

Outlook

Read • Think • Understand



Saurav Sinha



Dr Ramakrishna Achar



Anand Lakshmanan



Manoharlal Khattar



Narayan Das Agrawal



Dr Prof Satyajit Chakrabarti



Dr S Gurushankar



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Nitin Gadkari



Dr Asif Iqbal



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Dr Sohini Sastri



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Vaibhav Maloo



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Dr Rajeev Gautam



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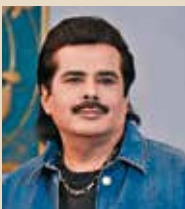
Nitin Mittal



Ryan Pinto



Priya Nayar



Sunjoy Hans



Dr Abinash Samal



Naveen Jindal



Satyam Roychowdhury



Ashwini Vaishnav



Richa Agarwal



Ajay Pal Singh Banga



Accelerated Journey to \$5 Trillion Economy

India surpasses Japan with a GDP of \$4.187 trillion and becomes the fourth largest economy in the world. A billion dreams, one unstoppable journey! This achievement further corroborates India's focus of becoming a \$5 trillion economy with the third largest GDP in 2027-28, early in the 'Amrit Kaal' on the path to achieve the goal of becoming an advanced economy by 2047.

Amid a landscape with global economic hurdles, India is resolutely charting its path toward financial growth under the insightful leadership of Visionaries of a \$5 Trillion economy. Their determined approach and strategic actions are fundamental to India's ambitious drive for economic advancement, driving the nation to establish itself as a significant economic force

globally amid various slowdowns. From industrialists to Union Ministers to filmmakers to educators to fashion designers, are illustrious changemakers who are passionate, powerful, innovators and inspirers, achievers, and enablers. These visionaries with a high appetite for risk, a tolerance for tough decisions and a pioneering spirit are the changemakers of modern India.

The special section talks about the visionaries of the \$5 Trillion economy.

From leaders like Nitin Gadkari or Manohar Lal are implementing their vision at a national level, accelerating socio-economic growth to Rahul Bhatia who epitomizes India's aviation sector to Ajay Banga president of the

World Bank Group globally and Ashish Chauhan Bombay Stock Exchange CEO.

Rajesh Jejurikar, Priya Nair Naveen Jindal are bullish in driving India's leading corporations, resulting in cutting-edge innovation, job creation, and investment.

Educational institutions like Mayo College are shaping future leaders and pathbreakers who would join the league of visionaries

The guidance from all, along with transformative reforms are meticulously orchestrated, laying the groundwork for sustained economic growth. The mission and vision of the visionaries are marked by a dedicated commitment to revamping India's economic landscape through comprehensive reforms

Guiding Lives Through Astrology

India's Most Trusted Astrologer, Dr Sohini Sastri, Combines Ancient Knowledge of Astrology with Modern-Day Problem-Solving Skills

As India approaches another Independence Day on August 15th, astrologers turn their gaze to the stars to understand the nation's evolving journey. Born at the stroke of midnight on August 15, 1947, India has a Taurus ascendant (Vrishabha Lagna) with Moon and Rahu in Cancer, and Sun in Leo—symbolizing strength, resilience, emotional depth, and a natural leadership quality.

Transit Trends in 2025:

As of August 2025, several significant planetary transits are shaping India's trajectory:

- » Saturn in Aquarius (Kumbha) transits India's 10th house, affecting government, leadership, national policies, and public image. This tests the country's administrative machinery karmically. Bureaucratic, digital, and judicial reforms will certainly intensify, albeit Saturn's glacial pace makes development incremental but long-lasting.
- » Jupiter and Saturn Influences: Jupiter in the 2nd house represents money, speech, and nationalism. Jupiter's location promotes economic growth, diplomacy, financial innovation, and youth-driven enterprise, while Saturn's transit into Pisces suggests opportunities and challenges. Political narratives will increasingly be shaped by the people, especially

the young. This combination may lead to reforms, trade growth, and global prominence for India.

- » Rahu in Pisces (Meena) and Ketu in Virgo (Kanya) bring focus to foreign policy (12th house) and service sectors (6th house). India may face challenges in international alliances and spiritual identity but also has opportunities for global recognition in healthcare, education, and spiritual leadership.

Economic and Social Outlook:

- » Strength in Economy and Trade: Astrological constellations during the start of 2025 favor financial expansion, international trade, and technology advancement. The economy may grow steadily and provide the groundwork for long-term prosperity.
- » Periods of Caution: Saturn's retrogression and planetary energies suggest administrative issues and policy conflicts could slow development, despite

overall positivity. Phases like these stimulate introspection and long-term strategic planning.

Political and Global Influence:

- » Potential Diplomacy and Territorial Gains: Several projections suggest that India could gain international confidence by acquiring or integrating land or influence in geopolitically important regions. Strong planetary placements aid India's sovereignty and global stature.
- » Society and Internal Affairs: Saturn promotes governance improvements and may highlight social fairness or institutional change. Support from benefic planets (particularly in July and August, thanks to Guru Pushya and Ravi Pushya) may help overcome obstacles. Astrologically, India is ready for reforms, powered by youth energy and guided by ancient knowledge. Independence Day 2025 is a tipping point toward spiritual awakening and economic self-sufficiency.



Dr Sohini Sastri
2 times President Award-winning Astrologer, Life Coach, and Philanthropist



Enquiry, Emotional Intelligence, Entrepreneurial Spirit

Saurav Sinha, Principal Mayo College, the legendary boys' boarding school, talks about Mayo's focus on developing "The 3 Es" in its students as the illustrious institution commemorates 150 years of excellence



Saurav Sinha
Principal, Mayo College

Lighting the Path Forward: The Three Es at Mayo College

When we talk about education in the 21st century, we often focus on the skills our young people need to succeed in a rapidly changing world. But as we stand at this remarkable moment—Mayo College celebrating 150 years of shaping leaders, and our nation looking ahead to the future—I believe we must ask ourselves: What more can we do? How do we not just keep pace with the times, but define them?

At Mayo College, we believe the answer lies in what I like to call the Three Es: Enquiry, Emotional Intelligence, and Entrepreneurial Spirit.

Enquiry

We live in an age of constant

distraction. Attention spans are short, and the world is always pulling us in a hundred different directions. But curiosity—the drive to ask questions, to seek out new knowledge—remains the engine of progress. At Mayo, we don't just fill young minds with facts; we ignite a passion for learning. In our junior school, especially from grades 4 to 6, we put curiosity at the heart of our curriculum. Whether it's science, the arts, music, or sports, we encourage our students to explore, to experiment, to discover. Our campus is more than a collection of classrooms; it's a living, breathing space where learning happens everywhere—from the playing fields to the art studios, from cultural exchanges to conversations with visiting experts. We want our students to see knowledge not as a burden, but as a lifelong adventure.

Emotional Intelligence

Now, more than ever, our world needs empathy. It needs young people who can listen, who can understand, who can build bridges across differences. Emotional intelligence isn't just a

nice-to-have; it's essential. At Mayo, we teach our students to be self-aware, to communicate with respect, to resolve conflicts with grace. As a boarding school, we have a unique opportunity to help boys grow into men who are not just tolerant, but truly respectful of others—no matter their background or beliefs. Last year, our students traveled to more than 18 countries, learning firsthand the value of diversity and understanding. We know that when our students leave Mayo, they'll enter a world that's complex and sometimes divided. We want them to be the ones who bring people together.

Entrepreneurial Spirit

Finally, we believe in nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit. The world doesn't just need workers; it needs creators, innovators, leaders. At Mayo, we challenge our students to dream big, to take risks, to learn from failure and keep moving forward. Our focus on STEAM, our world-class sports and arts programs, and our partnerships with organizations like Google, IBM, and IIT Madras—all of these are designed to give our students the tools they need to shape the future. We want them to leave here not just ready to join the world's leading companies, but to build them.

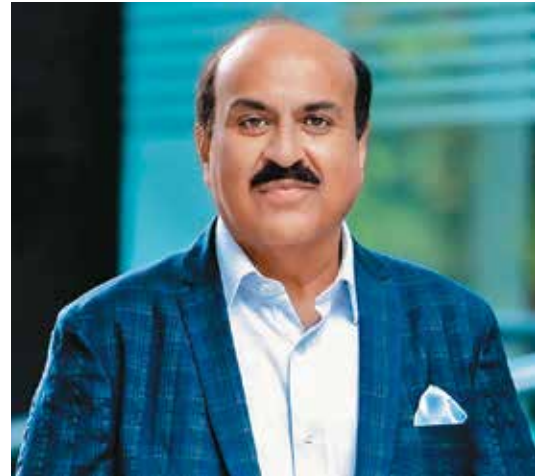
Of course, there are risks in forging new paths. But that's what leadership is all about. For 150 years, Mayo College has carried that responsibility with pride. And as we look to the future, we do so with hope, with confidence, and with a deep belief in the power of our young people to light the path forward—for India, and for the world.

About the Author: *An alumnus of Welham Boys' School, Saurav Sinha holds an Honours degree in History from Hindu College, Delhi University, and an MBA from London Business School. Over the past decade, he has led top schools across India in senior leadership roles before taking the helm at Mayo College in 2024.*

Acing the Growth Arc

President and Managing Director of Acer India, Harish Kohli, has been leading the company's growth for over two decades. In this first-person account, he reflects on Acer's journey, its contributions to India's technological and economic landscape, and his vision for a Viksit Bharat

HARISH KOHLI



Harish Kohli
President and Managing Director, Acer India

A story shaped by purpose and innovation - that has been Acer's journey. A career arc spanning over 25 years and multiple phases of transformation at Acer India has been my story. And each has been integral to the other.

Acer was founded in Taiwan in 1976, originally under the name Multitech, and rebranded as Acer in 1987. We have been on a mission to make technology accessible and affordable, as apparent in our early product upgrades and user-friendly designs.

Today, we are a global brand recognised for consistent innovation and our ability to adapt swiftly to both, evolving technologies and consumer needs.

From PCs to Smart Technology

We began as a brand focused on Personal Computers or PCs. Since then, we have evolved into a comprehensive technology company serving the consumer, education, government, banking, and enterprise sectors.

One of the expansions I am proud to have spearheaded is the innovation of smart appliances through Acerpure India, launching multiple product lines, including a range of smart TVs. The second point of personal pride is the launch of Altos India, offering high-end servers, workstations, and AI-

powered computing solutions.

These shifts have helped Acer India forge ahead and evolve along with India's changing digital landscape.

Our values resonate with India's ambition of a \$5 trillion economy and to build a Viksit Bharat. We recognised the importance of domestic manufacturing long before Make in India became a national priority. Today, Acer produces over 4 million IT hardware units annually, contributing to employment, skill development, and self-reliance in electronics manufacturing.

Tech Savvy, Socially Empathetic

At Acer, we strongly believe that technology must go hand-in-hand with empathy. We are thus as committed to social change as to business success. Personally as well, this is dear to my heart.

Our Corporate Social Responsibility efforts centre around the core values of Health and Help. To this end, we deliver mobile healthcare to tribal communities through Heal-On-Wheels, provide assistive technology for children with Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI), and offer free dialysis to the underprivileged through Care for Life. Our sustainability initiative, Earthion, empowers us to reduce our carbon footprint and promote

environmental responsibility.

Equal Opportunities

I also take pride in Acer's inclusive workforce practices. We support hiring women, underprivileged individuals, and persons with disabilities, believing in equal opportunities for all.

I am humbled to have been honoured with many awards, including Global Indian of the Year, India's Greatest Leaders, Asia's Greatest Leader, CEO of the Year, Business Transformation Leader and Most Admired Leader in IT. But the recognition I value most is Acer India's ability to contribute meaningfully to the country's technological ecosystem and social fabric, both of which are equally intrinsic to our collective vision of Viksit Bharat.

I hope to continue with Acer India on this path that bridges technology and human values, leaving an indelible mark on the IT industry and beyond.

About the Author: *Harish Kohli, President & Managing Director of Acer India, is a pioneering force in the Indian IT industry, known for his strategic acumen in business transformation, market expansion, and sustainable growth initiatives.*



Prof Dr Satyajit Chakrabarti, Pro- Vice Chancellor, UEM Kolkata I Jaipur & Director, IEM Kolkata

Nurturing Future Visionaries

What does it take to empower India's demographic dividend towards achieving the nation's \$5 trillion economy dream? The right blend of entrepreneurial education and strategic investment

PROF DR SATYAJIT CHAKRABARTI

As an educationist, today I stand at the cusp of an incredible opportunity for India. The nation is surging towards a \$5 trillion economy, an ambition fuelled significantly by our vast, vibrant, and increasingly skilled young population. This demographic dividend, however, comes with a profound responsibility: to cultivate not just a workforce, but a generation of visionaries, equipping them with the adaptability and resilience to thrive in a volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) world.

Bridging Divides

Our traditional education system, often prioritising rote learning, has unfortunately widened the chasm between academia and industry. In developed nations, universities are

pivotal in product development, with industry seamlessly bringing these innovations to market. In India, this bridge is still under construction. However, there's a powerful momentum now, with both government and institutions like ours, IEM-UEM Group actively working to close this gap.

The Start-up Starter

Our philosophy is rooted in 'Future-Ready by Design.' We insist on hands-on engagement. Whether through live projects, internships, or startup incubations, our students become lifelong doers and problem-solvers. This culture extends to fostering an entrepreneurial mindset, nurturing nearly 400 student-led startups annually.

