many children fell sick due to consuming contaminated water. Many girls were also

not safe as they had to walk miles to fetch the much needed basic needs.

After 5 years with the help of amazing team of volunteers and very generous and kind hearted donors, we she has served more than 1000000 meals , served more 20000 people with free healthcare , distributed 6000 sanitary pads, done 6 borewells serving 200 people per village,

But all this work also took a toll on Shanta's work. Struggling with deteriorating health due to depression, Shanta fought her way back. She has now trekked mountains, namely Mount Kilimanjaro (2019), Mount Moroto (2021) Everest Base Camp (2022). When Shanta looks back on her journey there's a sense of calm on her face as she has touched so many lives with her generous work.





# Nick Katsoris (USA) A Man Of Words

Nicholas Katsoris is the President of the Loukoumi Make A Difference Foundation and Author of the Loukoumi children's Books. Popularly known as Nick amongst his friends, Nick is a New York Attorney by the day and a writer by night. He was inspired to write a book about a fluffy little lamb named Loukoumi that wants to make the world a better place and that's how his journey with Loukoumi started.

A graduate from Fordham University and Fordham Law School Nick currently is the General Counsel of the Red Apple Group in New York. He is President and co-founder of the Hellenic Times Scholarship Fund, which has awarded almost 1,000 scholarships totaling over \$2.5 million. Nick is also a board member of Chefs for Humanity and has worked on a Loukoumi literacy awareness program with the National Ladies Philoptochos Society, and is also a member of Kiwanis International. Nick currently resides in Eastchester, New York, with his wife, Voula, a real estate broker and attorney, and their children, Constantine and Julia.

Passionate about writing he started writing children's books after his son was born, but a decade later, he wrote 7 books in



# The Loukoumi Foundation now works with over 100,000 children worldwide, teaching them to make a difference for causes they are passionate about.

the series and donated over 100,000 books and donated proceeds from the books to numerous charities including St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, The Make A Wish Foundation and Chefs for Humanity. The series includes the following titles: Loukoumi, Growing up with Loukoumi, Loukoumi's Good Deeds, Loukoumi's Gift, Loukoumi's Celebrity Cookbook, Loukoumi and University and many others.

The Loukoumi Foundation has sponsored the Make a Difference with Loukoumi Exhibit at the Westchester Children's Museum in Rye, NY where Good Deed of the Month programming occurs on the fourth Saturday of each month. The Foundation also co-sponsored with the Joey Foundation The Make A Difference Baseball League for 6 schools on the island of Jamaica. The Foundation's first project was the Make A Difference with Loukoumi TV Special which aired in October 2014 on FOX, NBC and ABC stations across the United States and Mega-TV internationally.

The Loukoumi Make A Difference Foundation is a non-profit corporation formed with the consent of the NY State Department of Education, to teach children to make a difference in their lives and the lives of others. In April 2017, Make a Difference with Loukoumi Day received TEGNA's National Make A Difference Day All-Star Award selected from thousands of projects nationwide.

Nick reveals that he wanted to be a writer as a kid and always dreamt of it. "I will never forget my first-grade essay titled, "Snoopy and the Banana Peel Factory, but even more importantly, I will never forget the encouragement I received from a very special woman. My Aunt Katherine who was a national Teacher of the Year and who inspired thousands of children, including me. She always told me to never give up on my dream and always follow my passion for writing. Although she passed away thirty years ago, she continues to inspire me every day. All these years later, I never dreamed that my love for writing would take me to this very special place, but that is the beauty of the story—you never know where the road will turn and how your dream will blossom. I went to law school and clerked for a federal judge after graduation. He was a compassionate man that taught me about how to treat people with kindness. I was inspired to write two legal thrillers based on my experiences, and I thought I was going to be the next John Grisham overnight!

The Loukoumi book was inspired by a box of Loukoumi Candy from Greece. After which he decided to name his character on the candy. Loukoumi also means "sweet" in Greek. "I self-published the first book, simply titled Loukoumi. It is now an eight-book series about a fluffy little lamb that just wants to make the world a better place. That summer, that little book about a little lamb who happens to get lost at the airport while visiting her grandparents in Greece on a summer vacation was written up in the New York Times and hit #4 on the Barnes & Noble children's book bestseller list. My dream of becoming a writer has come true! I then wrote the second book, Growing Up with Loukoumi, which teaches kids the lesson I had learned, that if you work hard and believe in yourself, your dreams can come true. With that book, I started the Loukoumi Dream Day Contest: children submit video entries telling us what they want to be when they grow up, and then we make the winner's dream career day come true."

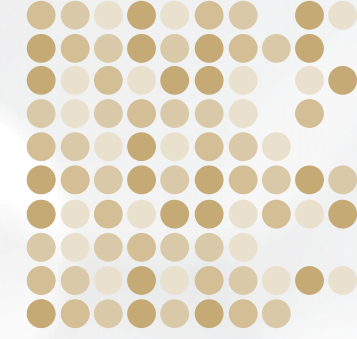
He formed the Loukoumi Make a Difference Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non profit that teaches children to make a difference in their lives and the lives of others, and so Loukoumi's path, which was already charitably rooted, took a major turn onto the road of philanthropy. Since then, they have produced a national television special that aired on Fox stations nationwide. The Loukoumi Foundation now works with over 100,000 children worldwide, teaching them

to make a difference for causes they are passionate about.

"I have been blessed along this road by many people who have inspired me and believed in what Loukoumi is all about. To the countless celebrities, organizations, supporters, mentors, and my wife, children, and family, I cannot thank you enough. I also want to thank High Flyers for making such an inspiring difference in the world and to Arsh Pal and his family for nominating me for this award. Arsh you are a beacon of light for all to follow. There is no greater gift you can give to someone, especially a child, than to teach them to believe in themselves and inspire them to do good in the world. I am grateful to all the incredible kids who are doing just that" says Nick Katsoris.







## Harish Menon (Dubai, UAE) A Man On A Mission

Literally a man on a mission, Mr. Harish Menon has dedicated his entire life to provide excellent opportunities for students in education around the world. Harish has been diligently striving hard as a leader in global education management across government and private sectors. He has been the champion in expanding access, equity and excellence in education for students all over the world.

Harish Menon has invested all his time in the non-profit management of the College Board, a 120 year old global leading non-profit education company that serves 8 million students each year worldwide. Harish has taken upon himself to help students in various programs and services including the SAT® admission test, PSAT® assessments, AP® curriculum program, and BigFuture® college planning resources.

Harish has played a key role in program management, business development, strategy, partnership relations, finance, and Office of the CEO and President initiatives. He is passionate about management and education to deliver programs that better prepare students for college success and opportunity and streamline their transition from secondary to post-secondary



## Harish has played a key role in program management, business development, strategy, partnership relations, finance, and Office of the CEO and President initiatives.

education. He has forged partnerships with state governments, K-12 schools, higher education institutions, and NGOs to deliver such education opportunities to students in a rapidly changing world.

Harish has been integral in delivering the global gold-standard SAT® suite of assessments to students in India, regardless of income, social class, and geography, and making it easier for them to access higher education opportunities in India and abroad. In doing so, Indian students have the opportunity to develop, sharpen and demonstrate critical thinking, problem solving, analytical, and communication skills that are recognized as important by the National Education Policy 2020.

He forged partnerships and established a scholarship program that provides students, particularly those from families of low-income backgrounds, which keeps them away from accessing high-quality higher education. In partnership with

Buddy4Study, India's largest scholarship platform, SAT® discount vouchers of up to 90% discount are offered to Indian students from low-income backgrounds to access the SAT® admission test. Additionally, in collaboration with universities in India, Harish implemented the merit-cum-means College Board India Scholars Program that covers 100% tuition fees for the highly talented, low-income students for their entire undergraduate education in India. These partnerships have enabled low-income students in India to confidently seek out high-quality higher education opportunities and change their lives forever.

Harish established a multi-year partnership with the Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TSWREIS) under the patronage of the Ministry of Welfare, to prepare students from families of low-income and marginalized backgrounds across the state of Telangana, for college and navigate the complex college planning process. In its first year of implementation, at the time of publishing this story, several students received admission with financial aid from universities in the US and India. Students, who had never stepped outside their villages, let alone state, are now bound to international destinations of higher education.

Born to a middle-class family in Mombasa Island, the "white and blue city" on Kenya's coast on the Indian Ocean, Harish was always taught the importance of education

and building a successful career. Outside of academics, Harish was drawn to the performance arts such as piano, dramatics and Indian folklore dancing. A consistently high-ranking student in his academics, he had to turn down full tuition scholarships from universities in the UK as his family could not afford accommodation and book costs. However, luck smiled on him, when he got admission in the BTech, Aerospace Engineering program at the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay (IITB). From failing in his first quiz on campus, to forging life-long friendships, to going to movies on motorbikes, to dating an IIT Professor's daughter on campus, Harish's undergraduate college life rhymes with some parts of Chetan Bhagat's novel, Five Point Someone.

After a stint at Infosys in Chennai, Pune and Bangalore, during which he was also part of an immersive Japanese language learning program in preparation for a potential technology role in Japan, Harish headed to the US to not just be in a closer time zone to his girlfriend (that same IIT Professor's daughter) but also pursue his Master's degree in Information Systems and Management at Carnegie Mellon University in USA. Prior to joining the College Board, Harish was a management consultant with Mitchell Madison Group advising some of the world's largest and Fortune 500 companies in education, publishing, manufacturing, and financial services. His projects spanned strategic

sourcing, business process re-engineering, IT outsourcing and rapid business performance improvements at clients including Morgan Stanley, McGraw-Hill Education, Allianz Insurance, Weight Watchers, just to name a few.

However, he realized that there was a lack of fulfillment in his career. He decided it was time to start afresh. During the 2007-2008 global financial crisis Harish finally found meaning and purpose in his daily work by joining College Board to serve students and bring them education opportunities, prepare them for college, career and life ahead, and break down financial barriers. For his contributions to nation building by expanding education opportunities to students in India, particularly those from low-income backgrounds, and connecting them to higher education in India and abroad,

He was recognized by the Indian Achievers Forum and awarded the "International Achievers Award".







## Dr. T. Rajini Samuel (India)

A Pioneer With A Vision

It is said that Innovative Ideas and Scientific Research require more patience and hard work to overcome the high resistance of restriction, obstruction and constriction in life journey which ultimately leads to construction (Nation Building)

Dr. T. Rajini Samuel has been one such innovative professor in his own rights. Known for his innovative ideas and scientific research in the medical field Dr. Rajini Samuel has worked hard to reach this position today.