This is where my role extends beyond traditional education; as a

proponent of these ventures, I actively engage as an angel investor within the institution, backing student ideas with real money and strategic guidance. This crucial initial investment often leads students to pursue their entrepreneurial dreams full-time, eventually returning to mentor the next wave. This dual role allows me to truly be an enabler of India's democratic dividend.

The Failure Quotient

Our approach is distinct: failure is never punished. This builds the resilience and genuine innovation vital for our graduates. Even within established companies, they solve problems, push boundaries, and innovate from within. Our expansive industry network ensures our students are globally competitive. We measure success by the 300 per cent placement rate reflecting multiple offers, alongside the impressive growth of student entrepreneurs and those entering civil services.

Endnotes

A vibrant campus life fosters leadership, organisation, and collaboration. International exposure is a strategic priority, with study abroad programmes and collaborations designed to broaden horizons. The driving force behind all this is adaptability. We continuously evolve our pedagogy, technology, and engagement models to remain relevant. Our mission is simple: to build people, not just professionals. By fostering skills, confidence, resilience, and vision, we believe success, in any form, naturally follows for these future visionaries of India's \$5 trillion economy.

About the Author:

Prof. Dr Satyajit Chakrabarti, is an educationist, entrepreneur, and venture capitalist. He earned his B.Tech from IEM, his Masters in Computer science from the University of British Columbia, and his PhD from NIT Agartala.

Equal Education Shared Opportunities

A unique partnership between Vantage Hall and the Sachchidanand Foundation, with structured support and shared purpose, is empowering young girls to dream bigger



S Rishi Singh, Founder-Director, Vantage Hall Girls' Residential School and **Lt Col Dig Vijay Singh (Retd)**, Founder, Sachchidanand Foundation, together honing future achievers

In a country racing toward a \$5 trillion economy, ensuring that no child is left behind is not just a social responsibility—it's a national imperative. At the heart of this vision lies a powerful alliance between two Dehradun-based institutions: Vantage Hall Girls' Residential School and the Sachchidanand Foundation. Together, they are providing support to the most under-resourced students to access world-class education and the opportunity to shine.

Purpose-Driven Partnership

Founded in 2006, the Sachchidanand Foundation champions the cause of young talent—particularly children from families with a legacy of armed forces service. Its focus is clear: to identify promising students who lack access but not ability. Meanwhile, Vantage Hall, a premier CBSE-affiliated boarding school nestled in the Dehradun Valley, has built a reputation for academic excellence, student-centred learning, and a campus environment that fosters both ambition and empathy.

This partnership is the brainchild of two passionate leaders—Sukhdeep Rishi Singh at Vantage

Hall and Lt Col Dig Vijay Singh (Retd) at the Sachchidanand Foundation—who share a belief in the transformative power of education. Their collaboration is a strategic investment in India's future. Through this initiative, the Foundation identifies and recommends talented young girls, who are then welcomed into the Vantage Hall ecosystem.

Access to Holistic Education

Through this collaboration, the Foundation identifies promising girls and Vantage Hall integrates them into its ecosystem of mentoring, training, and experiential learning. Select students are granted access to professional faculty, world-class infrastructure, and curated programmes designed to build confidence and capability—regardless of socio-economic background.

The students receive more than just classroom learning. They are mentored, coached, and nurtured—emotionally, intellectually, and physically. The school's infrastructure and faculty offer them the same opportunities afforded to any student from a privileged background.

Take, for example, students with dreams of working in aviation. These

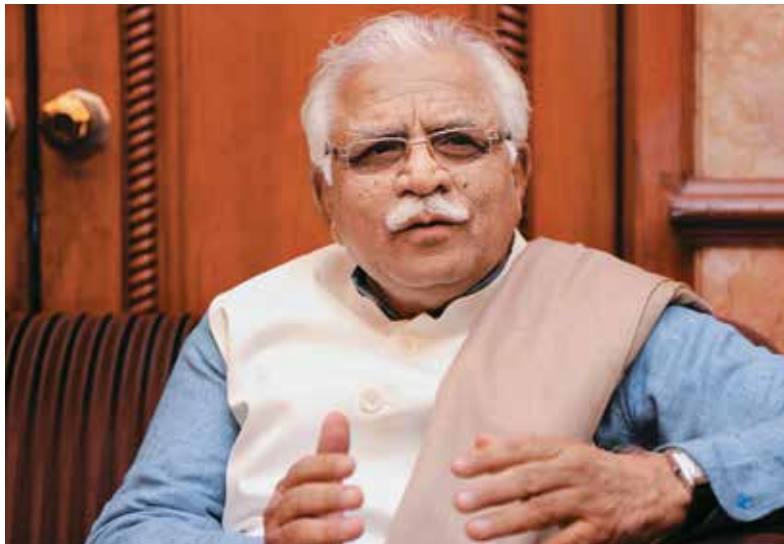
young aspirants receive dedicated on-campus coaching in communication, presentation, and industry-specific readiness—smoothing their pathway into cabin crew roles through structured support and exposure.

In another inspiring case, a student who cleared the Navy Corps entrance exam is now focused on meeting the intense physical fitness standards. Under the partnership, she benefits from structured morning conditioning workouts led by the sports faculty, and evening sessions with the Self-Defense Corps, tailored to meet naval fitness requirements.

A Model for Impact

This is what true inclusion looks like: access, opportunity, and a sense of belonging.

In a world where educational inequality continues to be a pressing challenge, the Vantage Hall–Sachchidanand Foundation partnership offers a beacon of hope. It's a template for how schools and social organisations can work together to create lasting impact. By fusing institutional excellence with a philanthropic mission, they are ensuring that a student's future is defined not by where she comes from but by where she wants to go.



Shri Manohar Lal, Union Minister of Power, Housing, and Urban Affairs, GoI

Powering the Nation

Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal stands at the forefront of India's developmental journey—spearheading major reforms in both the power sector and urban development

A visionary with over a decade of governance experience, his leadership reflects a deep commitment to improving the quality of life for the common man through inclusive, technology-driven, and sustainable solutions.

In the power sector, Shri Manohar Lal has played a transformative role in boosting accessibility, efficiency, and sustainability. Under his leadership, India witnessed a 90% increase in electricity capacity over the past decade, reaching 475 GW in 2025, with a target of 900 GW by 2032. The share of clean energy has grown from 32% in 2014 to 49% in 2025, with solar capacity alone expanding from 2.82 GW to 100 GW. Nuclear energy is also receiving a strong push, with the government targeting 100 GW by 2047, supported by the ₹20,000 crore Nuclear Energy Mission focused

on indigenous Small Modular Reactors (SMRs).

Under his leadership, India has achieved a significant milestone, as the share of non-fossil fuel energy has now surpassed that of fossil fuels, signalling a major shift towards green energy. Notably, India has met its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) target of 50% non-fossil fuel-based power capacity five years ahead of the 2030 deadline, reflecting strong progress in its commitment to sustainable and clean energy development.

Beyond energy, Shri Manohar Lal's role in urban development has been equally impactful. As Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, he has championed the Smart Cities Mission, aiming to create cities that are livable, sustainable, and future-ready. Over 100 smart cities are being equipped with integrated

command-and-control centres, intelligent traffic systems, improved public transport, green spaces, and robust waste and water management infrastructure. His focus is on harnessing data and digital technologies to ensure efficient service delivery and improved urban governance.

Affordable housing under PMAY (Urban) has been a major priority, with millions of houses sanctioned and delivered to low-income urban families. He has pushed for transit-orientated development, urban mobility, and inclusive infrastructure, ensuring that cities grow in a way that accommodates every segment of society.

Travelling across the length and breadth of the country, the Union Minister has set an example of participative leadership to guide the States and UTIs towards a shared vision by being physically present for regular reviews and implementation plans, fostering a sense of trust and accountability to deliver their best.

Internationally, Shri Manohar Lal has represented India at forums like BRICS, promoting sustainable urban growth and cross-border energy cooperation. His SECURE power model—Sustainable, Economically viable, Cleaner, Uninterrupted, Reliable, and Energy for all—has become a guiding principle in India's energy and urban planning strategy.

In essence, Shri Manohar Lal's dual leadership in powering India and shaping its cities exemplifies holistic development. His integrated approach to energy and urban growth is not only transforming the present but also laying the foundation for a truly developed and inclusive India by 2047.

Reimagining Presence in the Age of AI

Blending technology with behavioural insights, Logitech's approach to innovation is rooted in simplicity, human-centred design, and behavioural insights

ANAND LAKSHMANAN



Anand Lakshmanan
Head of India- Logitech for Business

As India emerges as the world's fourth-largest economy, the pace of technological transformation is redefining every facet of work. We are living in a time when workplaces are no longer confined by geography, and in this boundaryless new world, it is critical to be truly present. It means being heard, being seen, and being engaged—regardless of where you sit.

India's rapid digital adoption makes it a pivotal market for collaboration technologies. At Logitech India, we are building strong partnerships across sectors to ensure our innovations align with local needs—from enterprise boardrooms to educational institutions and healthcare systems.

Human-Centric Future

With the integration of AI, we aim not just to add more features to our solutions but to remove the friction that keeps people from communicating effectively. The objective is to make these applications so intuitive, so seamless, that they fade into the background—letting people focus on what truly matters: the conversation.

Through our #BePresent campaign, we're inviting professionals to rethink how they engage in meetings and collaborative spaces. It's not just about sharper video or better sound (though we've delivered on that too). It's about

fostering a mindset shift—toward meaningful, inclusive, and productive engagement.

Technology + Behaviour = Impact

Solving real-life challenges means looking beyond product specs. We recognised early on that creating better meeting experiences also meant addressing how people behave in those meetings. That's why we infused our campaign with storytelling, interactive applications, and humour—designed to spark reflection and change.

- The Graphic Book: Created in collaboration with a well-known cartoonist, this book offers a light-hearted take on typical "meeting personalities"—encouraging readers to laugh, relate, and reconsider how they show up in discussions.
- The Meeting Quotient (MQ) Survey: An interactive assessment that helps individuals understand their engagement style—whether they're Meeting Maestros, Collaborative Connectors, or Emerging Engagers—and offers personalised insights to improve.
- The BePresent Microsite (info.logitech.com/bepresent.html): A central hub of resources where professionals can access exclusive content, take the MQ survey, and

discover applications to enhance their collaboration effectiveness.

AI Is an Enabler

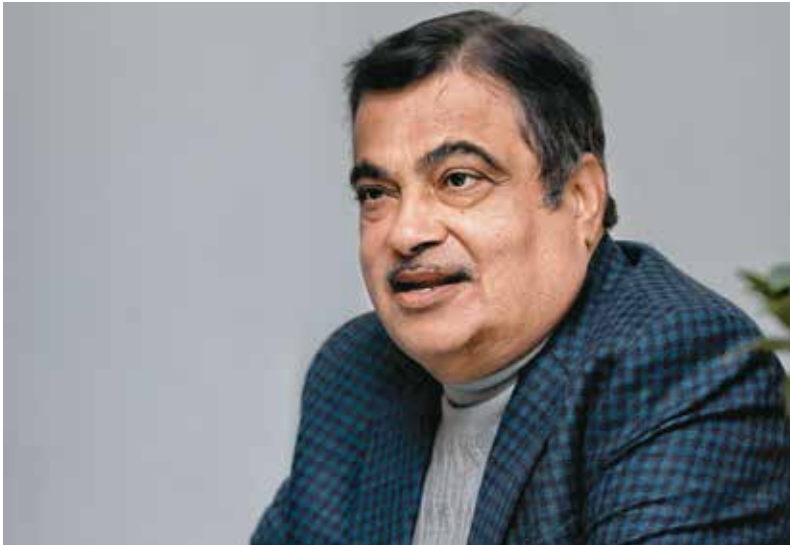
The right technology can transform meetings from mundane obligations into moments of impact. AI-powered features like smart framing, noise cancellation, and speaker tracking ensure everyone gets a voice—regardless of location. Accessibility features and intuitive UI design make collaboration inclusive and effortless. In essence, when technology works invisibly in the background, people can be fully present in the foreground.

The New Meeting Culture

As technology leaders, our responsibility is to design platforms that support not just how people work, but how they feel while working. The next era of meetings will be driven by presence, participation, and purpose. And that's a shift that requires more than innovation—it demands empathy.

About the Author: Anand

Lakshmanan is an adventurer and tech leader, known for cycling high-altitude terrains and guiding enterprises in tech investments. At Logitech, he drives strategic growth across B2B markets in India.



Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, GoI

The Architect of India's Infrastructure

Nitin Gadkari's contributions to India's infrastructure development and innovative approach have been a key enabler of its economic ascent

India's economic growth reflects the combined force of robust domestic consumption, expanding services and industrial sectors, strategic reforms, and large-scale infrastructure development. Among the key figures behind this transformation is Nitin Gadkari, known as the 'Highway Man of India,' whose contributions to infrastructure have played a pivotal role in supporting and sustaining India's economic momentum.

Nitin Gadkari has served as a transformative force in India's road infrastructure landscape. Since assuming office in 2014, he has spearheaded a dramatic expansion of the national highway network. Under his leadership, the total length of national highways increased from approximately 91,287 kilometres in 2014 to over 146,000 kilometres by 2024—a

nearly 60% growth. This growth was not merely quantitative; it was qualitative as well. High-speed corridors expanded by more than 2,500%, and the length of four-lane and wider highways more than doubled, ensuring faster, safer, and more efficient travel for people and goods across the country.

Gadkari's major initiatives—such as the Bharatmala project, the Delhi–Mumbai Expressway, and the broader PM Gati Shakti master plan—have directly addressed India's chronic infrastructure bottlenecks. These projects aim to reduce travel time, lower logistics costs, and increase the competitiveness of Indian industries. For instance, the Delhi–Mumbai Expressway alone is expected to reduce travel time between the two key metros from 24 hours to about 12 hours,

creating significant savings in fuel and freight costs. By integrating road transport with ports, railways, and air cargo, these initiatives have strengthened India's multimodal logistics framework.

This strategic expansion of transportation infrastructure has had tangible effects on India's economic ecosystem. Improved road connectivity has led to better integration of rural areas with urban markets, enhanced supply chain efficiencies, and stimulated private investment in industrial and logistics hubs. Logistics costs—previously one of the highest among major economies—have begun to decline, enabling Indian products to compete more effectively in global markets. Enhanced mobility of goods and services has also contributed to smoother trade flows and higher productivity across manufacturing and agriculture sectors.

While macroeconomic factors such as a young population, digital advancements, and regulatory reforms like GST and insolvency codes have played their roles, Gadkari's infrastructure push has provided the physical foundation on which these reforms could be realized. His pioneering approach to Public–Private Partnerships (PPP) and project financing also made it possible to fast-track large-scale developments without overburdening public finances.

By transforming the nation's roads and highways into engines of connectivity and commerce, he has helped lay the groundwork for India's rise to the position of the world's fourth-largest economy. While many factors converge to shape an economy of this scale, robust infrastructure remains a silent, but powerful, driver—and in this domain, Gadkari's role has been both decisive and enduring.

Shaping India's Global Future

Pioneering a new era of international engagement through trade, diplomacy, and strategic partnerships, Dr Iqbal is redefining India's role on the world stage



Dr Asif Iqbal
President, Indian Economic Trade Organisation (IETO) & India Africa Trade Council

Dr Asif Iqbal has played a pivotal role in redefining India's global engagement strategy, emerging as a key contributor to the country's economic and diplomatic growth. He has driven a transformative vision of international cooperation—one rooted in trade, trust, and long-term partnership. His efforts have significantly bolstered India's position on the global stage, facilitating meaningful engagements across continents.

One of Dr Iqbal's most impactful contributions lies in expanding India's trade and investment outreach. Under his leadership, IETO has organised high-level missions to Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, resulting in the signing of numerous Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), trade deals, and strategic alliances. These missions not only stimulate bilateral commerce but also align India with global economic trends, ensuring that Indian businesses remain competitive and future-ready. By connecting Indian enterprises with foreign

markets and investors, Dr Iqbal has played a crucial role in unlocking new economic opportunities that fuel national growth.

Dr Iqbal's work goes far beyond conventional trade promotion. He has reimagined diplomacy to include people-to-people connections, cultural exchange, and academic collaboration. Through IETO's initiatives, Indian universities, think tanks, and cultural institutions are now active participants in international dialogue. These efforts contribute to India's soft power, enhancing the country's global image as an inclusive, forward-looking democracy that values knowledge and diversity.

As Chairman of the United Diplomatic Council (UDC), Dr Iqbal has fostered quiet yet effective diplomacy. The Council's private, high-impact forums allow for real decision-making, far from the performative rituals that often dominate international meetings. These engagements have led to tangible results—ranging from developmental

partnerships to policy frameworks—helping India navigate complex global challenges with agility and confidence.

Dr Iqbal's contributions are particularly significant in the context of India's ambition to become a \$25 trillion economy. His focus on building sustainable international partnerships ensures that India's growth is not just fast but also stable and inclusive. By championing trust-based cooperation, he is laying the foundation for long-term economic resilience.

His recognition by global institutions—including the Sarajevo Mayor's Medal and honours from Bosnia and Herzegovina—underscores the international credibility he brings to India's diplomatic and trade efforts.

In essence, Dr Asif Iqbal is not just advocating for India's rise; he is actively architecting it. His work exemplifies how visionary leadership, grounded in collaboration and action, can shape a stronger and more interconnected future for India.



Ashish Chauhan
MD & CEO, National Stock
Exchange of India (NSE)

In the realm of India's financial landscape, Ashish Chauhan, the MD & CEO of the National Stock Exchange (NSE), stands as a pivotal figure driving the country's economic growth trajectory. His visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to bolstering corporate governance and social responsibility have positioned the NSE as a catalyst in steering India towards the coveted \$5 trillion economy milestone.

Chauhan's perspective on the symbiotic relationship between business and society reflects a profound understanding of India's corporate ethos. He emphasizes the evolution towards formalized social contributions, citing the Companies Act 2013 mandating CSR commitments beyond a certain threshold of profits. This ethos, he asserts, distinguishes India globally, embedding the essence of social good within its business framework.

In his discourse, Chauhan spotlights the establishment of the social stock exchange, an initiative articulated in the 2019-20 Budget. He envisions reinstating trust in the social sector, asserting that over the 30 years since the inception of the NSE and the

An Impactful Approach to Governance and Growth

The visionary's leadership is shaping India's economic growth, emphasizing governance, trust, and inclusive growth

subsequent advancements in corporate governance, India has emerged as a paragon, not only in technological prowess but also in ethical business practices.

A pivotal aspect of Chauhan's vision revolves around fostering trust among investors, especially those from remote corners of the country. His conviction lies in ensuring that a person, regardless of their geographical location, can invest their hard-earned money with unwavering faith in the country's institutions, governance, and the entrepreneurs behind the ventures.

Under Chauhan's stewardship, the NSE has solidified its position as one of the most regulated and stable markets globally. His emphasis on transparency, authenticity, and efficient information dissemination underscores the pivotal role of the exchange in nurturing a robust and equitable financial ecosystem. Chauhan acknowledges the evolving landscape of investors, particularly the younger demographic, and underscores the necessity to instill prudent investment behavior. The NSE's efforts in creating awareness, showcasing disciplined investing, and advocating for safer investment avenues like mutual funds mirror its commitment to fostering financial literacy and responsible investment practices.

Looking ahead, Chauhan envisions exchanges as the nucleus propelling India's growth trajectory. He

underscores their role in capital formation, instilling trust in investors, providing avenues for raising capital, and ensuring safe transactions. Additionally, he emphasizes the need to adapt to emerging financial instruments like bond futures, electricity, and carbon trading, while steadfastly upholding the core values of an exchange as a regulator and trust-builder. Chauhan's unwavering focus on the social purpose of exchanges and their pivotal role as a utility emphasizes the enduring importance of trust and governance. His resolute stance on upholding corporate governance and fostering a safe and regulated environment underscores the NSE's commitment to maintaining stakeholders' trust for generations to come.

In Ashish Chauhan's unwavering commitment and visionary leadership, the NSE finds itself not merely as a financial entity but as a beacon driving India's economic prowess towards an aspirational \$5 trillion economy. Under his guidance, the NSE stands poised to continue shaping India's financial landscape, fostering trust, and enabling equitable growth for all stakeholders.

In summary, Ashish Chauhan's strategic vision and steadfast dedication position the NSE at the forefront of India's journey towards economic prosperity, encapsulating the ideals of governance, trust, and inclusive growth.

New Age Healthcare Visionary

As Managing Director of HOSMAT Hospitals, Anisha Chandy Eckardt is reshaping healthcare with a preventive, patient-first vision while carrying forward a remarkable legacy



Anisha Chandy Eckardt, Managing Director, HOSMAT Hospitals

The first woman to lead one of India's pioneering super-specialty orthopaedic hospitals. The first Managing Director to expand HOSMAT beyond orthopaedics into Oncology, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and Comprehensive Pain Management. The first to introduce digital-first engagement strategies like integrated patient platforms and paperless systems at the hospital. These are just some of the firsts that Anisha Chandy Eckardt has achieved since taking over the reins at HOSMAT Hospitals.

Anisha took charge at a deeply personal and professional crossroads — stepping into her father Dr. Thomas Chandy's shoes after his passing. Her father's belief that "healthcare is a service, not just a profession" continues to guide every decision she makes.

From its beginnings as India's first dedicated orthopaedic super-specialty hospital, HOSMAT has grown to

three thriving centres. Now, under Anisha's leadership, it is transforming into a multidisciplinary centre of excellence. Armed with healthcare administration experience in the U.S., she has infused global best practices into Indian realities — streamlining patient access, migrating to Electronic Health Records (EHR), and forging robust supplier partnerships for seamless operations.

Her biggest contribution lies in bringing preventive care to the heart of HOSMAT's mission. She envisions a future where hospitals not only treat illness but also prevent it through community outreach, regular health check-ups, and early detection initiatives. This vision is supported by data-driven care pathways, personalised health packages, and outreach programs designed to empower individuals and communities.

Anisha's leadership style is both strategic and deeply human. Through regular town halls, open feedback, and

collaborative planning, she ensures that every team member feels valued — resulting in higher patient satisfaction scores and improved staff morale.

Her contributions have been widely recognised. She received the Healthcare Leader of the Year award at the Outlook Business Spotlight Awards 2025 and the Times Power Women Award 2025 for Emerging Healthcare Leader.

In the short term, Anisha aims to expand telehealth services, enhance patient experience metrics, and leverage data analytics for personalised care. Long-term, she envisions HOSMAT as a national model for integrated healthcare delivery where clinical excellence meets community wellness.

Anisha Chandy Eckardt isn't just leading a hospital — she's redefining healthcare leadership in India by combining global vision, operational acumen, and deep empathy.



Radha Goenka, Director - RPG Foundation & Founder - Pehlay Akshar Foundation, The Heritage Project and ArtisanRe

An Architect of Impact

Radha Goenka, Director of RPG Foundation, exemplifies a leadership that juxtaposes strategic vision with empathetic action. The result is a movement driving inclusive growth across education, environment, heritage and women's livelihoods

In the quietly transformative world of Indian philanthropy, where leadership is increasingly shaping development, Radha Goenka stands out as a force of conviction and clarity. As Director of RPG Foundation, she has built one of India's most impactful corporate-backed social arms, aligning with the larger goals of inclusive growth, sustainable development, and cultural continuity.

Returning to India in 2008 after academic and professional stints abroad, Goenka entered the social sector at a time when corporate social responsibility was still in its formative phase. She consolidated

the RPG Group's philanthropic activities under the umbrella of the RPG Foundation, which has since grown into a full-fledged agency for transformative change.

A mother, writer, and art enthusiast, Goenka sees no dichotomy between her personal and professional worlds, believing in weaving creativity into impact. Born in Mumbai and raised in a family steeped in civic values, Radha Goenka brings a unique blend of global exposure and local commitment. A graduate in Business Communication from the University of Pennsylvania, she drew inspiration for her flagship initiative, Pehlay Akshar, from

observing her daughter's intuitive relationship with language.

Pehlay Akshar began as a volunteer programme in a single municipal school, and today spans 67 schools across 11 regions. Through immersive English language programmes and teacher training modules, it empowers thousands of children with functional literacy.

Swayam, the Foundation's vocational training programme for women, has trained over 30,000 participants, with nearly 90 per cent placed in diverse sectors. The initiative's digital extension, Swayam Connect, links beneficiaries with job opportunities, embedding economic inclusion into the agenda.

An appreciation for culture and community has led to The Heritage Project, which revitalises historical precincts. From Mumbai's Banganga tank to hidden cultural landmarks, the Foundation collaborates with artists, communities, and civic agencies to create murals, walking trails, and storytelling artefacts, making heritage a lived, accessible experience.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Foundation distributed PPE kits and oxygen concentrators, and launched over 150 fever clinics in partnership with Maharashtra's health authorities. These clinics now serve over a million people across rural and semi-urban India, evolving from emergency relief centres to sustainable community health assets. The RPG Group has also pledged to plant one million trees by 2030 through reforestation drives underway in multiple states.

In Radha Goenka, we see the contours of a new leadership. Visionary yet grounded, innovative yet deeply human. Her model of strategic, scalable, and sustained impact offers a blueprint for how philanthropy can go beyond charity to become a driver of nation-building.

A Trailblazer in Women's Healthcare

Dr Hema Divakar shares her initiatives for building a healthier population, which is critical to achieving India's vision of a \$5 trillion economy



Dr Hema Divakar
MD DGO FRCOG FICOG PGDMLE
Senior Obgyn & Medical Director, Divakars Speciality Hospital, Bengaluru
CEO & Chairman, Asian Research and Training Institute for Skill Transfer (ARTIST)

Q What key milestones have you achieved as the Medical Director of Divakars Speciality Hospital in advancing women's health?

With over 35 years of experience in women's healthcare, my vision is to establish a holistic, women-centric care model that blends clinical excellence with compassion. Our early adoption of evidence-based protocols and innovative practices, including screening programs for gestational diabetes, anaemia, and cervical cancer, improved early detection and outcomes for countless women. By integrating digital health platforms and telemedicine, especially during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, we made healthcare more accessible and continuous—even in remote and underserved communities.

My focus has been on expanding access, awareness, and advocacy in women's health—especially in underserved communities—by identifying real-world problems and developing practical, scalable solutions.