He has extensively contributed to the significant innovative research in three biomedical research projects namely Electrocardiogram, Blood Gas Analysis and Ventilator Graphics Interpretation.

Presently working as an Associate Professor of Biochemistry in Shri Sathya Sai Medical College and Research Institute, Chennai, Dr. Samuel passed out his MBBS (2004 -2010), from Chengalpattu Government Medical College located at Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu, and India.

However just the degree did not suffice, as his deep interest lay in medical physics

## He has published 3 research articles related to the Novel ECG interpretation method (each one in 2012, 2018 & 2021).

that focussed on Electro-cardiogram (E.C.G). Hence he made his own interpretation which was self funded during the under-graduation years.

He believed that Ectro-cardiogram (E.C.G) is one of the oldest, cheapest, quickest, simplest, safest and commonest diagnostic equipment in medical field that plays an indispensable role in the diagnosis of coronary artery disease which still remains the number one killer disease of the world. ECG has offered valuable insights in health and disease for nearly a century yet its interpretation needs the help of medical experts in that field. A lot of advancements have come in the ECG machine, yet the basic physics principle of ECG is not clearly understood. Attempts by various other researchers in trying to solve this problem were not successful.

But Dr. Samuel did not give up; he solved this problem and found some innovative ideas in ECG interpretation. He joined as a

duty doctor in June 2010 in Venkateshwara Hospitals, Nandanam, Chennai (which is basically a cardiology hospital) and worked for a period of 2 years to complete this project. He had proposed the Cardiac Vector Hypotheses and described in detail about the Einthoven's Equilateral Triangle Hypotheses that has immense clinical value in the understanding and interpretation of ECG report. Coronary artery disease remains a great threat to humankind in the 21st century. The quicker and proper interpretation of ECG reports can help in early diagnosis that will result in saving millions of cardiac patients. He has published 3 research articles related to the Novel ECG interpretation method (each one in 2012, 2018 & 2021).

Dr. Samuel completed his post-graduation in biochemistry and completed M.D in Biochemistry (2012-2015) in Sree Balaji Medical College and Hospitals, Chennai. He also did research on Arterial Blood Gas (ABG) interpretation during this period. Blood gas analyser plays an essential role in the management of critically ill patients and ventilator settings. He had developed a novel contemporary perspective ABG Interpretation method and also constructed a newer graphical tool for ABG interpretation. He had published 18 research articles, 3 books and one chapter related to arterial blood gas interpretation.

After completing his post-graduation, he joined as an Assistant Professor of Biochemistry in May 2015 in Shri Sathya Sai Medical College and Research Institute, Thiruporur. He was promoted as an Associate Professor of Biochemistry in September 2020 and presently working as the same in that institute.

He carried out his research during COVID times on Ventilator Graphics Interpretation which plays a significant role in the

management of mechanically ventilated patients. He had derived novel equations of motion of respiratory mechanics for mechanical ventilation and published 3 research articles in 2021. He was awarded Atma Nirbhar Bharath Award 2022 & Indian Achievers Award 2021 for Excellence in Innovation by the Indian Achievers Forum. He has been invited as a guest lecturer in reputed institutes and also given video presentations talking about his innovations in various international conferences.





## Ssanjay Kumar Thanki (UAE)

An Executor and Great Strategist

Ssanjay Kumar Thanki has been a successful achiever and executor in the field of Cement Industry for more than three and half decades. He has worked across four countries (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Sultanate of Oman & Bangladesh) and made a name for himself.

Thanki believes in leadership and creating value sustainably while co-existing with nature and multicultural working atmosphere. It was his can-do attitude that was at the heart of his great achievements.

It was this attitude of loyalty and integrity that helped him to achieve COO position in a multi-diversified group of companies like (Lafarge, CEMEX & more) on an international level.

Born in a humble family he received education in the small town of Kathiawad, Porbandar in Gujarat (the birthplace of our great leader Mahatma Gandhi). He further obtained rich international exposure and experiences working in the international cement industry; which has further enhanced his leadership style. His ability to align with the strategic vision, work independently, multitasking, effective team participant, strong focus on ethics &

integrity and ability to take calculated risk is a combination rarely found in leaders.

He has expertise & hands on experience to plan & execute budgeted & economical mega cement plant projects (from concept to completion & operational) with cost effective solutions and financial awareness and to introduce new & longer durability cement products in the international markets.

Ssanjay Thanki has a unique ability to cut through the organizational changes that could stall the growth. He is good at executing a team to get things done through effective collaboration. He has tremendous experience in organization, restructuring and transformations and being passionate about creating value and believing in delivering results almost in any circumstances.

He also contributed to preventing air pollution, de-carbonization, lowering dust emission, environmental protection and reducing the energy (fuel & electricity) consumption in the various projects and plants whereas emission norms were both a regulatory and social responsibility for the surroundings.

**Currently, He focuses more on building a sustainable future for the organizations which is ensuring inclusive growth and building the right talent pool to carry the legacy forward.**

While working with CEMEX, UAE, he contributed to produce the best quality cement products which allowed the company to win cement & concrete supply orders for the construction of the foundation of the world's tallest & iconic building.

While working in Bangladesh, under his leadership, he introduced the highest level of quality standard to produce specialized cement products to Bangladesh's most iconic & prestigious project "The Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant Project" for the construction of their Nuclear Reactors. The company has been the exclusive supplier for two & half years to the Russian Client ROSATOM. It was not an easy execution as there were lots of regulatory norms that he had to follow to get the company's cement

approved from the Moscow Atomic Energy Commission and Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission.

Currently, He focuses more on building a sustainable future for the organizations which is ensuring inclusive growth and building the right talent pool to carry the legacy forward. He says that the credit of his success goes to parents, his wife & his son who supported him both physically and morally to achieve his goal for the foundation of excel. He is extremely gratified to his seniors and mentors who enabled him for these achievements. While these were a gratifying personal achievement, he takes these opportunities to a squadron of colleagues and efficient team work who made things possible.

"The Burj Khalifa" While working in Bangladesh, under his leadership, he could able to introduce highest level of quality standard to produce specialized cement products to grab the opportunity to supply cement to the Bangladesh's most iconic & prestigious project "The Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant Project" for the construction of their Nuclear Reactors. The company has been the exclusive supplier for two & half years to the Russian Client ROSATOM because of the quality standard established in the manufacturing process. There were lots of regulatory norms to get company's cement approved from the Moscow Atomic Energy Commission and Bangladesh

Atomic Energy Commission.

Currently, He focuses more on building a sustainable future for the organizations which is ensuring inclusive growth and building the right talent pool to carry the legacy forward.

Behind his success, he would give the biggest honor to his parents, his wife & his son who supported him morally to achieve his goal for the foundation of excel. He is extremely gratified to his seniors and mentors who enabled him for his achievement. While these were a gratifying personal achievement, he takes these opportunities to a squadron of colleagues and efficient team work who made these possible.

While working in Bangladesh, under his leadership, he was able to introduce the highest level of quality standard to produce specialized cement products to grab the opportunity to supply cement to Bangladesh's most iconic & prestigious project "The Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant Project" for the construction of their Nuclear Reactors. The company has been the exclusive supplier for two & half years to the Russian Client ROSATOM because of the quality standard established in the manufacturing process. There were lots of regulatory norms to get company's cement approved from the Moscow Atomic Energy Commission and Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission.







## Chandrashekhar Reddy Chedabavi (India)

The Man With A Vision

Fondly known as Chandra in his social and professional circles Chandrashekhar Reddy Chedabavi is a visionary and thought leader. His passion in the healthcare industry has brought a remarkable change and helped many people.

With more than 24 years of experience in the healthcare, e-commerce, manufacturing, and finance industries, Chandrashekhar is a visionary and thought leader. His passion is the healthcare industry, and he wants to improve people's lives.

Born in Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh in 1976, Chandrashekhar spent his early years across the country. His father served the country in the Indian Army before retiring as a junior commissioned officer and is currently enjoying retirement. He holds a Bachelor's in Microbiology (1997) from Bangalore University, a Master's in Computer Application (2003) from Madurai Kamaraj University, an Executive Management Program (GMITE) (2012) from IIM-Bangalore, a Master's in Business

## He also co-founded Zealora Technologies in 2013, a business that provided veterinary science services, consulting, and human-centered healthcare products.

Law (2020) from NLSIU-Bangalore and he is currently enrolled for Doctoral Program in Business Administration (DBA) Phd program (2022-2025) from Swiss School of Business Management, Geneva.

After graduation he began working at Omega Software India Pvt Ltd., as a customer support engineer at a client site. He changed careers and went from being a Software Engineer at Omega Software to Project Leader at Infinite Dimension Inc. He was the head of Middle East and was promoted to Project Manager. His first business venture was building satellite offices in the Middle East into a dependable entity with ongoing income.

In 2005, he returned to India and started working as a business analyst for Misys Healthcare, an MNC. Because of Chandrashekhar's strengths, his initial mentor encouraged him to join the company as a Business Domain specialist. He played various roles from Domain SME to management in Misys.

In order to provide a platform for predictive analytics in wellness and health management, he co-founded the first healthcare start-up in 2011 which was way ahead of time in offering capabilities and services in the areas of predictive analytics and connected health community.

He also co-founded Zealora Technologies in 2013, a business that provided veterinary science services, consulting, and human-centered healthcare products. Later, he accepted a position as Director of Technical Product Management at another MNC, Next gen Healthcare. He created a top-notch product management team of 55 individuals working on a broad range of products.

During Covid as the need for industry was shifting towards remote care and enabled products and services, he joined as a Vice President – Product Development (Healthcare vertical) at Smartek21 Private Limited, he developed technologies that aid in lowering physician burnout, increase healthcare professionals' efficiency, and improving patient engagement using human-centered Conversational platform. His work focuses on creating healthcare-related products and services that are built on modern architectural principles such as human centricity, decentralized identity, health analytics, cross-platform application, self-healing, and learning AI algorithms.

He joined HL7 India (a Not for profit Organization a affiliate of HL7 International- focusing on building standards in the healthcare segment for sharing patient

data securely across institutions to help patients for better treatment). He was on its board of directors for seven years.