Q Could you share some key contributions in translating research into real-world impact?

Collaborating with government initiatives like the Pradhan Mantri Matruvha Suraksha Yojana, supporting vaccination drives, and advising on effective implementation strategies have enhanced public health reach.

Pioneering FemTech 360 technology-enabled tools and medical devices designed for semi-

skilled providers and piloting protocol-based healthcare practices in rural areas have helped achieve a broader impact. All data is digitally captured, allowing us to track outcomes, inform policy, and offer continuous care, especially for menopausal and post-reproductive women.

As Chairperson of the Skill India Movement under ARTIST, I led the rapid rollout of training programs for Swastha Sakhis, paramedical staff, and healthcare workers across colleges and hospitals, empowering them to deliver high-quality care. I've also collaborated with organisations like WHO, FOGSI, and the Government of India to help shape national guidelines and policies for women's health.

Q What is the vision behind the HDR Health Foundation?

Our vision is simple yet powerful: to take healthcare beyond hospitals. We are committed to reaching women and girls—especially those in underserved rural and semi-urban areas—who often fall through the

cracks of the traditional healthcare system. Our focus is on preventive care, health education, and maternal and reproductive health while also building capacity by training healthcare professionals, including nurses and midwives.

We're actively training 3,000 private hospitals to adopt holistic, community-based health approaches. We use cost-effective, tech-driven tools to improve healthcare delivery, especially in hard-to-reach areas. For e.g., in the case of HPV vaccination, we use a shared-cost model—if a family can pay a portion of the cost, the Foundation covers the rest. We are also partnering with corporate CSR and women-led community groups to scale awareness and delivery.

Launched on a global platform in Paris, the Wheel of Wellness is our life-course approach to women's health. It links climate, chronic disease, and reproductive milestones, recognising that pregnancy is not just a phase but a pivotal point in a woman's lifelong health journey.



Dr. Ramakrishna Achar
Managing Director
SKF Elixer India Pvt Limited

A Nationalist Entrepreneur Building a Self-Reliant India

Dr Achar's paddy processing innovation transformed Indian agriculture, cutting losses, raising incomes, and gaining global adoption across 23 rice-growing nations

As India celebrates its Independence Day, the story of Dr. Ramakrishna Achar, an entrepreneur from Moodabidri in Karnataka, stands as a testament to the spirit of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Starting with a modest capital of ₹25,000 in 1987, Dr. Achar built a business empire worth ₹2,000 crore, created over 3,500 jobs, and transformed lives through innovation, sustainability, and community empowerment. His ventures in paddy processing, water purification, sewage treatment, and agriculture embody the ideals of empowering rural India and strengthening economic independence.

Modest beginning, but great vision

Dr. Achar's journey began with Sri Kalikamba Fabricators (SKF), a company rooted in India's agrarian economy. His groundbreaking paddy processing machine—with an inbuilt dryer that preserves rice quality by controlling moisture—revolutionised the industry. Introduced in 1991, it saved billions of rupees per harvest by reducing wastage, increasing farmers' incomes, and enhancing national food security. Today, these machines are used in 23 rice-growing countries, underscoring India's leadership in agricultural technology. In recognition of his contributions, Mangaluru University awarded him a PhD.

From the paddy fields to ready to cook products saving billions in wastage

Furthering his innovation, Dr. Achar developed a machine that converts freshly harvested paddy into ready-to-cook rice—eliminating storage and additional transport. Since 2000, this process has cut post-harvest losses, saved costs, and opened new opportunities for farmers and food industries. The ready-to-cook rice meets the needs of a growing fast-food market, ensuring consistent quality and efficiency. (Put in the box)

In a country where access to clean water remains a challenge, Dr. Achar's SKF Elixer India Pvt Ltd aligns with Prime Minister Modi's Sujala programme. His reverse osmosis mineral water plants provide safe drinking water at just ₹1 per litre to schools, temples, and rural communities. Beyond health benefits,

these units reduce plastic waste and generate employment for youth—supporting Swachh Bharat, Skill India, and Stand Up India.

Products that are deeply environmental friendly

Addressing environmental concerns from urbanisation, Dr. Achar designed compact, automated sewage treatment plants tailored for apartments, layouts, and industrial estates. These stainless-steel, low-maintenance, “plug-and-play” units promote water reuse, reduce pollution, and support India’s sustainability goals. Exported internationally, the systems reflect India’s capability to offer scalable, eco-friendly solutions without relying on foreign technology.

Dr. Achar’s commitment to self-reliance extends to workforce development. His Industrial Training Institute (ITI) at Bannadka near Moodbidri, recognised by the National Council for Vocational Training, has trained thousands of rural youth in fabrication, automation, and tech integration. Many graduates now lead SMEs or work with global firms—strengthening the Make in India initiative and nurturing pride in indigenous skills.

Traditions coupled with modernity

At the heart of his vision lies Go Dhama, a 35-acre cow shelter in Muniyal, Karkala, housing 37 native breeds. More than a dairy initiative, it

Dr. Ramakrishna Achar’s Vision in His Own Words:

“My vision is to empower India with innovation and tradition, creating a self-reliant nation. Through advanced paddy processing, we secure farmers’ livelihoods; with Elixer, we ensure clean water for all; and with sustainable sewage solutions, we protect our environment. Go Dhama preserves our sacred bond with Gau Mata, fostering ethical farming and cultural pride. By skilling rural youth, we build an industrial backbone for Aatmanirbhar Bharat. My businesses aim to uplift communities, revive heritage, and drive economic sovereignty. Let us innovate boldly, serve selflessly, and create a prosperous, sustainable India rooted in our timeless values.”



celebrates India’s agricultural and spiritual traditions. Integrating traditional cow-rearing with modern tools, Go Dhama fosters sustainable farming and rural self-sufficiency. Workshops teach ethical farming to youth, and its unique “cow-cuddling” therapy—rooted in ancient reverence for Gau Mata—promotes mental well-being. Members who adopt cows receive ghee, creating a model of economic and spiritual sustainability.

Dr. Achar’s social outreach reflects his nationalist spirit. As a trustee of Sri Kalikamba Temple in Moodbidri, he fosters cultural and spiritual engagement. His Bala Samskara Kendra blends traditional Indian ethos with modern education, nurturing young minds with values and heritage. Through the Sri Kalikamba Foundation, his CSR initiatives—water conservation, medical camps, and skill training—support marginalised communities, echoing the Antyodaya principle of uplifting the last in society.

Local ethos with global reach

Dr. Achar’s life reflects the essence of India’s independence—resilience, innovation, and service. His ventures address vital needs: food security, clean water, environmental sustainability, and skills development. By blending tradition with technology, he preserves India’s cultural roots while propelling it toward modern prosperity. His global reach—from rice processing units to sewage treatment systems—highlights India’s ability to lead on the world stage and break dependence on imported solutions.

As India moves toward its Viksit Bharat 2047 goal, entrepreneurs like Dr. Ramakrishna Achar illuminate the path. His journey is a call to young Indians to dream boldly, innovate fearlessly, and serve selflessly. On this Independence Day, his story reminds us that a truly independent nation is one that uplifts its people, protects its culture, and steers its own future—a vision perfectly aligned with Aatmanirbhar Bharat.





Siddhartha Lal
Managing Director, Royal Enfield

Driving The Royal Enfield Phenomenon

Think of motorcycles in India and you will think of Siddhartha Lal. Lal stands out as a trendsetter who has without exaggeration redefined the industry landscape. As the driving force behind Royal Enfield's global resurgence. From reviving a legacy motorcycle brand to making a lasting impact through philanthropy, his journey epitomises the perfect blend of business acumen and compassion

Born into a family renowned for its entrepreneurial legacy, Siddhartha inherited his passion for motorcycling from his father, Vikram Lal, the founder and former CEO of Eicher Motors Ltd., the Eicher Group's principal Indian affiliate. Currently the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Eicher Motors Ltd., Lal officiates as the chairman and MD of VE Commercial Vehicles as well.

Lal is credited with bringing Royal Enfield back to life. After being appointed as the CEO of Eicher Motors, which owns Royal Enfield, Lal pulled off Royal Enfield's extraordinary resurgence from a fading brand to a global sensation. Lal's unwavering enthusiasm and vision propelled Royal Enfield to new heights. He sparked a worldwide 'Royal Enfield revival' by merging contemporary engineering with classic styling. His strategic focus on innovation, quality, and brand positioning propelled Royal Enfield to the forefront of motorcycle fans in a variety of markets. He had a strong belief in Enfield's die-hard followers and opted not to follow the crowd, instead focusing on

creating outstanding products. He modified the Royal Enfield bikes to better meet the demands of today's youth, resulting in a significant increase in demand. He has transformed the iconic brand into a symbol of timeless elegance and adventure.

Lal's outstanding leadership has earned him countless laurels. Royal Enfield has garnered multiple important honours during his leadership for its product design, performance, and innovation. Leading industry organizations have recognized his imaginative approach, confirming his position as a dynamic corporate leader.

The significance of Lal's contributions goes beyond the Royal Enfield story. Highly committed to social service and environmental sustainability in addition to corporate success, Lal has overseen significant projects in education, healthcare, and community development as Chairman of the Eicher Group Foundation. His efforts include environmental protection, displaying a responsible business attitude to sustainability. Lal's philanthropic ventures prioritise empowering local communities

through skill development, vocational training, and livelihood enhancement. The Foundation's initiatives have uplifted countless lives, fostered positive change and created lasting impacts on society.

La's chosen approach and path exemplifies the spirit of a visionary entrepreneur who navigates the corporate world while adhering to his ideals of compassion and social responsibility. He illustrates the potential of business as a catalyst for social change via his amazing contributions to the world of motorcycles and his dedication to strengthening communities. Lal's approach to business is straightforward since he feels that less is more. As expected, he likes riding his bike and travelling to the mountains. With a move back to London in 2015, he is still looking out for the opportunity to finish his bike trip to Leh and Ladakh.

Lal's persistent pursuit of excellence in business and philanthropy has left an indelible effect on the motorcycle industry as well as society as a whole. His unrelenting devotion to social responsibility is inspirational, and bodes well for an inclusive and sustainable future.

Trillion Dream Through Transformative Healthcare

Meenakshi Group of Hospitals redefining inclusive, high-impact healthcare fueling both national well-being and economic growth

As India sets its sights on becoming a \$5 trillion economy, healthcare stands not just as a support system but as a strategic driver of this growth. A strong healthcare system is a GDP multiplier that contributes directly through hospitals, pharma, and med-tech industries, and indirectly by enabling a healthier, more productive workforce.

At the heart of this transformation is Dr S Gurushankar, Chairman of Meenakshi Group of Hospitals that includes the Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre (MMHRC), Meenakshi Super Speciality Hospital (MSSH), Madurai, and Meenakshi Hospital, Tanjore. These three institutions that are redefining healthcare delivery across Tamil Nadu and beyond.

How Dr Gurushankar's leadership is helping fuel India's \$5 trillion vision?

Reducing Disease Burden:

Through advanced, affordable care in various specialities across Oncology, Cardiology, Transplants, and Emergency medicine, these hospitals are helping people recover faster and return to productive lives. Their focus on rural and tier-2 cities reduces long-term health

costs for families and the government.

Promoting Preventive Care:

Regular health camps, awareness drives, and early diagnosis programs led by the Meenakshi group help reduce the load on the healthcare system. Prevention saves both lives and national resources.

Creating Medical Jobs:

With over 7,000+ employees across the hospital group, the Meenakshi institutions are creating large-scale employment for doctors, nurses, healthcare technicians, and healthcare managers, especially in underserved regions.

Attracting Global Patients:

Meenakshi Group of Hospitals is a

Under Dr Gurushankar's leadership, the Meenakshi group of Hospitals has been envisioned as a next-generation facility, integrating digital healthcare, AI-driven diagnostics, and advanced medical care, thus ensuring India doesn't just keep up with global standards but sets them.

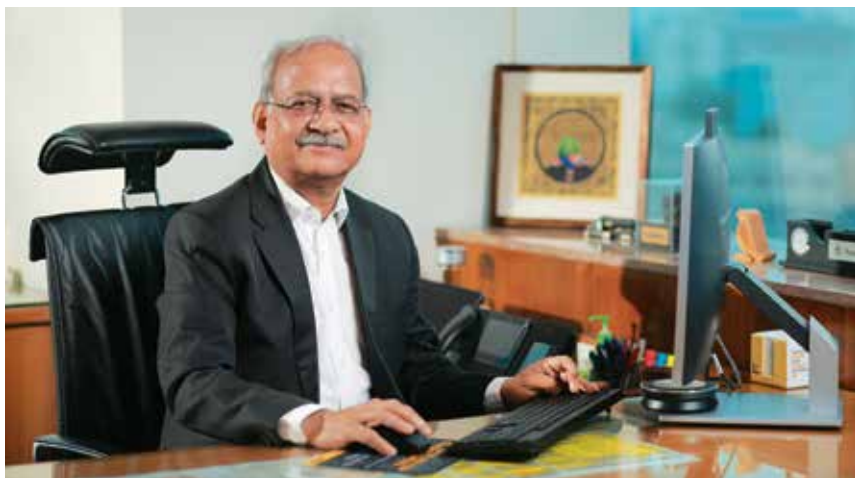


Dr S Gurushankar
Chairman, Meenakshi Mission Hospital and Research Centre

destination for medical tourists from over 10 countries, offering high-quality care at affordable costs. This not only brings in foreign revenue but also strengthens India's global standing in healthcare innovation.

Under Dr Gurushankar's leadership, the Meenakshi group of Hospitals has been envisioned as a next-generation facility, integrating digital healthcare, AI-driven diagnostics, and advanced medical care, thus ensuring India doesn't just keep up with global standards but sets them.

By providing top tier healthcare services, especially in semi-urban and rural Tamil Nadu, we ensure that nobody is left behind in availing world class medical services, thus proving that inclusion is the true driver of economic growth.



Sunil Kumar Chaturvedi, Chairman, Gainwell Group

Leading India's Infrastructure Push

The Gainwell Group is quietly yet powerfully shaping the nation's industrial resurgence. From smart mining systems to defence mobility and infrastructure solutions, the Group combines engineering expertise with a commitment to self-reliance and sustainability

Engineering India's Growth Story

Gainwell Group is powering India's modern infrastructure revolution with vision, innovation, and a deep sense of responsibility. From pioneering mining technology to redefining defence mobility and logistics, Gainwell exemplifies the transformative spirit propelling India's journey to self-reliance. The group is now spreading

its wings globally and across sectors to fulfil its goal of offering complete solutions for growth to its customers.

Tech-Driven Transformation

Gainwell's approach is "solution-first"—machines are only part of the vision. Recognised globally as one of Caterpillar's top partners, the Group, through its various entities, partners

with world-class brands including Hyster Yale, Manitowoc-Grove, Lintec & Linnhoff and Etnyre International. Innovations such as IoT-enabled platforms, remote diagnostics for preventive maintenance, unique engineering solutions such as highwall miners, article handling equipment and gas compressors highlight Gainwell's edge in technology. Digitalisation and advanced service solutions ensure operational excellence for customers across construction, mining, rail, defence, and beyond.

Championing Atmanirbhar Bharat and Export Ambitions

Aligned with the Atmanirbhar Bharat mission, Gainwell systematically replaces imports, deepens local manufacturing, and boosts export growth. The Group's diversified portfolio meets India's infrastructure needs while showcasing Indian engineering globally.

Purpose, People, Planet, Profit and Sustainability

Rooted in the Four Ps— Purpose, People, Planet, Profit—Gainwell's culture is driven by empowerment, inclusivity, and long-term value creation. Their sustainability initiatives include LEED Platinum-certified green offices, machine rebuilding for extended lifecycle value, and integration of low-carbon materials and renewable energy. The Gainwell Academy of Learning and robust upskilling programs nurture future-ready talent, while active CSR helps uplift communities and bridge industry skill gaps.

Vision for the Future

Ranked 49th among India's Best Employers, Gainwell envisions new frontiers by 2047—building on Indian expertise, global ambition, and transformative engineering. The Group's mission is clear: engineer not just outstanding machines, but complete solutions that will give us a smarter, self-reliant India for generations to come.

Legacy, Leadership and Group Synergy

Today, the Group's combined strength arises from its integrated businesses. The key companies are:

Gainwell Engineering: Advancing indigenous manufacturing and export-ready machinery for mining, infrastructure, and energy sectors

TIL Limited: The Company has expertise in engineering robust and reliable material handling and specialised defence solutions

Gainwell Commosales: Enabling nationwide distribution, aftermarket service, and customer support at scale

Gainwell Trucking: GTPL (Gainwell Trucking Private Limited), an authorised channel

partner for BharatBenz mining trucks, bringing world-class trucking solutions to the mining and infrastructure sectors. GTPL delivers high-performance, durable, and efficient mining trucks designed to tackle the most demanding terrains and operations

Acceleron: Harnessing machine intelligence and IoT to produce data-driven, predictive equipment solutions

Building India, Not Just Machines

Chairman, Gainwell Group, first-generation entrepreneur Sunil Kumar Chaturvedi talks of the organisation's transformation story from a regional dealership to a global manufacturing and technology powerhouse

Q What drew an officer of the Indian Administrative Services into the world of machinery and industrial innovation?

I believe we are limited only by the dreams we see. I began my career in the IAS, but it was during my tenure leading large-scale infrastructure projects that I became fascinated by the transformational power of technology and capital goods. I saw a critical vacuum in India's industrial ecosystem that inspired me to transition into the private sector.

Q What core philosophy drives Gainwell?

At Gainwell, our core philosophy is to be a holistic engineering solutions platform, not just a manufacturer of machines. This brand vision of offering "Solutions for Growth" unites our group companies including Acceleron, Gainwell Engineering, Gainwell Trucking, TIL Limited, and Gainwell Commosales, among others. We approach every customer's challenge with a solution-first mindset. Our long-term strategy focuses on global partnerships, advanced manufacturing, supply chain optimisation, delivering customised, end-to-end offerings and a commitment to building India's future.

Q How do TIL's capabilities complement Gainwell's focus on mining and construction—with other group companies involved?

Our acquisition of TIL Limited in 2024 brought together complementary strengths in smart systems,

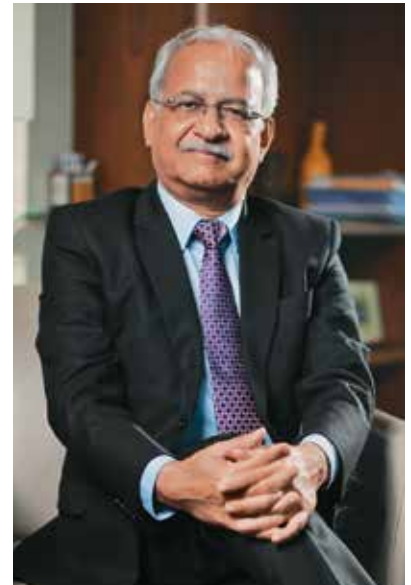
engineering, and heavy machinery. TIL has expertise in engineering robust and reliable material handling and defence solutions, which aligns seamlessly with Gainwell's product portfolio. We have offerings across mining, energy, transportation, infrastructure, port logistics and a strong presence in defence mobility systems. With support from our global partners we see immense potential in expanding TIL's product range and tapping into global markets.

Q Gainwell has been a long-standing supplier of Caterpillar machinery. What makes this partnership so enduring?

Gainwell's partnership with Caterpillar began in 1944, three years before India's Independence. This collaboration laid the groundwork for India's infrastructure journey. Our machines were part of the Bhakra Nangal Dam, and continue to power projects like the Jewar Airport, critical roads, tunnels, and the deepest underground mines in the country. Today, companies across the Gainwell Group contribute to this legacy by providing robust solutions and support for Caterpillar equipment nationwide. What has helped the partnership endure is the unwavering trust, shared vision, and commitment to helping customers build a new India.

Q How is Gainwell addressing sustainability across its group companies?

Gainwell focuses on four P's—Purpose, People, Planet, Profit. We



Sunil Kumar Chaturvedi
Chairman, Gainwell Group

are transitioning towards cleaner technologies, designing smart, data-driven machines with minimal material use. Our rebuild programmes give machinery a second life, offering cost-effective and sustainable solutions to customers. Our Greater Noida facility, Unnati, was ranked among the world's top greenest buildings in 2018, powered by solar energy, and equipped with advanced water recycling systems.

Q What is your vision for India's capital goods sector, and how will the Gainwell Group contribute to making India a global manufacturing hub?

By 2047, I envision the growth of India's capital goods sector surpassing the country's overall GDP growth. For a truly Viksit Bharat, India needs strong collaboration between government policy, infrastructure development, and private enterprise. Gainwell Group, through its diversified entities aims to contribute meaningfully to India's growth story with innovation-led, globally competitive engineering solutions.



Priya Nair
Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Hindustan Unilever Limited

The New Vanguard

Priya Nair, Hindustan Unilever Limited's first woman CEO, embodies a blend of strategic acumen and social purpose, poised to drive the FMCG giant and contribute significantly to India's \$5 trillion economy dream

In the evolving narrative of India Inc., the quiet strength of intellectual acumen often outshines overt aggression. Priya Nair, thus, emerges as a quintessential leader for the future. Her ascendancy to the helm of Hindustan Unilever (HUL) as its first woman CEO and Managing Director, effective August 1, 2025, marks not just a historic milestone for the ninety-two-year-old Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) behemoth, but also a significant stride for India's ambitious \$5 trillion economy dream.

Born to Malayalee parents in Kolhapur, Maharashtra, Priya Nair was educated in Mumbai. Her academic foundation was with a Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) in Accounts & Statistics from Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics (1987–1992). An MBA in Marketing from Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune (1992–1994) followed. Her commitment to continuous learning led her to pursue

the prestigious executive programme in Business Administration and Management at Harvard Business School.

Nair's journey within HUL spans nearly three decades. It testifies to her deep understanding of the Indian consumer psyche and her strategic prowess. From her year of joining in 1995, she navigated diverse roles across Home Care, Beauty & Wellbeing, and Personal Care businesses, building a reputation for brand-centricity and a consumer-first approach. Her leadership style, described by industry peers as a blend of empathy and sharp business acumen, reflects a nuanced understanding that leadership isn't merely about directives but about fostering an environment of innovation. Harsh Goenka, Chairman of RPG Group, praises her as a "transformative leader" with "strategic clarity," noting that she "works through her mind and her heart...."

This empathetic, yet results-driven, approach is precisely what HUL, and the

Indian economy, needs. As India strives towards its \$5 trillion economy goal, the Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) sector plays a pivotal role, touching the lives of nearly every Indian household. HUL, with its vast reach and portfolio, is a key driver of this consumption-led growth. Nair's extensive experience in understanding and catering to diverse Indian consumers – from launching the innovative rural radio service Kan Khajura Tesan (Earworm Radio Station) a mobile-based advertising platform for media-dark villages that reached over 11 million subscribers and earned global acclaim with three Cannes Gold Lions to turning around underperforming categories – positions her perfectly to unlock new avenues of growth. Her global exposure as President of Beauty & Wellbeing at Unilever further equips her with insights into premiumisation and digital transformation, critical for HUL's future.

Beyond commercial success, Nair's tenure has been marked by a strong sense of social responsibility. As part of her leadership roles, she has championed public health initiatives, such as the widely impactful WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) programme, which has reportedly reached 152 million people in India. This commitment to societal well-being, ingrained in HUL's ethos, is a testament to her purpose-driven leadership, where business objectives converge with broader social good.

Her appointment signals a broader cultural shift in corporate India, championing diversity at the highest echelons. For an economy that needs every segment of its population to contribute, having a woman at the helm of such an influential company sends a powerful message of empowerment and inclusion. Priya Nair, therefore, is not just a CEO; she is a changemaker, poised to steer HUL towards unprecedented growth while simultaneously contributing significantly to India's economic aspirations.

Championing Energy Efficiency

Sundaresan Narayanan is spearheading Carrier India in building a robust manufacturing ecosystem rooted in energy efficiency and eco-conscious innovation, for a sustainable India



Sundaresan Narayanan
Managing Director, Carrier-CHVAC India

Q India is now the fourth largest economy globally. How is Carrier India aligning its long-term vision with this macroeconomic shift?

India's rise as the world's fourth-largest economy is not just a milestone - it's a sign of the country's growing influence on global industry and innovation. At Carrier India, we see this as a defining opportunity to deepen our commitment to the region and accelerate our long-term vision

Today, India is not only a high-potential market for sustainable HVAC solutions but also a critical hub for Carrier's global operations. Our Hyderabad-based Global Capability Center is driving R&D excellence, supporting both India and our worldwide innovation pipeline.

Aligned with the government's "Make in India" initiative, we have introduced a full range of made-in-India airside products, commenced local manufacturing of scroll chillers, inverter cassette and launched large centrifugal chillers. These initiatives are supported by a robust local supply chain ecosystem that strengthens our ability to deliver high-quality, locally engineered solutions.

We deliver customized solutions tailored to India's unique needs from supporting infrastructure projects, designing equipment for industrial manufacturing and more developed specifically for India's industrial needs.

Carrier India is aligning with the country's economic momentum by investing in people, platforms, and partnerships that drive a sustainable, self-reliant future.

Q How do you see Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities contributing to your growth trajectory?

India's rapid urbanization is reshaping the country's economic landscape. This transformation is most visible in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, witnessing a surge in infrastructure investments, rising demand for climate control solutions, and awareness around energy efficiency.

At Carrier India, we're responding to this shift with a multi-pronged strategy. We're expanding our channel partnerships to penetrate deeper into these markets, and accelerating service capabilities to enhance customer experience.

We're committed to enabling sustainable urbanization. Carrier is introducing high-efficiency HVAC systems with low-GWP refrigerants and connecting them to AI-powered command centers that optimize energy use. Our specialized teams audit buildings and recommend interventions that significantly reduce energy consumption-directly supporting India's Net Zero 2070 goals.

Q How closely is Carrier working with Indian policymakers, industry bodies, or startups to

shape the HVAC-R ecosystem?

Carrier India is deeply committed to shaping a future-ready HVAC ecosystem by actively collaborating with policymakers, industry associations, and startups. We partner with leading industry bodies such as ISHRAE, RAMA, AMCHAM, IGBC, CII and others, contributing to forums and consultations on Make in India, sustainability and energy efficiency.

Our close collaboration with the government and industry associations ensures that our initiatives are in sync with national priorities such as decarbonization, green building standards, and energy efficiency. We play an active role in helping develop future-ready regulations.