He has provided free mentorship sessions to start-up organizations through Start-up India (a Government of India initiative). He works for a social cause, assisting non-governmental organizations that support old age homes, children, and people in need of hospital care in any way he can.

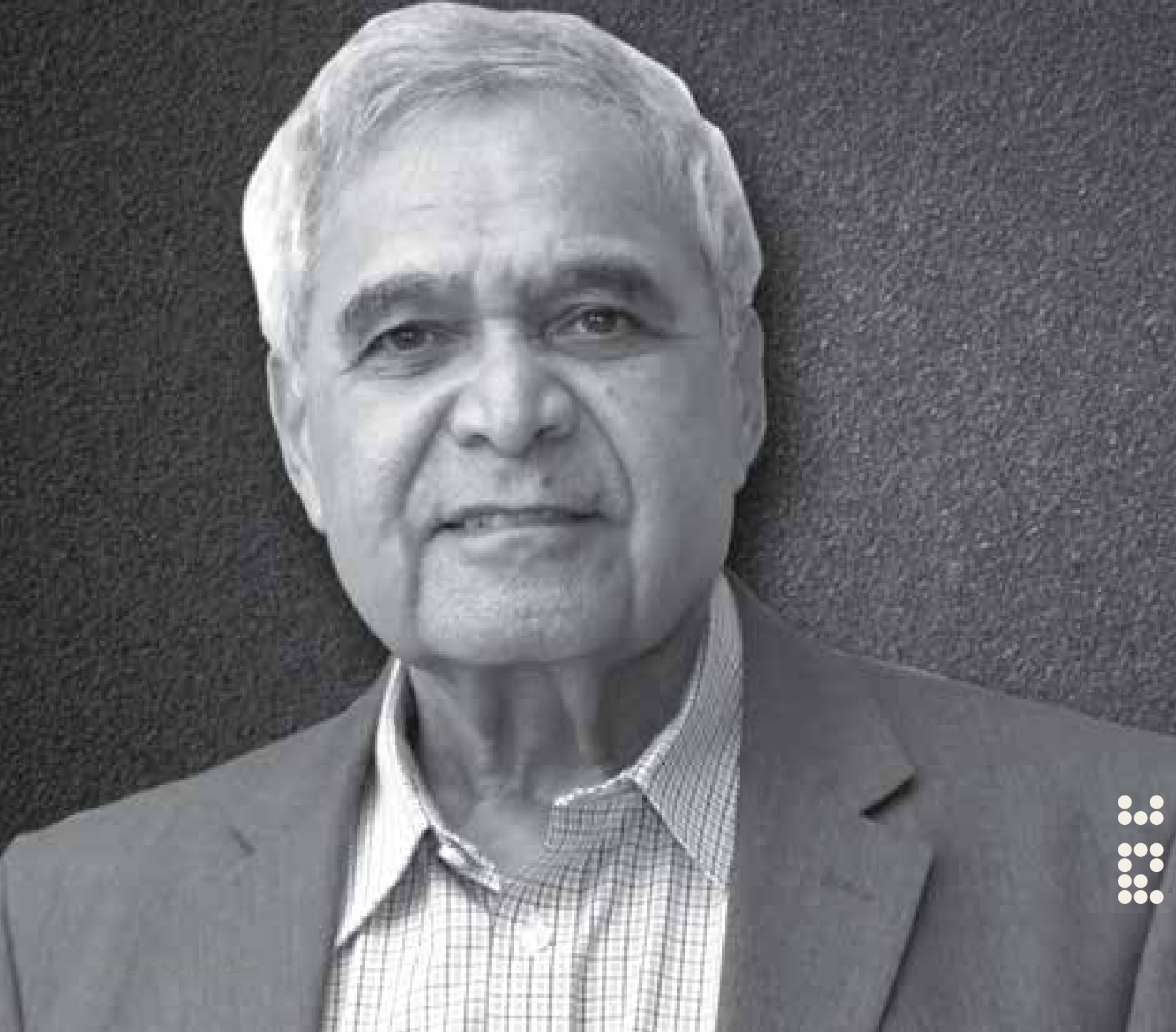
He received the Inspiring Leader Award 2022 from ET. In October 2022, he is named "Man of Excellence 2022" by the Indian Achievers Forum. He was nominated by Colleagues for "Nextgen Healthcare MVP 2020" (Most Valuable Player). In 2011, Chandra presented a research paper at a conference hosted by CSTM and IIM-Bangalore which was named the conference best strategy paper.

Chandrashekhar envisions improving people's quality of life by developing better medical services and technology. He is researching better public policies that need to be put in place to benefit people and their families as part of his Doctoral Program.

His family members are his inspirations because they have always been by his side and supported him throughout his life. He is grateful to his teachers (school, collage), and mentors, to name a few (Dr. Mohan Phani, Manoj Kumar), who helped shape his path to success. He is married to Vakula C and has two children Darshan Reddy C and Shanvi Reddy C. He lives in a joint family with parents and brothers and his lovely dog, a pug.

Besides work he enjoys reading, music, painting, sports (such as badminton, TT, and cricket), and traveling to meet new people and learn about their cultures. He keeps developing new skills.





## Harish Kotecha (USA)

Helping the Good Do Better

Life for Harish Kotecha, a philanthropist in real life has literally been a roller-coaster ride. A Ugandan Gujarati businessman born in Jinja, a beautiful small town nestled in the hilly regions of Uganda, Harish Kotecha has been awarded the prestigious Sandra Neese Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his work in the US for meeting the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness. He has won many awards in his lifetime for his philanthropic work.

Harish, a gifted mathematician, went to live in Kampala after school to complete his 'A' Levels. He further decided to achieve a degree and hence was sent to the UK for higher education at University of London Stratford Campus in London. He got his degree with honors in Electrical Engineering.

Moving from the Lush green hills in a pampered family atmosphere to a concrete jungle was a new experience for Harish. He had to manage on his own and do his own laundry, travel by public transport and also prepare his own food. Having achieved his degree, Harish had a job at British Telecom, but he chose to return to Jinja, Uganda and was given a job by relatives, Madhvani

## Savan Harish Kotecha, is an Oscar nominated songwriter with over 600 million sales to his credit!

family, at their Kakira sugar factory. The job was not challenging enough so he switched jobs as a Production Manager at a paper sac manufacturing plant.

In 1971, Harish married Shobhna Kotecha but things worsened when Dictator Idi Amin decided to throw out about 70,000 Asians out of Uganda in 1972. Only those with exceptional skills were retained. Harish decided to move to the UK due to the political instability. In late 1972, Harish with wife Shobhna went to the UK, with just \$200 to their name. Harish saw no opportunities for work in the UK, and decided to go to the USA where he had a Green Card. He landed in Fremont, California and stayed with friends while he looked for work. It was a difficult time for jobs, given the economy and the end of the year. Thus, Harish decided to move back to the UK and figure out what he could do. He stayed in New York/New Jersey where several of his friends from Kakira had settled. Harish's job search led him to IBM that was looking for Application Engineers with a temporary

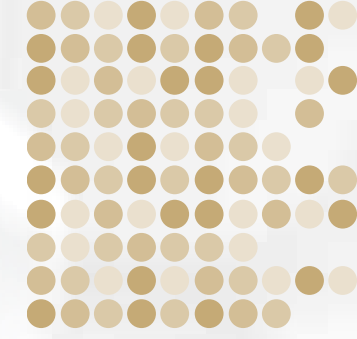
assignment in Manassas, Virginia. He was encouraged by his friends to take this job. Thus, Harish ended up working for IBM for 28 years.

His initial work was to build design rules for designers to design silicon chips and monitor the fabrication process using electrical measurements. After about five years in Manassas, Harish had to relocate to Burlington, Vermont where he continued this work as well as looking into initial development of non-volatile memories among other work. However, the cold weather in Vermont did not suit him and his family too well. He moved back to Manassas and eventually got into a management position. Again, in 1992, they relocated to IBM facility in Austin, Texas where he worked in areas of design kits for system development, Electronic Design Automation, and field Quality areas. He spent most of his time volunteering and had led various Organizations in cultural, civic, religious, and charitable areas, including helping with resettlement of Bhutanese refugees in the Austin area. He decided to dedicate his life to helping immigrants settle there.

Harish and Shobhna have two children. Sonia Kotecha, a Social Worker and now a Psychotherapist with her own practice in Virginia. And Savan Harish Kotecha, is an Oscar nominated songwriter with over 600 million sales to his credit!







## Debashis Haldar (India) A Man of Values

Founder and director of Founder Director of Masaya Pharmaceuticals, a leading Pharmaceutical in Eastern India, Debashis Haldar a dashing and hard working man has been a successful businessman with 32 years of experience in leading activities related to Brand Development, Management, Business Expansion, P&L Management, Sales & Marketing, Team Management & Leadership.

He is not only excellent in conceptualizing and executing innovative promotions to enhance brand visibility and conduct feasibility/profitability analysis in coordination with the marketing team and external agencies but is also skilled in maximizing revenue opportunities by achieving the set target through effective forecasting, pricing, finance management & optimal market business mix.

Debashis has been constantly supported by Mr. Animesh Mallick (Co-founder & amp; Director), a successful, experienced, and highly praised sales leader.

Masya started its business in just 3 Territories in the beginning but now with



## Masaya Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd. took birth in Eastern India, in June 22 Masaya is launching cosmetic- dermatological products that are scientific and evidence based.

their brand values they have expanded to reach 80% of their targeted customers in the East in just a fraction of 14 Months. With combined efforts of various stakeholders, the company has been able to grow 1200% in the short span and has flourished successfully, and is now striving to create its presence throughout India by March 2023.

What differentiates Masaya from its competitors is that Masaya upholds its core values of putting doctors first, exhibiting compassion for others, operating honourably, and conducting business openly. We take great pride in our dedication to making a difference in people's lives by offering them distinctive and unique items.

I have heard people frequently say they groom a company, their subordinates, and brands. I would like to say" the Pharma Industry groomed me," says Debashis proudly.

Debashis groomed himself in Sales & Marketing clusters at various key & senior positions in Ranbaxy, Sun Pharma and Alkem; matured him as a professional in the Derma/Cardio/Diabetic/Urology and Gynaecology domain which finally led him to make his own brand Masaya.

Masaya Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd. took birth in Eastern India, in June 22 Masaya is launching cosmetic-dermatological products that are scientific and evidence based. Bringing the goodness of world class unique ingredients, together they have been creating innovating solutions for a number of common conditions that impact people's lives.