On the innovation front, our Gurgaon R&D center and the Abound platform are driving the development of connected HVAC solutions, delivering up to 16% of annual energy savings to customers across 3,200+ sites in over 600 cities. Additionally, we actively mentor and support startups working in areas like digitalization, IoT-enabled building solutions, and energy management, ensuring that India's HVAC-R ecosystem evolves with agility and purpose.



Ajaypal Singh Banga
World Bank President

Leading India's Resilience Amid Global Slowdowns

Ajaypal Singh Banga is known to dream big and it doesn't get much bigger than heading the World Bank

In an era marred by economic uncertainties globally, Ajaypal Singh Banga, the newly appointed President of the World Bank, is amplifying India's role as a beacon of resilience and economic fortitude. Banga, the first person of Indian origin to helm the prestigious institution, has expressed confidence in India's ability to thrive amidst global challenges during his recent interactions.

During his visit to a skill center in Dwarka, Banga commended India's proactive measures, citing the nation's strength in withstanding the adversities posed by the pandemic. "India is doing a lot of things which are helping it to stay ahead during times of a global slowdown," he remarked, emphasizing the significance of the country's high percentage of GDP generated domestically.

Recognized for his extensive experience across diverse sectors spanning over four decades, Banga's nomination by President Joe Biden and subsequent confirmation by The World Bank's Board of Governors in May 2023 signified a pivotal moment for both India and the global financial landscape.

Banga's strategic vision encompasses leveraging India's potential for growth in high-income jobs, particularly in technology and manufacturing sectors. He emphasized the urgency for India to capitalize on the "China plus strategy," citing a finite window of opportunity spanning three to five years as supply chains seek alternative locations.

Furthermore, the World Bank President stressed the importance of fostering cooperation between the World Bank and India, discussing pertinent issues related to the G20 and highlighting the significance of domestic consumption in bolstering the Indian economy amidst the ongoing global slowdown.

Banga outlined his immediate priorities upon assuming his role at the World Bank. His ambitious

agenda includes eradicating poverty while ensuring a sustainable planet, followed by the implementation of a robust capital adequacy framework to maximize the institution's balance sheet efficacy. Additionally, he aspires to transform the World Bank into a more efficient entity, aiming to expedite processes and operations.

Banga's foresight into India's economic landscape underscores the critical role that domestic consumption plays in shielding the nation from external economic downturns. His expertise and focus on financial inclusion, digital transformation, and sustainable development position him uniquely to navigate the World Bank towards fostering growth, alleviating poverty, and addressing climate change concerns.

The appointment of Ajaypal Singh Banga signifies a paradigm shift in global leadership, propelling India's representation on the international stage and reinforcing the country's resilience in the face of economic challenges. As he takes the reins of the World Bank, Banga's tenure holds the promise of steering both India and the global economy toward stability and sustainable growth.

**BANGA'S FORESIGHT
INTO INDIA'S ECONOMIC
LANDSCAPE UNDERSCORES
THE CRITICAL ROLE THAT
DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION
PLAYS IN SHIELDING THE
NATION FROM EXTERNAL
ECONOMIC DOWNTURNS**

One Vision Thousands of Futures

The man behind India's leading university, Narayan Das Agrawal, shaping lives and transforming GLA University into a hub of innovation and impact



Narayan Das Agrawal, Chancellor, GLA University

In the heart of Uttar Pradesh, where tradition meets progress, Narayan Das Agrawal has redefined higher education—shaping lives, futures, and a powerful vision for India. For him, education isn't just classrooms and curricula—it's about nurturing thinkers, creators, and leaders. This belief gave rise to GLA University, now a leading institution known for its quality, innovation, and commitment to holistic growth.

With an A+ NAAC accreditation and a score of 3.46/4, GLA University is recognised under UGC's Sections 2(f) and 12(B) and approved by key statutory bodies like AIU, BCI, PCI, and NCTE. Home to over 23,000 students, it offers diverse programs in engineering, management, pharmacy, law, agriculture, and more.

Leading with Purpose

At the core of Narayan Das Agrawal's mission is the belief that education drives national progress. Long before terms like industry-ready and skill-based became common, he envisioned an academic ecosystem that connects classroom learning with real-world needs.

Under his leadership, GLA University has become a key contributor to India's talent pool. Its programs are tailored to align with market realities and emerging global trends. As a result, students graduate not only

with academic knowledge but also with the agility and confidence to adapt, grow, and lead.

Innovation at the Core

At GLA University, innovation and research are core strengths, supported by 14 research centres and 157 advanced labs. Ranked 53rd in India for pharmacy by NIRF, GLA is a member of AACSB and accredited to IACBE for its management programs.

In recent rankings, GLA placed in the 1001–1200 band globally, ranked 45th in India, and 21st for research quality. It was also ranked 6th nationally for BBA and 2nd among private universities in North India by the Times B-School Survey—reflecting its growing academic and research excellence.

Shaping Careers with Confidence

ND Agrawal's student-first vision drives GLA University's mission to build meaningful careers. With 700+ experienced faculty and strong industry integration, students are shaped into skilled professionals and confident leaders. GLA boasts an 86% placement rate over five years, with the highest package reaching ₹55 LPA. Its 40,000+ alumni thrive across top companies, research labs, government, and startups.

Entrepreneurship is central to GLA's culture. The Chancellor actively engages with student founders with

funding and access to schemes like the Startup India Seed Fund, empowering innovators to build enterprises—not just careers.

Education Beyond Classrooms

ND Agrawal believes true education nurtures the whole individual. GLA's holistic model delivers equal focus on academics, emotional intelligence, ethics, communication, and leadership. Students engage in community service, cultural activities, and social initiatives, shaping them into responsible, aware citizens.

Programs like the accredited BSc Agriculture reflect GLA's alignment with national development goals. Recognised by the UP Government and key councils, GLA's strong academic foundation is widely respected.

A Growing Vision

As India rises as a global knowledge hub, GLA University—guided by Narayan Das Agrawal—is meeting the moment. With a future-focused, student-centric approach rooted in strong values, it's emerging as a model institution. The Chancellor's mission goes beyond rankings—he aims for lasting impact. Under his leadership, GLA blends innovation, research, opportunity, and integrity to create a brighter future for thousands of students.



Rajesh Jejurikar, Executive Director & CEO,
Auto and Farm Sector, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd

Accelerating Automobile Sector Growth

Rajesh Jejurikar is the driving force behind the popular Indian home-grown brand of automobiles, Mahindra

As the domestic four-wheel automobiles sector in India continues to grow, Jejurikar leads Mahindra as India's third-largest car manufacturer that is keen to drive forward with its footprint in the domestically developed and manufactured electric vehicles. Mahindra's technological superiority as showcased by its INGLO platform, firmly places its dedication to the initiatives India is engaging with in its bid towards a 5 trillion dollar economy. The confident 60 year old Jejurikar has even thrown the gauntlet to the younger and iconic Elon Musk and BYD to match Mahindra's EV product pricing, in consideration that the

Mahindra EV product is able to match world-renowned EVs in terms of technology and luxury features. A noteworthy achievement, Mahindra's EVs took just three years from concept to launch under his competitive and confident leadership. He has welcomed reputed international EV brands such as Tesla to enter the Indian market as he is confident that their presence will not deter Mahindra's success in this niche segment. Instead he views these international brands help boost the growth of the domestic EV sector.

Jejurikar believes that India's automobile sector is now level-pegging with the world's established car manufacturing countries and is

pushing forward with best-in-class homegrown technology as well as focusing on lifestyle bells and whistles features that are considered fancy. A marketing guru with a finger on the consumers' pulse, he realises that Mahindra's focus on delivering world-class luxury styled vehicles resonates with the growing penchant for lifestyle automobiles in India. Mahindra Electric Automobiles Ltd., a subsidiary of Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., is being steered forward to greater performances as a promising vertical in the organisation's portfolio. The next big news he hopes to announce would be Mahindra's first battery electric vehicle.

Jejurikar is convinced that the domestic talent pool has enabled India to develop a robust skill set in engineering and automobile-related research and development. Teamed with policies and initiatives by the Indian government, this formula propels India towards an enviable position in the automotive value chain worldwide. The sheer volumes that the domestic market demand generates will aid Indian automobile manufacturers to leverage the scale for export opportunities.

According to Jejurikar, the end of the last festive season in 2024 has been a successful one and an indicator that India's automobile consumption is a healthy one indeed. Company reports have shown a positive growth, particularly in the SUV segment, powered by the recently introduced XUV3XO and Thar ROXX. Under his management, the automobile manufacturer has maintained healthy margins with strategic discount schemes and tight inventory.

Rajesh Jejurikar is among a network of industry professionals and leaders who are spearheading the new dynamism in Indian manufacturing that is gaining global traction and repute, and aligning India's ambitions to the top economies worldwide.

A Catalyst for Sustainable Change

Entrepreneur, innovator, social reformer and founder of the Empreo Group Dr Abinash Samal champions development through sustainability, education, and healthcare



Dr Abinash Samal, entrepreneur, innovator, social reformer and founder of the Empreo Group

A trajectory that presents a compelling narrative of entrepreneurial evolution and profound societal impact within Odisha's industrial and rural tapestries - that has been Dr Abinash Samal's journey. Marked by a transition from a medical professional to a multifaceted entrepreneur, his arc reflects a discerning vision for comprehensive and inclusive growth.

Formative Years and Professional Bedrock

Hailing from Dhenkanal and raised in Odisha's Angul district, Dr Samal's academic grounding lies in medicine. He attained his MBBS and subsequently completed his 'Doctor of Medicine' in Radiodiagnosis from Dr. N.T.R. University of Health Sciences, Vijaywada, in 2016. Beyond his clinical pursuits, Dr Samal was always keenly invested in innovation, community service, literature, mentorship, and the natural world. His early experience overseeing a charitable hospital proved instrumental, fostering a critical understanding of the intricate nexus between infrastructural accessibility and social equity. This foundational insight propelled him toward a more expansive vision: catalysing pervasive development across both rural and industrial domains.

Industrial Ingenuity and Circular Economy Stewardship

As the distinguished Founder and Chairman of the Empreo Group,

Dr Samal epitomises the convergence of industrial ingenuity and sustainable principles. The Group's expansive portfolio encompasses vital sectors including infrastructure, automotive, public transport, and waste recovery, thereby illustrating a holistic approach from mineral resource management to advanced circular economy paradigms.

A paramount focus for Dr Samal has been the strategic leveraging of Odisha's industrial potential. He established a dedicated research and development centre, singularly purposed with transforming mining waste into high-grade infrastructure materials, driven by the ambition of rendering waste "100% usable." This trailblazing initiative rapidly broadened to include comprehensive recycling of industrial and automotive scrap, fundamentally embedding sustainability as a core business imperative. Concomitantly, the Empreo Group has emerged as a trusted channel partner for esteemed global automotive entities such as Tata Motors, Jaguar Land Rover, MG Motors, Skoda, Kia and JCB. Its extensive operations further encompass significant hospitality, Healthcare infrastructure and logistics undertakings, including NHAI road projects, DEF manufacturing, and the development of ash ponds.

Philanthropic Endeavours and Community Enrichment

Concurrent with his industrial expansion, Dr Samal has maintained

an unwavering commitment to social upliftment, particularly in the spheres of education and public health. His philanthropic venture, the Brahmani Public School, provides free, high-quality education to over 1,000 rural children. Moreover, through the pioneering adoption of "Cloud Classrooms" and strategic alliances with government polytechnics, he actively endeavours to bridge Odisha's rural skill deficit in crucial technical fields.

The Empreo Group's operational achievements are substantial, evidencing a workforce exceeding 2,700 individuals and a turnover surpassing ₹3,700 crore. Nevertheless, its future trajectory remains resolutely inclusive. Dr Samal's forthcoming objectives include the establishment of a world-class charitable hospital within Odisha's industrial heartland and the deployment of eco-friendly EV shuttle services and self-charging electric terminals in remote regions.

Within the broader context of India's aspiration for a \$5 trillion economy and the overarching vision of a Viksit Bharat (Developed India), figures of Dr Abinash Samal's calibre illuminate a vital ethos of leadership. His integrated model of entrepreneurial success and profound social responsibility provides a compelling blueprint, not only for localised transformation but also for the realisation of comprehensive national aspirations.



BranchX, co-founded by Sajid Jamal and Rajesh Johnny, aims to transform how India's 60+ million unorganized retailers operate

Neo Banking for the New Indian Retail

With its indigenous Xenie POS, a consolidated neobanking suite, and an ambitious goal to deploy 1 million devices, BranchX emerges as a global pioneer in retail-tech—made in India, for the world

The retail sector stands as one of India's most dynamic economic engines—fueled by a vast consumer base, digital penetration, and supportive policies. As the nation accelerates towards becoming the world's fourth-largest economy, its FinTech ecosystem is projected to generate \$180–\$200 billion in revenue by 2030.

At the forefront of this transformation is BranchX, co-founded by Sajid Jamal and Rajesh Johnny—a company driven by a bold vision: to reimagine how India's 60 million+ unorganized retailers operate. Through a seamless integration of AI, data intelligence, and neobanking, BranchX is building a retail-tech ecosystem for India and beyond.

Big plans are underway for an IPO, backed by multiple investors and strategic collaborators, signaling a strong vote of confidence in BranchX's long-term vision and 'innovation-first' approach.