Some of the common ailments are fungal infections, dandruff, allergy, skin-dryness which could be an indication or due to the result of diseases like diabetes, sunburn, hyper pigmentation, tough-dry-thick conditions like PPK & cracked feet and many others.

Having developed valued products, Masayans focuses on customers and doctors, who treat these troublesome diseases. "We professionally partner with them. We observe and learn from them

about the intricacies of skin diseases, what are the needs of patients and how they vary so that we understand and imbibe treatment norms. This helps us communicate overall proven success principles to Clinicians during our visits to them.

We are perceived as a 'science driven' company due to our sincere and dedicated participation at several knowledge programs held for Dermatologists in India. We carry key scientific messages and practice stories down the pyramid,

and we aspire to become the preferred vehicle for knowledge dissemination of the dermatology society in India.

At Masaya we firmly believe in our motto of 3P's that is -People-Product- Process.. Building People - Introducing value-offering Products and following Ethical and Success-leading Processes. We hope to deliver the values that we speak of and fulfil our mission and vision of Masaya "Together for Happiness" , says Debashis Haldar.





## Anshul Singhania (India)

A Man of Steel

Anshul Singhania is an experienced director in Business Development with a demonstrated history of working in the Steel & Fastener industry.

Skilled in Negotiation, Sales, Market Research, and Management, Anshul came from a background of trading and had no manufacturing experience. All he did was dream and he started manufacturing and started with processing of steel wires.

Anshul was born and brought up in Ludhiana and completed his schooling from DAV Public school in Ludhiana. He was always in the top 10 in his class. Later he chose the Non Medical Stream for class 11 and 12 and wanted to pursue engineering. "I prepared for competitive exams like AIEEE, JEE, BITSAT to be able to secure engineering in a stream of my choice at a reputed engineering college. I scored a decent 87.4% marks in CBSE Class 12 exams. In competitive exams for engineering, I was unable to secure a seat of my choice at a college in India."

He later took up Computer Science engineering at BITS Pilani Dubai Campus. "These 4 years which I spent engineering at BITS Pilani in Dubai, were the years

## It was in 2016, after understanding, through experience, he forayed into Fastener business

which shaped my life ahead. I was very perseverant, not just in studies, but also sports, and other extracurricular activities at BITS.

He worked at some of the best real estate companies in UAE as an intern for six months. He graduated with distinction and ranked 2nd overall in the Computer Science Stream. Thereafter, he decided to go ahead for Masters in Management. Initially he was denied admission in the MSc in Management program at the LSE. After writing to them several times he was finally offered a seat at the course of his choice

His two years at LSE in London were his formative years. He graduated with distinction and was amongst the top 3 in the class. He honed his skills in Finance, Management and Economics.

He decided to take up a job and become an investment banker but life had different plans for him. However, the job market for Indians in the UK was very challenging at that time, given that the UK government

had withdrawn post study work Visa and changed the VISA rules that year. He helped a lot of friends prepare for Assessment exams which are a part of the Job interview process. After graduating from LSE, he considered joining his father's business. "My father and his brothers used to work together back until 2011, and recently in 2012-13 they had decided to mutually split business lines and businesses. That was another challenging phase for my father and I had recently joined business after finishing studies. In 2013, I along with my father, who is also my mentor, and my role model and idol. Initially I had a tough time adjusting to the work culture here. "In 2014, I told my family, if Mr. Modi does not come into power, I would permanently move abroad to a new location in London.

It was in 2016, after understanding, through experience, he forayed into Fastener business. He started as a trading house, by importing and selling fasteners. In 2018, he decided to forward integration and started manufacturing Fasteners on a small scale (Fasteners are made from Steel wires). "Until 2018, we had 100% of our turnover coming from selling locally within India, and no experience of Export business. I was enthusiastic about fasteners, and had wanted to manufacture fasteners, since processing steel wire, which we were doing when I joined the business, was something which I did not find I could contribute much to. All these experiences, of living away

from family, in a new country, new city, amongst new faces, helped me gain the exposure, and learn lessons of life, which are helping me till day."

"Today, when I see it, we get 50% of our overall turnover from Fastener business. In the last 2 years, our turnover has increased exponentially. In 2018, we had Zero exports, and in 2021-22, we exported goods worth Rs. 48 Crores. 90% of our Fasteners today are exported to developed countries like the USA, UK, Germany, Italy and Spain. We now export to more than 30 countries, and constantly strive to grow our sales and business abroad."

"Today when I look back, I think about how I have achieved so much in life, which

would not have been possible, without the backing of my family, my father, my pious mother, my constantly motivating wife and sister. Without their support, and motivation, it would have been hard to achieve what I had achieved in life and I still continuously strive to become a better man, person and businessman than I was the day before. Success for me is hard work, perseverance, having a never let go attitude, never giving up, constantly working towards your goals, and learning from your mistakes and experiences. I have never come across anyone, who has had success in life poured to them on a plate. To some extent, there is a role of luck, but 99% of it is intelligence, hardwork and perseverance," he states.







## Sanjeevani Bhelande (India)

The Melody Queen

Singer Sanjeevani Bhelande the well known singer of Bollywood breathes life into her songs. Few of her hit numbers are from movies like Kareeb, Kohraam, Nayak, Jaana Nah Dil Se Door, Kyaa Dil Ne Kaha, Akhiyon Se Goli Maare, Fun2shh, Socha Na Tha and Hum Phirr Milein Na Milein. Not only has she achieved a lot at such a very young age.

Sanjeevani also writes the scripts as well as emcees her concerts herself. Her fans simply love the stylistic analysis and subtle insights that she gives into the music and poetry of each song. As a teacher, her tutorials on YOUTUBE are extremely popular. Music direction: Sanjeevani has widened her creative horizons by becoming a music composer and lyricist. She has more than a 100 original spiritual tracks to her credit:

Sanjeevani's album and book 'Meera and Me' is a genre in itself. She has sung, translated and composed Mirabai's songs in English.

Sanjeevani has created a unique album called 'Raag in a song'. These are classical based songs or Bandishes, recorded in the song format, with lyrics penned by Sanjivani. She has produced, composed,

## Sanjeevani's album and book 'Meera and Me' is a genre in itself. She has sung, translated and composed Mirabai's songs in English.

written, sung and recorded 12 ragas in this song format. She won the CLEF award for best music composer across all genres and best vocalist (Hindustani classical) for her fusion song 'Na daaro rung' in raag Bageshri. She has also recorded thumris and ghazals composed by her.

Sanjeevani Bhelande's YouTube channel is very popular with more than 150,000 subscribers. Sanjeevani has sung songs in 14 Indian languages like Marathi, Gujarati, Telugu, Bangla, Marwari etc. In Nepal, Sanjeevani has more than 100 superhit songs. Sanjeevani is trained in Indian Classical music for 20 years by stalwarts like Pandit Dinkar Kaikini and Pandit Feroze Dastur. She continues to hone her skills with Pandit Sudheendra Bhowmik and Dr Sandhya Kathavate. She holds a degree in (Music Sangeet Visharad), a Masters degree in Commerce and a diploma each in Mass Communication and Film Production. Sanjeevani has also trained

in Odissi dance with Shubhda Varadkar and Kathak with Reetu Panwar.

She is the founder and trustee of the charitable trust Meera & Me which supports needy students who wish to pursue classical arts like music, dance. Apart from all this she pursues her hobbies like Yoga, Cooking and gardening. She has a huge affinity for plants and she grows vegetables on her rooftop garden and does vermin composting.

Born in a cultured Maharashtra Family of academicians Sanjeevani was naturally inclined to arts from a young age. Sanjivani's father was a Mastered in Sanskrit and retired as Director of Education for the state of Maharashtra. Her mother retired as Lecturer in English from a prestigious Mumbai college. Her sister Anjali holds a Doctorate in English and taught for several years, besides authoring three books and editing the work of mystic Dada Gavand. Her brother, a management consultant, held an important designation in a prestigious multinational organization.

Sanjeevani, a talented girl, wrote and enacted a play at the age of six. She would sing songs as a two year old. When she was seven years old she sang songs at the Ganeshotsav Celebrations. Their neighbor Mrs. Gadgil noticed the exceptional talent of this girl and told her parents to train her in music.

Thus began her odyssey in music. She trained in Hindustani classical music and joined the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's

Sangeet Shikshapeeth for a degree in music. She did her Sangeet Visharad from the Bhatkhande Sangeet Vidyapeeth, Lucknow. After a tiring day at St Columba school, Sanjeevani would walk to Bhavans each day for her rigorous vocal training.

After her schooling and graduation in music, Sanjeevani joined the Sydenham College of Commerce. She won several music competitions in college and one day, auditioned for a television music game show Antaxari. Sanjeevani got noticed instantly and was soon invited to participate in the talent show Saregama. Sanjeevani sailed through effortlessly and won the first season of this talent show. Legendary music director Khayyam sahab declared Sanjeevani the first winner of Saregama.

Filmmaker Vidhu Vinod Chopra and his brother Late Vir Chopra later signed her

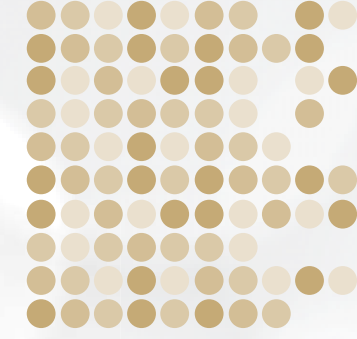
for their film Kareeb. She was given the opportunity to sing a total of five songs in her debut venture.

Her song "Chori chori jab nazrein mili" won her the best playback singer Ashirward award. Her songs "Chura lo na dil mera sanam" got Filmfare and Screen nominations.

In the year 2000, her song "Nikamma kiya iss dilne, Kya dilne kaha" became a chartbuster. All along, Sanjeevani kept herself busy with live concerts in which she revived some extremely difficult retro songs sung by Lata Mangeshkar, Geeta Dutt and Asha Bhonsle. She has performed in more than 2000 live concerts worldwide, with 20 concert tours of the USA alone. Sanjeevani mesmerizes her listeners with her brilliant command of her melodious voice and graceful presence.







## Disha Rathi (India)

A Beauty with brains

Disha Rathi a young entrepreneur and a getter who never gives what may come. Ten years ago, she didn't have a vision of what she planned to do in life but then she started her first E Commerce company and has never looked back ever since. Founder of Digitalzaa Enterprises, popular Youtuber, and an Entrepreneur and an International Author, Disha helps businesses to scale their revenue using Online Marketing Strategies." I love being the boss of my own life" she says. Her motto in life is work smarter not harder.

Disha started her first E-Commerce Company and when she was entirely successful she started helping others build their business. She trains Business owners, Entrepreneurs or people who want more exposure to their brand online via social media or digital marketing to build their Successful Brand or Business online, and give them flexibility, fulfillment and control over their success.

At the age of 24, Disha started her own company with very little manpower of around 10 people. It was her 1st Ecommerce portal where she started selling Bakery

### Disha believes in the competitive age of Technology. "Focus and work smartly," she says. Growth is the only constant in life and Disha did exactly that.

products online. "Cakes, and cookies are always in huge demand. My friends told me that it is very difficult to get all the baking items together. So it struck me why not start a business where I can sell all the bakery products together. I started selling various kinds of Cake molds, Chocolate mold, Fondant molds online and I applied variations of creativities in selling my products by making combos of the products. Like, I sold butter paper with Cake pan, Transfer sheets with Chocolate molds etc. By God's grace, I got a lot of orders via our own e-commerce website and we listed our products on amazon as well. We had a huge demand for supplies and we were always busy. During the festive season the demand was higher approx 2100 plus orders per month. We were happy but unfortunately, I was not able to continue my business further as I got pregnant at the age of 29. It was a delayed pregnancy so the Doctor told me not to do any hectic work. It was a happy but unfortunately

I had to shut down my business as I was handling the business all alone handling the complete business right from vendor management to inventor and website management. Though I had the staff to help me but without my decisions and observations, it was not possible for them to proceed with the company. So I took a break from my career for a year. "

The break gave Disha time to think of her future career goals. She made use of her time to learn marketing especially digital marketing as she was handling her website and backhand she did basic SEO operations. Not satisfied, she decided to learn the advanced concepts of Digital Marketing to grow her business and joined the Google Developers team, Hubspot team and many more things and started learning Advance techniques from these experienced professionals.

Since she had a child she could not leave her home. Though she had the skills she didn't have a platform to start using the skills. At this point she took over her husband's Company as her first project. "It was all new for him hence he asked me not to change anything on the main website. He gave me permission to do something on another domain. Not the one to easily give up she purchased a new Domain for his brand new website. "It was a litmus test for me so I copied his complete data from his original website and listed all the products on the new domain. My project was ready and it was the perfect time to test and apply

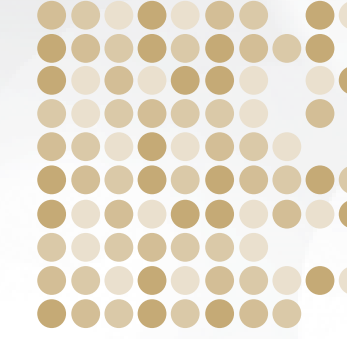
all the advanced marketing skills that I had learnt. I worked so hard on this project on day to day basis to just check my skills. After 1 month of testing we started receiving a huge number of enquiries. I was excited and so was my husband. Today he is proud of me. We changed all the official phone numbers, and email id's from this website so that messages of customers should properly pass to his CRM Sales team. From that time, I helped businessmen to scale their revenue using Online Marketing Strategies by adding Professional Skills to their mindset to get more Clients and Customers. Now, I am running multiple Successful B2B and

B2C Companies underneath me. I have mentored multiple businesses to hit 6-7 figures in revenue. Currently, I am handling more than 50 plus staff in the field of Sales and Marketing. I am running my own Multinational ISO Certified Companies known as Digitalzaa Enterprises and Quest International in Mumbai. "

Disha believes in the competitive age of Technology. "Focus and work smartly," she says. Growth is the only constant in life and Disha did exactly that. "Make Software, Smart Automation tools your best buddies to make your life easier" she says.







## Shri Bharat Upmanyu (India)

Renowned Astrologer and Spiritual Guru

Bharath Upamanyu is a renowned astrologer and Spiritual Guru. He has been very intuitive from a very young age. Born on 6th September 1959 in Rajasthan, to a freedom fighter, Bharat was keen to make a career in occult sciences. Not only that he was keen in acting. He also produced and directed movies, serials and documentary movies, producing and directing movies.

Bharat made his first breakthrough in Astrology when he predicted Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru's death at the tender age of 5. His prediction amazed people and he was encouraged and he started learning Astrology, Palmistry, Numerology and Face reading by the age of Nine he has mastered all the topics.

He started his career as a professional astrologer at the age of 17 and in the past 36 years has helped innumerable people attain happiness and prosperity through his accurate Astrological Advice and Spiritual Guidance.

He is the astrological adviser to many business tycoons, politicians and film stars. He believes that in human life there are only three types of problems, Daihik (Physical), Daivik (Spiritual) and Bhautik (Materialistic).

And there are only three solutions to these problems, namely Mani (Gemstones), Mantra (Chanting) and Aushadhi (Medicine). He has been actively involved in social and political activities since childhood. He contested the parliamentary election from Ajmer (Rajasthan) as an independent candidate in 1999.

His registered organization Vishwavyapi Manav Kalyan Charitable Trust aims to raise funds and use them for charitable causes like providing education to the underprivileged, orphans and children with special abilities.

Bharat Upmanyu is a filmmaker as well and has written, directed and produced television series entitled "Jyotish aur Moksha" and "Jyotish Dharm aur Darshan" on India's leading spiritual channels Aastha and Saadhana respectively. Subscribe Now & stay updated on your favorite StarSubscribe Now & stay updated on your favourite Star. He also shared screen space with the then super star Rajesh Khanna.



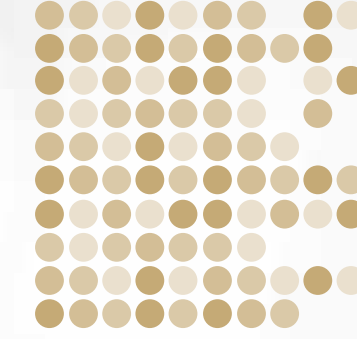


## Dr M .Balasubramian, a doctor by profession but he is more popular for his leadership and Management skills.

Dr M .Balasubramian, a doctor by profession but he is more popular for his leadership and Management skills. He has successfully led over a period of 35 years a team of Healthcare professionals in various hospitals in Mumbai.

He is a strategic, people-oriented leader with senior-level experience within complex health Environments who enjoys leading and influencing change. He has a genuine passion for working with the community and other key stakeholders to improve health outcomes.

With a passion for studying and acquiring knowledge, Dr. Balasubramian successfully completed MBBS from Grant Medical College, Sir J. J. Hospital, and Mumbai University in the year 1985. He later got a Postgraduate Diploma in Hospital Administration from Indian Hospital Administration, 2001. Not satisfied,



## Dr M. Balasubramaniam (India)

A Born Leader

he went on to do M.B.A. from the National Institute of Management, 2009. He continued to do his M-PHIL in Business Management from D.Y.PATIL Institute of Management Studies, 2012. Later he did an Executive Course in Hospital Management from Indian Institute of Management (I.I.M.- Ahmedabad), 2017. He has done Strategic Management in Digital era from Indian Institute of Management (I.I.M Ahmedabad), 2020. The doctor did not stop learning there. He did an Advanced leadership Management in Digital era from Indian Institute of Management (I.I.M.-- Lucknow), 2020-21 and also completed the General Management Program from the Indian School of Business(ISBO 2021—22).

Dr M .Balasubramian was Chief Medical Officer at Lilavati Hospital from July 2021 Chief executive Officer (Raptakos & Brett Ltd Mumbai) Sept 2019—June 2020. Medical Superintendent (Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai) March 2013—April 2019. Chief Executive Officer (Shushrusha Hospital Mumbai) June 2011---November 2012. Senior Medical Superintendent (Bhatia Hospital, Mumbai) June 2009---May 2011.Hospital Administrator (Saifee Hospital, South Mumbai) December 2006—May 2009

Deputy Medical Superintendent (Bhatia Hospital, South Mumbai) September 2005—Aug 2006 Hospital Administrator (H.N. Hospital, Mumbai) Sept 2004—August 2004—August 2005 Medical officer- Administration (Lilavati Hospital, Mumbai) April 2003—January 2004. Family Physician (Out-patient clinic, Malad, Mumbai) March 1987—June 2021

He has received Govt. Open Merit Scholarship (1977-1979) for meritorious performance in Board (S.S.C.). Received Distinction of serving for backward patients (socially and economically), including distributing free drugs to T.B. patients. Counseling for H.I.V. patients and a reliable track record as trusted General Practitioner

With more than 32 years of Clinical Administrative experience Dr. Balasubramian worked with different leading Tertiary care Hospitals across the city in Senior Leadership positions.

With an innate curiosity to question and acquire knowledge he went on to learn and unlearn many things in life. Apart from studies he also participated in quiz competitions, essay writing, elocution competitions.

After he completed his MBBS he started doing Family Practice but not satisfied he yearned to do something more. However financial constraints did not help him in achieving his dreams. With whatever resources he had he did a Diploma in Hospital Administration (DHA) and then MBA in Hospital Administration and M-PHIL in Business Management while he was also busy working. He was chosen by the IIM for an Executive Course in Hospital Management in June 2017. He finally managed to complete a Strategic Management Program from IIM (Ahmedabad).

A people-oriented leader with senior-level experience within complex health environments, Balasubramian continued to cherish his dreams. A qualified M-PHIL Business Management and good at Man Management skills and excellent knowledge of Hospital he started Academic Courses at many of the leading hospitals.

This effectively strengthened the Clinical Services of the Organization. He has been responsible in implementing many of the quality initiatives like TQM in the hospitals which were greatly appreciated by the

Management. A core committee for NABH was formed under his leadership.

Dr. Balasubramian says that his main aim is creating future leaders who have the same desire to question the status quo and are willing to unlearn in order to learn again for the future. "The Strategic Management program from IIM will help develop a mind-set and learning tools to analyze internal and external. Eventually I plan to train young management trainees for Leadership roles so that we have created a dependable set of leaders to lead the Healthcare systems across the country."