Solving Retail Inefficiencies

India's unorganized retail sector loses between ₹7–9 lakh crore (~\$110B) every year due to outdated infrastructure, manual billing, and disconnected digital tools. BranchX's answer is the Xenie POS—a palm-sized, AI-powered device that's as intuitive as it is powerful and is poised to transform retail with its indigenous tech.

Key Features of the Xenie POS:

- **Smart ERP & Billing:** Real-time inventory, predictive restocking

- **AI Voice Assistant:** Answers queries like "What products sold most today?" or "Who is my top customer?"
- **Neobanking & Lending:** UPI, QR, and card payments integrated with credit underwriting
- **Loyalty & Ads:** Monetization via screen ads and Raja-Rani combo cards
- **Security & Fraud Detection:** Real-time alerts and audit trails

India-Built, World-Ready

Set to debut at Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2025, the Xenie POS is the world's first AI-powered 5-inch POS device indigenously developed and manufactured entirely in India. Investors, banks, and partners will witness firsthand the future of intelligent retail banking, combining

its existing financial services. Designed for scalability and cost-efficiency, BranchX is targeting the deployment of 1 million units over three years across India, the Middle East, Africa, and Southeast Asia.

"Xenie POS is a financial and business intelligence gateway for millions of small retailers; we're building the ultimate tool for billing, inventory, loyalty, and credit—integrated into a device the size of your palm," says Sajid Jamal.

Consolidated Retail Solutions

To strengthen its AI retail stack, BranchX has acquired Highwaves Technologies, the maker of Trilto Billing Solution, used by 10,000+ retailers. Rebranded as Xenie RMS, it will be fully integrated into the POS—delivering a seamless, end-to-end ERP, billing, and banking platform to over 300,000 retailers in BranchX's network.

Xenie Neobank, Xpandifi, and Tramo are sub-brands of BranchX delivering cutting-edge solutions for payments, loyalty, supply chain finance, and retail automation—empowering millions of merchants across India and beyond.

A Unified Neobank

At GFF 2025, BranchX will also unveil its consolidated neobanking platform under the Xenie umbrella, integrating digital payments infrastructure, lending and underwriting services, retail analytics, loyalty and advertising monetization, ERP, and inventory solutions. This unified solution aims to transform every kirana store



into an intelligent financial hub, bridging the gap between physical commerce and digital banking.

"With Xenie, we're empowering every kirana store into an intelligent financial hub," explains Rajesh Johnny. "This is a holistic approach—where billing, payments, inventory, and loyalty come together into one AI-powered experience."

Global Footprint

BranchX has launched its operations in Saudi Arabia, aligning with Vision 2030—the Kingdom's initiative to modernize its financial and retail ecosystems. Backed by Saudi-based investors, BranchX is in strategic discussions with local banks to deploy Xenie RMS into modern retail and q-commerce operations.

"Saudi Arabia is building a future-ready retail infrastructure," notes Sajid Jamal. "Xenie POS fits perfectly into this vision—not just as a product, but as an enabler of intelligent commerce across the value chain."

The Founders' Vision

"Technology is just the beginning. Our real focus is building solutions that truly understand the struggles of small shop owners and give them tools to thrive," says Rajesh Johnny. Sajid Jamal adds, "Retailers have always understood physical commerce. Xenie bridges the gap between physicality and digital intelligence—creating not just

primary sales but also secondary monetization opportunities through data, loyalty, and ads."

Empathy Meets Intelligence

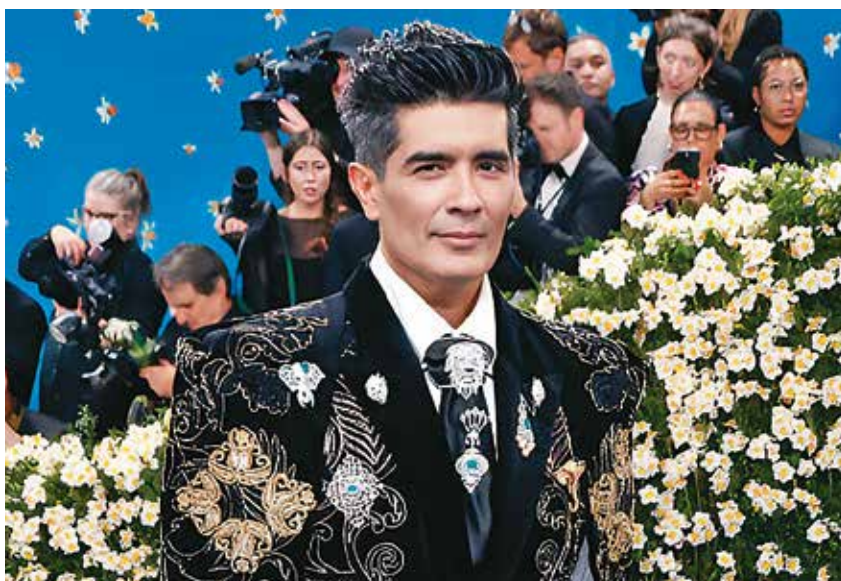
At its core, BranchX is a reflection of its founders' vision: to empower the smallest retailers with the most advanced tools. Technology is just the beginning; the real focus lies in building solutions that truly understand the struggles of small shop owners and give them tools to thrive. "We believe in empathy-driven fintech," concludes Rajesh Johnny. "Because when you understand people's struggles, you build not just better products—you build better futures."

Looking Ahead

BranchX is preparing for a public offering, backed by a diverse base of strategic investors and collaborators—a move that reflects confidence in its long-term vision and scalable business model. With the combination of the Xenie POS, the neobanking suite, and a 1-million-unit roadmap, BranchX is on track to become a global leader in indigenous retail tech.

"We're solving not just for information, but for real financial empowerment," says Sajid Jamal. "This means building tools that speak the vernacular, offer real-time credit, enable discounting, and help every retailer—no matter their size—compete in the digital economy."





Manish Malhotra, Indian Fashion Designer

Pioneering the Fusion of Tradition and Luxury in India's Fashion Renaissance

Redefining Indian fashion by intertwining Bollywood glamour with indigenous crafts, inspiring a legacy of cultural preservation and entrepreneurial vision

In the intricate web of Indian fashion, one name stands as a vanguard, scripting an indelible narrative of revival, luxury, and socio-economic empowerment - Manish Malhotra. Over three decades, Malhotra has etched his signature in the fashion cosmos, orchestrating a fusion of Bollywood glamour and indigenous crafts, contributing significantly to India's fashion landscape and economic vision.

Malhotra's journey symbolizes a synergy between Bollywood and local crafts, notably his endeavour in popularizing chikankari, a traditional craft, and giving it a contemporary flair. His vision was to mainstream

this art form, turning it into a conversation starter on ramps, red carpets, and beyond. Speaking of this, he emphasizes, "The film industry helped in building chikankari's reputation and penetrating it to places one couldn't have imagined."

The convergence of fashion and philanthropy materialized through Malhotra's association with the Mijwan Welfare Foundation, founded by Shabana Azmi in a small village in Uttar Pradesh. This noble initiative aimed at empowering women and reviving local crafts like chikankari. Malhotra's involvement led to the adoption of the village, nurturing it from 40 to over 400 women artisans,

providing them with steady work and income, thus revitalizing the craft.

Undeniably, his journey into fashion was no happenstance. From early days immersed in movies, colours, and costumes, his innate inclination led him to create iconic looks for Bollywood. It wasn't until he launched his label that his prowess extended beyond cinema to embrace a broader clientele seeking ready-to-wear ensembles and couture pieces, primarily driven by the demand fueled by movies and weddings.

Beyond apparel, Malhotra's expansion into makeup, jewellery, home decor, and film production showcases his entrepreneurial acumen. Collaborations with brands like MyGlamm and Raniwala 1881 underscore his brand's evolution into a complete luxury lifestyle label, capturing various facets of opulence.

The fusion of traditional artistry with contemporary trends has attracted significant investments, mirroring the changing dynamics of India's fashion market. Ventures like the Reliance Brands partnership have propelled Malhotra's vision to greater heights, offering resources to expand offerings and solidify his brand's presence in the global luxury segment.

The Indian ethnic wear market, poised to reach \$18.68 billion by 2023, and the burgeoning luxury market, estimated to grow to \$200 billion by 2030, paint a promising trajectory for designers like Malhotra, who continue to blend heritage with modernity.

In a paradigm shift towards digital retail, Malhotra recently launched his virtual store, ushering customers into an immersive experience that seamlessly merges the online and in-store journey. This innovation, operational 24/7, reflects his foresight in adapting to evolving consumer preferences while preserving the essence of personalized shopping.

proud to be shaping India's modern value retail industry.

Q How do you ensure consistency across such a vast network?

Scaling without losing quality requires strong systems, trained teams, and disciplined execution. Our standard operating procedures, rigorous training modules, and real-time feedback mechanisms ensure uniform experiences across all locations. Store layouts, visual merchandising, and service protocols are designed to create familiarity and trust—whether a customer shops in a metro or a Tier-3 town.

We also integrate sustainability and inclusivity into our core operations. By reducing operational waste, sourcing responsibly, and supporting local manufacturers, we align growth with positive environmental and social impact. Our workforce reflects this inclusivity, drawing strength from diverse backgrounds.

Q What are your priorities as India targets a \$5 trillion economy?

India's economic rise is reshaping consumption patterns, especially in semi-urban and rural markets. We see tremendous potential in these regions and are expanding our footprint there aggressively.

At the same time, digital enablement will be central to our next phase. We are strengthening our online presence to make our value proposition accessible beyond physical stores. The future belongs to an omni-channel model—one that serves every Indian, wherever they are, with affordability, convenience, and style.

Our long-term goal is simple: to make fashion truly universal, not just for today's India but for generations to come.



Ram Chandra Agarwal
Founder & Chairman, V2 Retail Limited

Changing Face of Value Retail

Ram Chandra Agarwal on Redefining Value Retail for India's Next Growth Wave.

Q What inspired you to enter the value retail sector in the 1990s?

In the early 1990s, India's liberalization opened new economic possibilities, but quality fashion remained inaccessible to most middle- and lower-income families. Growing up in a modest household, I experienced this gap firsthand. At that time, organized retail barely existed.

Fashion choices in smaller cities were either overpriced or unavailable. That unmet need became my mission: to democratize fashion—making it affordable, stylish, and reliable without sacrificing quality. What started as a vision to bridge aspiration and affordability has today become the foundation of India's evolving value retail landscape.

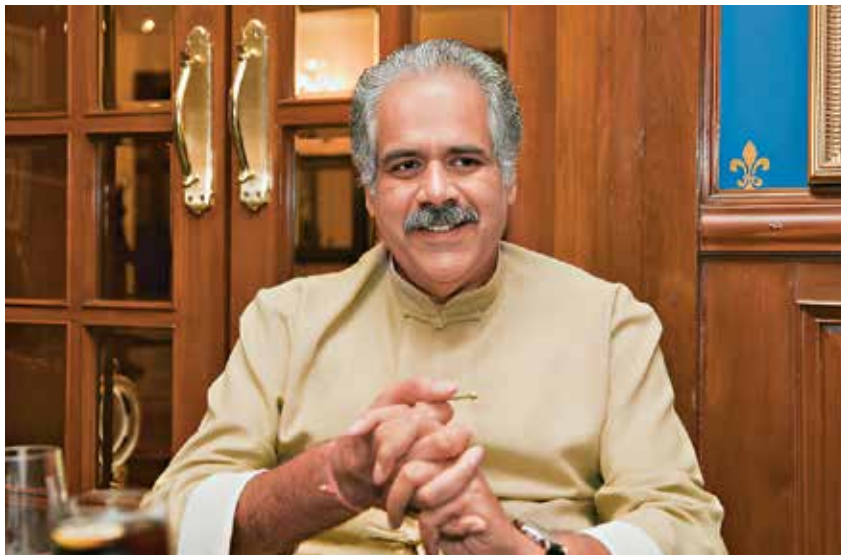
Q What drives V2 Retail's success?

Our strength lies in a clear,

uncompromising focus on value and variety. Every part of our operation—from sourcing and supply chain management to store design—is engineered for speed, cost-efficiency, and customer delight.

We have built a culture that develops ordinary individuals into extraordinary performers, ensuring our frontline teams deliver the same promise every single day. Above all, we actively listen to our customers. Their needs and expectations evolve rapidly, and we adapt just as quickly.

Understanding "Bharat"—India beyond the metros—is our greatest advantage. For millions of families, V2 Retail doesn't just sell apparel; it offers dignity, style, and meaningful savings. With a market capitalization exceeding ₹6,500 crore, operations across 170 cities, and more than 220 stores. We are



Rahul Bhatia
Co-founder & MD, Interglobe Aviation Ltd.

Driving India's Aviation Landscape to New Heights

The tactical wisdom boosted the Company to dominate India's aviation market marking a pivotal role in India's economic growth and connectivity goals

The trajectory of India's aviation industry has been revolutionized by the relentless drive and strategic acumen of Rahul Bhatia, Co-founder and Managing Director of InterGlobe Aviation. Alongside his father, Kapil Bhatia, Rahul has propelled IndiGo, India's largest airline under InterGlobe, to spearhead the country's aviation landscape, contributing significantly to India's path toward a \$5 trillion economy.