## Makrand Pataskar (India) In The Space Of Time

Architect Makrand Pataskar is not just a dreamer but also a creator who can surely create empty spaces into dream corners. For an architect time is the biggest constraint. Managing workloads and prioritizing assignments and yet pleasing your clients at the same time is the key to success. Architect, Interior Designer & 3d Visualiser, Makrand Pataskar has been doing just that to reach where he is today. He has been known for creating dream spaces, and contemporary living with careful attention to detail and to the needs of clients/end users of these spaces.

Having completed his schooling from Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Mauritius, Makrand was always fascinated right from a young age to see this diverse architecture and cultural mix, as the Mauritian populace is a composition of French, British, Indian and African descent. This extraordinary melting pot inspired him to create and amplify spaces out of nothing. We design your Dream Space, Has been his motto ever since.

Makrand Pataskar has been an Architect with over 25 years of professional experience

## The Design and development of University at Mansa and Kasama. Business House for Bank of Zambia.

and he has successfully completed various architectural and interior designing projects as proprietor of MPA. His interests lay in Hospitality, Corporate Office, Residential and Commercial interiors.

They are also lifetime associate members with IIA (Indian institute of architects) and I.I.I.D. (Indian institute of interior design).

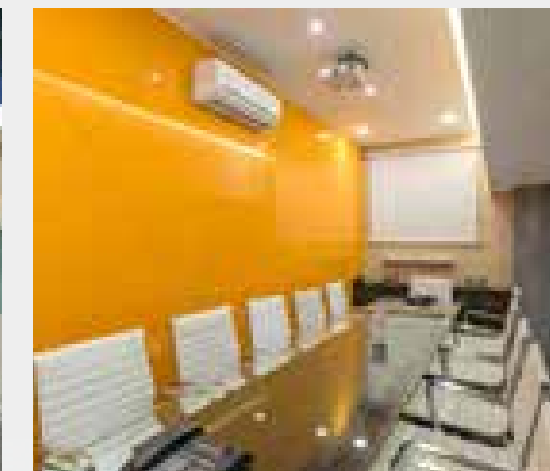
Pataskar has been known for creating some amazing projects not only in India but also Architectural conceptualizing and planning of Standard Chartered Bank complex, Lusaka - 29,094 sqm. Business House for Bank of Zambia, Lusaka - 26,600 sqm., Nsansa Housing Estate (42 plots), Lusaka - 24,800 sqm, Shopping and Entertainment Complex, Chipata - 44,775 sqm, Office Complex - Alic Nkhata Road, Lusaka - 4,554 sqm, Vuma Service stations - 3928 sqm, Bungalow for Capt. Chewe, Lusaka - 4768 sqm, Staff accommodations and common facilities at Konkola, Copper

Mines - 64,680 sqm, Lusaka Trust Hospital, Lusaka - 2,635 sqm

Makrand Pataskar has successfully designed and executed all forays of Interior Projects. To name a few highlighted projects such as Hotel Solitaire at Navi

Mumbai, Hotel Stellar at Gulbarga, Indoor sports activities such as billiards room, carom room, card room, table tennis room, badminton court, karaoke room, banquet hall, reception area, spa and cricket gallery at Chembur Gymkhana, Offices for NVS

Brokerage at Embassy Center, Nariman Point, Mumbai, Restaurants for Rohillya Foods Pvt, Ltd. at Bangalore, Restaurant for Rohillya Foods Pvt, Ltd. at Jaipur and 6,000 sft Bungalow at Kokapet, Hyderabad, Experience center for TCS at Amsterdam.





## Jaideep Nagrath (India)

### A Healer Through Nature

Mr. Jaideep Nagrath of Pentavox Herbals believes in healing through the natural way and what better way than Ayurveda. The man who grew up in a household where Ayurveda was induced in their lifestyles from an early age says that his company Pentavox Herbals and Development team is focused on continually developing new and innovative products, improving the existing portfolio, and expanding product applications across the globe. All their products are manufactured with the ultimate goal of delivering maximum possible benefits to the end user with a firm motive of taking Ayurveda to every household.

Born in the year 1978 in Ludhiana to a visionary father in a joint family, Jaideep Nagrath was brought up in an environment influenced by the ideals of his parents in his formative years. He completed his early education from Ludhiana where he developed traits like hard work, dedication and staying calm in all situations. He knew that the "Future belongs to the Ayurveda" and it was ingrained in his mind. He left Melbourne after finishing his Master in Business Administration from Australian

## Over 500 approved Ayurvedic products providing healing touch to people of more than 27 countries across 3 different continents

Graduate School of Entrepreneurship, Swinburne University. He then joined his father Dr. Pradeep Nagrath's business of manufacturing and marketing of Ayurvedic & Herbal products.

He explains that "Ayurveda is a 5000 year old science of healthy lifestyle and how this medical science passed down by our ancestors has a tremendous potential if explored well. He believes that the only way to take Ayurveda to its real potential is by educating the world about this science. That's how he started a program called "To sell Ayurveda you have to teach Ayurveda first" which became an instant hit with his team. That's how his team started organizing Ayurveda Education Courses, where they started sending Indian Ayurvedic Doctors and Yoga Teachers to various parts of the world to teach short-courses in Ayurveda and Yoga. This idea led to the exponential business growth for Pentavox Herbals which helped in making it

a recognizable name in the domestic Indian market for authentic Ayurvedic products.

Talking about his company Pentavox Herbals, Mr Nagrath shares his ideology of Health and Happiness through Ayurveda and how he aims to build a disease free society by only focusing on developing and marketing quality Ayurvedic products affordable for all. To take his vision forward, he and his team have set up a state of the art Ayurvedic products manufacturing facility in Ludhiana, which also holds the honour of India's first GMP certified Ayurvedic Company with ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 22000:2005 for food safety management systems since the year 2000. The Company's sole mission has always been to promote Ayurveda for care and cure through nature's own creations, using the rich expertise of hi-tech professionals who have successfully combined the Ancestral Wisdom, taken from the Ancient Epics with updated, advanced, automotive and computerized technologies. Pentavox Herbals has been in operation for more than 35 years manufacturing Ayurvedic remedies, dietary supplements, natural foods, personal health care products and over the counter ayurvedic products. It also holds the honour of the only Ayurvedic Company across the globe to be blessed and inaugurated by His Holiness, The Dalai Lama of Tibet on 28th March 2000. We also hold the honour of participating in prestigious health fair in Los Angeles, USA and on being invited by AYUSH and

the Govt. of India to participate in World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland to promote the Ayurveda and other ISM (Indian System of Medicine) with a selected few top companies from this field, for which we were given appreciation letter by the Govt. of India.

The products are manufactured with the highest quality controls. Talking about his Pentavox Herbals he said, "We have always followed the best of standards for preparing all of our products from its very own inception, keeping in mind vedic principles and ancient Ayurvedic texts. He recalls that the practical learning experience which he gained under his visionary father, Dr Pradeep Nagrath, helped him hone his leadership skills. He smiles and recalls when his company introduced their flagship product, Herbal 1-Top Capsules to the Indian market and It became rage overnight with the audience because of its high quality and result oriented approach. That's when we realized the real power of Ayurveda that is hidden in its treasurers.

Since then there has been no looking back and today his company Pentavox Herbals has over 500 approved Ayurvedic products providing healing touch to people of more than 27 countries across 3 different continents and his goal is to constantly widen his company's global reach.

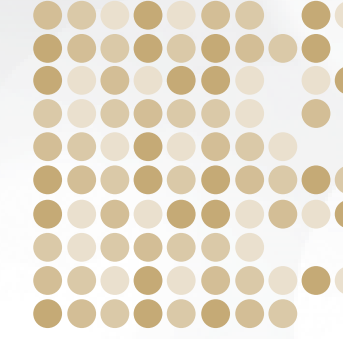
Today he is working on a new business model of setting up Ayurvedic clinics and resorts with yoga, spa, health treatments

and short courses for everyone. He has initiated this project with the help of Dr Anil Kumar Mehta (leading Ayurvedic Doctor, motivational speaker, teacher and entrepreneur) from Netherlands. They are running a successful project called PDI of Ayurveda Sciences and Yoga in Raiwala, Rishikesh and a second center called EISRA wellness in Goa.

Getting emotional while talking to us Mr Nagrath says, the road was not as rosy as it seems. Losing his father in the year 2013 when he was just 34 years old was a big emotional setback to him and to his entire family. He recalls those struggling days when everything was going out of his control and things were not looking good ahead, that's when his grit and perseverance worked for him where he managed to defy all odds and draw a new roadmap for his companies to bring about a change for higher growth in the times ahead."

Under Mr Jaideep Nagrath's dynamic leadership today Pentavox Herbals Research and Development team is focused on continually developing new and innovative products, improving the existing portfolio, and expanding product applications across the globe. The ultimate goal of the company is to give maximum possible benefits to the end user with a firm motive of taking Ayurveda to every household





## Megha Sharma (USA)

Strong and Courageous Woman of the hills

Born and raised in the foothills of Mata Vaishno Devi, Katra, Jammu & Kashmir, Megha has imbibed the qualities of the Goddess. She is strong and courageous and is fighting for the need to give back to her fellow Himalayan Women. She started the Giri Foundation as she knew the problems the women in the mountains face and how they need the right solutions to solve these problems.

Megha did her schooling from a boarding school in Mussoorie International School. Later she did her B.A. L.L.B from Delhi and then went to do her Master's from King's College in London. Later she practiced at the Supreme Court of India for ten years. She has done volunteer work with the UN, the Gate Foundation, and the State Human Right Commission in Jammu and Kashmir. She has also done thorough research on the benefits of legalization of prostitution in India for which she has met with many Sex- Workers in India. She later moved on to The U.S. but in early 2020 she felt that she needed to go back home and help the women of her hometown. She is currently writing a book as well and lives in Berkeley Hills, CA.

**She is strong and courageous and is fighting for the need to give back to her fellow Himalayan Women.**

Even after significant improvement in female education in the past two decades, India has seen a downfall in women participation in the labor force, more so in rural and remote areas (like mountains). Not having the right skills, financial independence, and opportunities to work from home or flexible hours is hampering women's role in the workforce. Giri Foundation aims at providing right skills, micro finance, and most importantly revenue generating opportunities by tying up with global brands who would like access to local handicraft, textile, or data entry/classification services from the women in the mountains of India.





## Sammie Vance (USA)

Making A World of Difference

Sammie Vance has not let her age stop her from making the world a better place. The 14 year old is already on a mission to make the world a less lonely place and she is motivating kids to have a friend. Sammie believes in the adage “You don’t just have to be an adult to make a difference; you can be a kid too.” Wherever Sammie goes she makes sure to spread kindness all over.

Sammie lives in Indiana and is in Middle School. She loves reading, writing and creating. Her favorite food is pizza and she enjoys connecting with people around her and she loves receiving mail from all over the country and the world.

She is a Giving Tuesday Sparks Leader and involved in various groups to support and inspire youth. She has recently co created a group called World Changers geared by young women to encourage them so that they can make a difference no matter what age they belong to.

Sammie does a weekly podcast called Sammie Smiles where she interviews people from all walks of life. It is geared towards leaving her listeners and guests inspired

## To date she has helped spread over 250 buddy benches around the world. The furthest one is in Ghana.

and with a smile. She also has created a series of large cap art murals using recycled bottle caps. She gained worldwide attention through her project where she collected plastic caps and lids and got them recycled into buddy benches for her school and all around the country. It has impacted and inspired many from kids to adults. Showing there are many ways to recycle and make the world more beautiful.

Sammie was 8 when she started Sammie’s Buddy Bench Project after hearing about a buddy bench at summer camp. She herself had felt lonely and shy and had seen others with the same problem so when she heard about the buddy bench she wanted them for her school to help others find friends so no one would feel lonely. She went from very shy to now speaking to big crowds of people about how they can make a difference no matter their age. She has written speeches, sent videos to groups wanting buddy benches and sent many thoughtful letters all around the world. Her appearance on the Today Show in 2018

brought even more awareness and many more people wanted to be involved in their own buddy bench journey or to help Sammie out. She chose to have the benches made at Green Tree Plastics in Evansville, IN because they use recycled bottle caps to make the benches and they cost less and get the community involved.

The buddy bench also helps kids that are new to the school and prevent bullying. That it is made out of recycled plastic caps is beneficial to the environment and is also very little upkeep. So helping prevent loneliness and helping the planet all in one. Being kind to one another and having the community come together to help out was a great result.

Sammie has volunteered hundreds of hours in the past 5 years helping others. Those benefiting from collecting caps are helping the planet. Those getting buddy benches are helping kids make friends. When you are kind all those around you benefit. She has inspired not only her community but groups all over the US and around the world. A group in India had a day of collecting caps for a buddy bench after hearing about her. A group in Mexico sent caps. A little girl in France sent her a letter saying Sammie inspired her to make a difference. A textbook company in Spain will be putting pages in their books going out to 45,000 students this fall about her project. This project encourages community,

kids and adults coming together for a great purpose.

To date she has helped spread over 250 buddy benches around the world. The furthest one is in Ghana. These buddy benches are in schools, parks, ball fields, shopping centers and even retirement homes.

Sammie received a Certificate of Excellence from her city’s Mayor, been a guest on the Today Show with Kathie Lee, Nightly News with Lester Holt, covered by LEGO, Martha Stewart Living, USA Today to name a few. Sammie is one of the 20 Finalists for Time Kid of the Year 2021. She has over 40 million views on numerous videos done on her, including one of them tweeted about by Reese Witherspoon. She has partnered with Walgreens and UPS who wanted to help her continue to spread kindness.

She has won multiple International Awards including an award named for her. Most recently she won the Power of Children Award, Diana Award, Gloria Barron Prize for Inspiring Young Heroes and Prudential Spirit of Community Award. She has been in magazine publications such as People, Bravery and Highlights and even in magazines in the UK and as far as Australia.

She wants to write books to inspire others to be kind and make a difference. Her debut book INSPIRE THE WORLD - A KID’S JOURNEY TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE

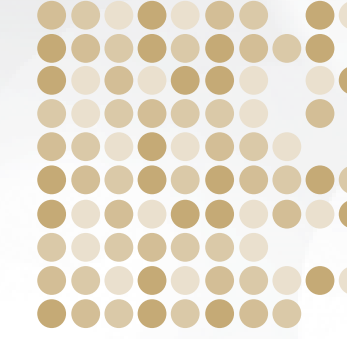
was released August 2021 by Clear Fork Publishing.







**He is an angel investor and invested in companies like Geekster, Classroom and many more. He has mentored some of the startups as well.**



## Amit Bhandari (India)

A Guiding Force

An eminent personality, Amit Bhandari has created a significant place for himself in the sales operations for the last 12 years. A young and dashing man who realised that he could be guiding force for the young he became the man who could lead the youth through the right direction

He has played a vital role in increasing the growth in MNC's. He has been working in segments wherein he can bring in some positive impact for the society.

Hailing from Jodhpur, Rajasthan Amit did his BE and later MBA and then joined the corporate world. Today with an experience of 12 years in the field, Amit is scaling startups.

He has worked both in B2B and B2C segments across sectors like Telecom, Hospitality, EdTech, Vocational courses and SAAS. He has built and lead high performance large teams both in sales and service for pan India.

Throughout his career Amit has maintained a strong record in recruitment, training and motivating staff to achieve sales and business objectives. In all his past positions he has consistently increased business to its highest sales performance metrics. He has

worked with companies like Vodafone Idea Private Limited, TATA, OYO, Whitehat Jr, Toppr, and VAHVAH.

He has won various awards like employee of the year award, best selling star award, young star award, Excellence award and many more. Currently he is working with Genext students private limited (Be Masterly) which is 100% acquired by Navneet. He is handling the role of sales head for pan India.

Amit's immense hard work and dedication knows no bounds, as he strives for excellence in all his endeavors. He works with complete empathy and self-ownership and has a great bonding with his team. He believes in giving free hand to the performers and at the same time takes hard calls on people with intentional issues.

He is an angel investor and invested in companies like Geekster, Classroom and many more. He has mentored some of the startups as well.

His parents made a profound impact on him and taught him that service and helping others is what brings in joy. He believes his success is because of blessings and support from his mother Lt Smt

Indiraji Bhandari, father Shree Mahendra Bhandari, in laws Shree Kamlesh Sigal, Smt Navlika, grandfather Lt Sh. Manoharmalsa Bhandari and grandmother Lt Smt Vimlaji Bhandari. His wife Nupur Jain and daughter Anaya Jain have always supported him in all the phases of life.





## Aditya Gaurav (India)

A Phenomenal Genius in the making

Multi talented Aditya Gaurav has already donned many hats. At an age when many young students are still concentrating on their education, Aditya Gaurav at 18 has already become the founder and CEO of Knowasiak Community, the lead game developer of Cognac Studios and music composer at Skuix Studios.

Aditya is a part of many organizations, missions, and tasks in state, national and international arenas. He is known for his time management and fast learning loop skills with his peers and competitions.

His work is worth millions and he has invested his time in improving his skills and learning more about creating, running, and making a business successful.

Not many know that Aditya made his social networking community at the age of 16 in high school. This was a step ahead from my side in inviting people to share knowledge for free online.

Aditya reveals "In just 3 months and with zero marketing budget I saw a

## Most Innovative and Excellent Start-up of the Year 2022 amongst 90,000 startups from the whole world.

rapid signup trend, 1000 people already joined Knowasiak.com within 3 months. Knowasiak got featured in many blogs and articles on the internet. Currently Knowasiak has crossed 25k monthly users, from 105 Countries around the globe. People read articles, write articles, make groups, post photos, make friends and have a community focused solely on creating and sharing knowledge all around the world."

APAC Insiders, an international organization from the UK, gave him the title of Best Social CEO of the Year 2022 amongst millions of founders in the whole of Asia.

He has helped in creating the design of the 1st Tri-Color train in India, and saved people from floods in the national emergency of Kerala in 2018. Similarly he has contributed every single day for the betterment of people.

He has volunteered for The Government of India, UNICEF, Yuwaah, Narcotics

Control Bureau Of India, Central Railway Western Division Of India, Central Railway Of India, etc.

Aditya belongs to a lower middle class family where his mother worked day and night to give him a proper upbringing and food every day.

Aditya invested his time in improving his skills to run a successful business. He created a social network community at the age of 16 in High School. He invited people to share knowledge for free online. In just 3 months and zero marketing budgets he saw a rapid signup trend. Knowasiak got featured in many blogs and articles on the internet. Currently Knowasiak has crossed 25k monthly users, from 105 Countries around the globe.

APAC Insiders, an international organization from the UK, gave him the title of Best Social CEO of the Year 2022 amongst millions of founders in the whole of Asia. Corporate Live Wire, another International Business magazine, award organizers, and critics honoured his startup Knowasiak.com with the title, "Most Innovative and Excellent Start-up of the Year 2022 amongst 90,000 startups from the whole world.

Currently, the startup holds more than 10,000+ researchers already published and Knowasiak is growing at a Year on Year growth of around 577%. Many International News Channels and Magazines have

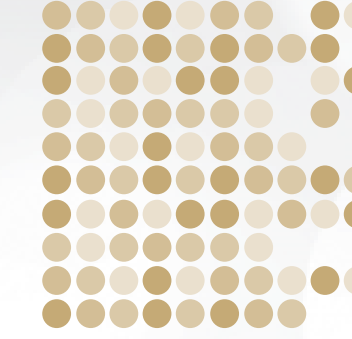
featured and honoured his work and the contribution to the nation and my story in their articles.

Aditya is now building Cognac, a photorealistic shooting from India for the World. Cognac is accredited by the Global

Game Development World Championship Jury as being the Most Fan Favorite game in GDWC 2022 ranking in top 10 for 6 months again and again, this is the first time that an Indian game has achieved this kind of global liking.







## Jatinder Singh Bahrey

Co-Founder, CEO and MD, Atelier Systems Private Limited, India  
Atelier Arabia Systems DWC-LLC, UAE

### “Keeping Ahead with Times” – Jatinder Singh Bahrey

Jatinder Singh Bahrey has always been a go-getter in life, there was nothing that stopped him from achieving his goals in life. This very attitude drove him to become the MD and CEO of Atelier Systems Private Limited and Atelier Arabia Systems DWC-LLC, UAE. His routine work includes technology, creatives, and business development. On a day to day basis Jatinder Singh is engaged in commercial games and serious gaming for military training.

Co founded by Jatinder Singh Bahrey (MD and CEO) and Preetika Malhotra Bahrey (Executive Director) Atelier systems is one of the most innovative systems and a global pioneer in the field of defence training. Atelier Systems also builds customized training solutions for Land, Sea, and Air based warfare training needs of militaries across the world.. Atelier Systems builds customized training solutions for Land, Sea, and Air based warfare training needs of militaries across the world.

Jatinder graduated in computer science and did his post-graduation in Information Technology Management from Lal



The Company has successfully trained thousands of young military leaders across the world.

Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, New Delhi whereas Preetika did her graduation in Engineering (Electronics and Communication) and Masters in Engineering from Delhi College of Engineering.

With a global footprint and clients among top 5 Militaries in the world, the team at Atelier Systems is creating new benchmarks in the field of Defence Training Simulators.

The Company specializes in 3D simulated content for Armour, Infantry, Urban Warfare and Crowd Management. The Company has successfully trained thousands of young military leaders across the world. Atelier Systems takes pride, in creating industry benchmarks, for quality, technology, and coverage of the troop-leading training simulators.

Atelier Systems harnesses the power of new age technologies like Immersive 3D, Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality and Mixed Reality, to develop its state-of-the-art simulators. The output is superior and is of ultra-high quality, which is at par with AAA quality gaming benchmarks used in the commercial gaming industry. The use of 4K environments, PBR workflow and in-house motion capture has produced stunning results for customers' training needs.

The company also prides itself as the leader in the industry for the innovative use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in military training simulators. Using the ground-breaking research and development in the field of Game Physics, Ballistics Simulation, Pathfinding, Self-Drive Algorithms, AI Troop Behaviours and AI Enemy Behaviours, the simulators created by Atelier Systems are realistic, not only in terms of visual fidelity, but also in terms of situational realism.

The Simulators are accompanied with a proprietary Simulation Management System, Analytics Suite, and Physical Gaming Labs. Together, this 360-degree approach helps build higher level decision making skills, planning skills and strategy development skills for young officers. These Simulators help overcome the limitations of expensive field training exercises. Physical Training exercises are used in limited number due to cost and logistical reasons. Combining virtual and physical training provides exponentially greater training value.

Quality and comprehensive skills are built by following a curriculum-based approach in a controlled training environment. Skills are enhanced by repeated training on demand. By following the approach of "Learning by DOING", rather than "Learning to KNOW", young recruits build real life skills in a fail-safe, life-like environment. The trainers also gain useful insights that are otherwise not possible in any other form of training.

Atelier Systems also specializes in providing and setup of physical training labs with Networked Training Nodes, Gaming Consoles, AR/VR gear, Large Format Displays, Haptics Studios, Motion Chairs, Immersive Displays and Sound Systems.

At Atelier Systems, the motto is to make Training Simulators that are Better, Faster, Safer and Cheaper. With the use of high-fidelity 3D environments, AAA quality modeling, animations, VFX, SFX, realistic scenarios, networked game play and a vast array of trainer tools, the simulators produced at Atelier Systems are state-of-the-art and best in class, both in terms of content and quality.

Atelier Systems germinated with the winning of the Economic Times – Power of Ideas contest in the year 2010 by its Founders. Placed in top 5 among 16,000+ entries, the Company was started with a winning grant and seed investment from IIM Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE).



The investment was done on behalf of Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. Today, Atelier Systems has grown exponentially to become, one of the world leaders in the space of specialized software-based training simulators for military training.







## Milin Shah

Sarom Fab Pvt Ltd, Leading the Home Furnishing Space

### “Reaching out to Homes” – Milin Shah

Milin Shah a brand unto his own is a young dashing entrepreneur who has taken his family business Sarom Fab Pvt. Ltd. A director Administration and Furniture Market Business Domestic & International, Milin Shah joined the family business at an young age and ever since then has been providing excellent guidance to everyone in the company. He is responsible for the administration and furniture market business.

What makes him special is that by displaying Sarom fabrics in all reputable stores throughout India, he has elevated business in the furniture industry and enabled all furniture retailers to provide better service to their customers. This idea produced growth of 25% to 30% yearly.

Sarom Fab Private Ltd. is one of the most sought Solutions & Furnishings brands specializing in curtains and upholstery. As a one-stop solution for window decoration and upholstery, Sarom has been an active player in India's retail scenario for the last 30 years and has elevated the idea of home furnishing.

**Sarom has been an active player in India's retail scenario for the last 30 years and has elevated the idea of home furnishing.**



Sarom is a family-owned business with effectively separated work functions. The company has six directors who oversee several divisions, yet they collaborate to discuss and make all critical decisions for the betterment of their company. Sarom takes pride in providing its employees with a pleasant working environment. They treat every employee like family, no matter how

big or small. Every member is respected and cared for there. SJ, OOFY, and MATLIN are the current three fabric lines offered by Sarom. Each of these brands Offers carefully chosen textiles that fit into various pricing ranges without compromising the style or quality of the final product. Sarom adheres to strict testing protocols and is a company whose products

can be trusted to be of the highest caliber. Sarom Fabrics was set up in the early 90's when two brothers AmarshiBhai and ShantiBhai decided to get into small textile exhibition for the wholesale market. They wanted a unique name for their company so that it stands out in the market. They chose the name Sarom which means creation of intense passion, commitment,

and effort. It was an amalgamation of the names of the brothers Shantibhai, Amarshibhai, Rohit, Milin and Manish who are all the directors of the company. A few years later Deepak became the sixth director of the business. Together, these individuals took a passion for textiles and grew it into one of today's most influential organizations in the Indian textile business

and there has no looking back ever since. They gradually attracted customer's attention before opening a retail location in the Mumbai suburbs. Under the brand name Sarom, they debuted a line of self-edited home textiles in 2005. In 2007, Sarom was founded as a Private Limited business. Textile business has been one of the oldest surviving businesses since civilization started.

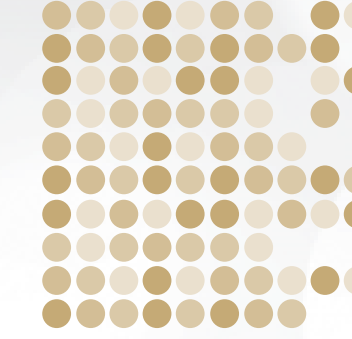
This industry has seen several changes, growth phases, and inventions, and it still does. Sarom has significantly contributed to this global expansion by revolutionizing the Indian textile industry. Sarom introduced the model that is now referred to as the cut- and length to Indian shops. All homes furnishings dealers would initially be required to stock their stores with purchased rolls of cloth.

Due to the increased inventory risk, they could only display the bare minimum of goods in their stores to their customers. The first fabric hangers, which are enormous pieces of fabric with many colour options attached to a hanging hook, were made by ShantiBhai and given to his shop clients. The response was enthusiastic and very complimentary. The shops understood they no longer needed to maintain any

inventory and could offer their consumers a wide range of options. As Sarom started to gain a deeper understanding of its clients and the Market, this was a crucial choice and a learning curve in its path. Sarom gradually increased the Number of fabric presentations suitable for retail outlets and expanded its market acceptance.







## Neha Gianchand

A Passionate Leader

Young, dynamic and all set to conquer the world, Neha Gianchand's approach towards life is simple in real life but when it comes to her work she unleashes her strength and power to the best of her abilities.

Neha has worked with top brands like Tata, Cummins, Wipro, Autodesk, NIIT and Aveva earlier. Today as the global marketing head at Vedanta Group's Sterlite Technologies Neha is striving for more. With more than 17 years of experience in marketing and communication across B2C, B2B products and services, Neha has driven wide range of functions like demand generation through inbound and outbound channels, digital & social media marketing, brand launch, e-store set up and optimization, market research, analyst relations, Public relations and thought leadership.

Neha's mantra for success has always been "Marketing drives Business and not just support it. And it's this attitude and this very approach in life that helped ensure the effectiveness of their marketing activities over the last couple of years and her being recognized among The Economic Times; Most Promising Tech Marketers 2022 and one of the Most Influential Marketing

**Neha is striving for more. With more than 17 years of experience in marketing and communication across B2C, B2B products and services**



one of the Most Influential Marketing Leaders at the World Marketing Congress and Awards 2022.

A passionate leader, her journey in Marketing has grown in leaps and bounds right from her initial days with Tata and now as the Sr Vice President

and Head of Marketing Vedanta Group's Sterlite Technologies.

She is one of the selected few to successfully build marketing teams up from the foundation and scale existing marketing teams to drive another level of business growth. Neha's professional journey

has had her work with organizations and teams globally, including North America, Europe, ASEAN countries, India, Australia, and Japan.

Currently, Neha leads marketing and corporate communications at Straive, a leader in delivering technology-driven

solutions for Content, EdTech, and Data to leading global organizations, and is responsible for defining industry marketing strategies in international markets.

Under her leadership as Head of Marketing at Straive, the company has been rewarded with multiple accolades

across various platforms in a short span of 7 months, primarily due to the industry recognizing her efforts of taking Straive to a billion-dollar company and developing substantial brand equity.

She has been awarded Brand Revitalization Award and "Best Multi-Channel Campaign

Award at CMO Asia Awards 2022. She also received the "Best Integrated Campaign Award" and Brand Revitalization Award at the Global Marketing Excellence Awards 2022 by World Marketing Congress. Best Content Marketing Campaign Award" at the B2B World Summit and Awards 2022

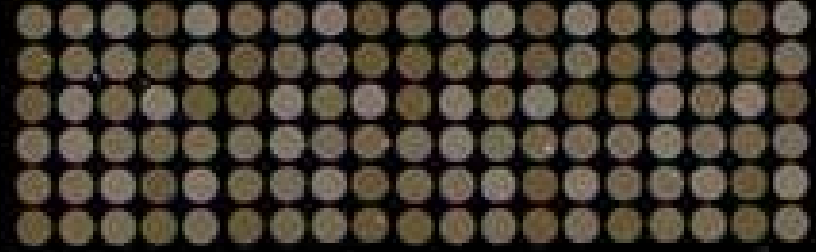
In the past, Neha has also had the opportunity to lead the representation of her company and country at various global platforms like the World Economic Forum (WEF) and Mobile World Congress (MWC). She has also led a very effective collaboration of her previous organization Sterlite Technologies Limited (STL), with the Telecom

Infra Project (TIP) and the Facebook headquarters. She has also had the opportunity to work very closely with the brand ambassador of NIIT, Viswanathan Anand, an Indian Chess Grandmaster and a former World Chess Champion, to drive his brand engagement.









“  
*However Difficult Life May Seem, There Is Always  
Something You Can Do And Succeed At.*

”

Stephen Hawking