Established in 2006 with billionaire Rakesh Gangwal, IndiGo swiftly ascended to dominate 63% of the domestic market share, becoming the epitome of reliability, efficiency, and profitability in the aviation sector. Bolstered by a fleet exceeding 300 aircraft and connecting 104 destinations

worldwide, including 26 overseas locations, IndiGo's success story is underscored by its CEO Pieter Elbers, the former CEO of KLM, ensuring operational excellence.

However, Rahul Bhatia's visionary leadership extends beyond aviation. In a strategic move, InterGlobe partnered with logistics giant UPS to launch Movin, a groundbreaking joint venture catering to India's burgeoning logistics demands. This diversification showcases Bhatia's foresight in identifying opportunities beyond the aviation sphere.

Not confining their endeavours to aviation and logistics, the Bhatias expanded into the hospitality sector, collaborating with France's Accor to operate 21 hotels across India and managing 13 hotels internationally, including the prestigious Sheraton

Amsterdam Airport Hotel. This multifaceted approach exhibits their commitment to fostering growth across varied sectors.

The fiscal success of InterGlobe Aviation mirrors its expansive influence. With a staggering revenue of 536 billion rupees (\$6.7 billion) in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023, it undeniably underlines Rahul Bhatia's adept stewardship in steering the company towards economic prosperity.

Rahul Bhatia's journey to this zenith of success commenced with an electrical engineering degree from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. His entrepreneurial spirit was evident from his early endeavors in telecom, albeit stymied by regulatory obstacles. Nonetheless, his pivot to establish InterGlobe Enterprises in 1989, focusing on Air Transport Management, laid the foundation for his eventual meteoric rise.

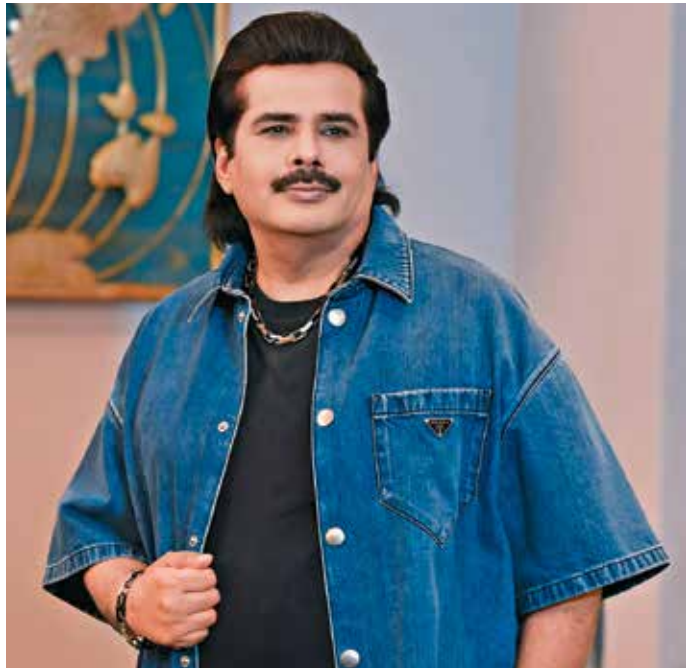
Recognition as the 'Entrepreneur of the Year' by Ernst & Young in 2011 underscored Bhatia's visionary leadership and strategic prowess, cementing his status as a trailblazer in Indian business circles.

IndiGo's philosophy of offering affordable rates, punctual flights, and a seamless travel experience epitomizes its rapid expansion and resonates with India's burgeoning middle class. This ethos aligns with the nation's ambition of achieving a \$5 trillion economy, with aviation emerging as a critical sector bolstering economic growth and connectivity.

Rahul Bhatia's transformative influence on the Indian aviation industry transcends mere numbers and statistics. His indelible mark, characterized by innovation, resilience, and unwavering dedication, continues to be the cornerstone propelling India's aviation sector toward greater heights, contributing significantly to the nation's economic aspirations.

Powered By Principles

In an exclusive interview with *Outlook*, Lalchnd Group founder chairman Sunjoy Hans reflects on the values that shaped his journey and how Lalchnd Jewellers contributes to the vision of a Viksit Bharat



Sunjoy Hans, Founder Chairman, Lalchnd Group

Q Can you take us back to the early days of your journey? What values or experiences shaped your vision for the Lalchnd Group?

I was raised in a family where being a good human always came before being a good businessman. My parents lived by this ideal and led by example, leaving a lasting impression on all of us siblings. At our family's department store, my brothers and I received our first lessons in retail. It felt like I had joined as a salesman reporting to the head salesman—my father. He was uncompromising in his professionalism and customer-first policy. For him, trust and goodwill were far more valuable than profits. Today, while we are the largest jewellery brand in eastern India, what we cherish most is being regarded as Odisha's most trusted name. Blessings matter more than balance sheets. May Lord Jagannath and Sai Baba continue to guide us at every step.

Q How do you see India's heritage of handcrafted excellence contributing to the US\$5 trillion economy dream?

I believe technology and traditional craftsmanship do not have to be mutually exclusive. In fact, technology can be a great

enabler—helping to amplify, promote, and globalize our rich artisanal heritage. If we can build more collaborations between artisans and tech-driven platforms, we can generate mass employment and contribute meaningfully to India's \$5 trillion economy vision. At the same time, we preserve and elevate our cultural identity. That's priceless.

Q Lalchnd has always celebrated the art of fine jewellery. How important is it to preserve artisanal traditions?

We have supported traditional artisans—especially filigree craftsmen—for over three decades now. Many of them, once struggling, are today thriving with pride and dignity. Preserving heritage doesn't mean resisting modernity—it means empowering tradition to evolve and flourish.

Q You are seen as a visionary in a rapidly evolving luxury and hospitality landscape. What principles keep you grounded while pushing forward?

While my father laid the foundation, it is my spiritual guru's wisdom that keeps me anchored. She taught me that humility, clarity of thought, and inner peace are essential for both leadership and life. I remain forever grateful to her.

Q What is your vision for a Viksit Bharat, and how do you see Lalchnd's role in this narrative?

A truly developed Bharat is one where progress walks together with social harmony, environmental balance, and equal opportunity for all. We are inspired by the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and proud to contribute in our own way—whether by supporting artisans, offering help during natural calamities, or standing by the people during the pandemic. Our upcoming five-star resort and boutique hotel are not just business ventures—they are steps towards boosting Odisha's tourism and creating employment. Our ambition is to become the ultimate symbol of trust within the Viksit Bharat narrative.



Richa Agarwal, Chairperson of Kolkata Centre for Creativity, CEO at Emami Art and Director, Emami Paper Mills

The Creative Engine

A voice of influence in the arts and culture ecosystem, Richa Agarwal is dedicated to promoting a more comprehensive concept for growth that prioritises social and community well-being along with financial indicators

A prominent entrepreneur and patron of the arts, Richa Agarwal embodies a commitment to giving back and fostering a more inclusive society. As the Chairperson of KCC and Emami Art, and Director at Emami Paper Mills, she champions a holistic approach to development extending beyond traditional economic metrics.

Universal Art and Inclusive Growth

Agarwal believes that art and culture is a fundamental unifier, transcending socio-economic divides. For her, appreciation of art is universal, encompassing all facets of life—from culinary expressions and fashion to filmmaking and scientific inquiry. She advocates for a broader understanding of art.

She keenly observes a critical imbalance in India's economic dialogue. Attention largely centres on technology and industrialisation, and

the substantial contributions of traditional sectors are often overlooked. She points out that India remains an agrarian society, with 70 per cent of its population engaged in agriculture. Critically, the handicraft and handloom sector represents the second-largest employer in India. This vast creative workforce, rooted in indigenous knowledge and skill, holds immense untapped potential for dignified livelihoods and sustainable economic growth, a potential she passionately seeks to dignify and elevate.

Pioneering the Creative Economy

Under Agarwal's stewardship, Emami Art actively cultivates this sector by promoting a diverse range of artists. The gallery's scope spans photography, film, and various traditional and contemporary art forms. The Kolkata Centre for Creativity (KCC) operates on the

principle of "celebrating life as a whole," offering a dynamic platform for dance, music, theatre, culinary arts, among others, embracing every human endeavour as forms of artistic expression.

This commitment aligns with a national vision for the creative economy, estimated at over \$100 billion annually (as per industry reports) for handicrafts alone, directly employing over 7 million artisans. The broader creative economy, including media, entertainment, and design, is projected to contribute 2.5-3 per cent of India's GDP by 2025, potentially reaching over \$150 billion.

Social Impact and Community Empowerment

Agarwal's influence extends to significant social initiatives. Her involvement in the CSR activities of Emami Paper Mills, particularly projects like 'Piece by Piece,' showcases a commitment to community upliftment. This initiative, empowering women in Balasore to craft products from unused fabrics, embodies the triple bottom-line' approach focusing on people, planet, and profit. Her interest in furthering women's agency extends across socio-economic categories. As the current President of the Ladies Study Group (LSG), she is dedicated to fostering intellectual growth among women.

Agarwal is a staunch advocate for integrating creative arts into foundational education. She laments the marginalisation of art and craft in schools, asserting that hands-on, creative pursuits are vital for mental well-being, problem-solving, and building resilience. By nurturing this innate human capacity for creation, she believes a new generation of visionaries will emerge. These individuals will not only participate in India's \$5 trillion economy but will lead its innovation, ensuring a more holistic and dignified growth path for the nation.

Aligning Business with Purpose

The best way to contribute to India's ascent is not just through what we build, but how we build it

VAIBHAV MALOO



Vaibhav Maloo
Managing Director, Enso Group

As I reflect on where India stands today—having just overtaken Japan to become the world's fourth-largest economy—I feel a deep sense of responsibility and possibility. With a GDP now touching \$4.3 trillion and projections by the IMF placing us at \$5.5 trillion by 2028, poised to overtake Germany, this moment is not just about numbers. It is about the arrival of a new India: confident, dynamic, and ready to shape the global narrative.

Having been an integral part of building and expanding Enso Group, I've witnessed its evolution under the able leadership of my father Vinay Maloo for two decades. We were among the first few Indian companies to establish a large-scale global presence, and that experience has given me a unique vantage point—from negotiating energy deals in frontier markets to building a social platform for Indian users long before "Make in India" became a national mantra.

At Enso Group, our journey has always been aligned with India's larger aspirations. In our early days, we entered oil and gas exploration through Ensearch Petroleum—at a time when the private sector in India was still finding its feet in

core industries. We became India's first global private player in the sector, operating across geographies, building trust, and delivering impact.

Through Enso Global Trading, we became one of the leading importers of rough diamonds into India and exporters from the UAE, demonstrating how Indian businesses could control high-value global supply chains. Our work in urban infrastructure, particularly in the Gurgaon Metro, reflected our belief in forward-thinking public-private partnerships.

Meanwhile, in the digital space, Enso Webworks introduced one of India's first AI-driven search engines, VOIP-based video chat software, and the largest Indian-origin social media platform—proving that India could innovate, not just imitate.

My urge to connect policy with practice and business with social purpose led me to write two books that are deeply personal, yet globally relevant. In "An Indian Manifesto," I attempt to bridge the gap between macroeconomic policy and grassroots concerns—not as

abstract concepts, but as actionable ideas that India must adopt if it wants to lead not just in GDP rankings, but in quality of life and human development. My second book, *"The Business of Life,"* reflects on everything from world politics and social empowerment to business ethics, religion, and identity. Through its pages, I raise questions that have shaped my own leadership journey pertaining to challenges, filtering noise from fact, and building organisations with soul, not just scale.

As an entrepreneur, author, and citizen, I remain committed to playing my part—by pushing boundaries, questioning conventions, and building platforms that reflect the very best of India.

This is our moment. Let's make it count.

About the Author: A celebrated author and an alumnus of Carnegie Mellon University, Oxford University & Cambridge University, Vaibhav Maloo is working on a mini universe of sites and mobile applications in Enso Webworks. Since 2009, he is the managing director of the group.



A view of the HORIBA India Pune Facility

HORIBA: At the Forefront of India's Economic Transformation

Strengthening India's Ecosystem in Energy & Environment, Bio & Healthcare, and Materials & Semiconductor"

As India accelerates its journey toward becoming a \$5 trillion economy, the pillars of innovation, sustainability, and robust industrial infrastructure will be critical to its success. These principles form the foundation of HORIBA India's mission.

HORIBA India, a subsidiary of the globally renowned HORIBA Group headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, began its direct operations in the country in 2006. Since then, it has grown into a force of over 500 employees across India and the SAARC region.

Guided by the vision of **'Joy and Fun for All'** and a strong commitment to social and technological advancement, HORIBA India continues to drive change through local innovation,

sustainability efforts, and global collaboration.

From Vision to Impact: Localizing for National Growth, strengthening "Make in India"

HORIBA India stands as a strong enabler of the Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat missions, driving self-reliance through strategic investments in local manufacturing, research and development, and talent development.

HORIBA's state-of-the-art facilities **"HORIBA India Technical Center (HITC)"**, Pune is a hub of innovation. The center develops indigenized solutions including EV chassis dynamometers, continuous emission monitoring systems, and the newly launched **Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engine (H₂-ICE) Test Bed**.



Mr. Hideyuki Koishi
Board Member - HORIBA, Ltd.
General Manager - Group Strategy Division, HORIBA, Ltd.
Chairman - HORIBA India

He is director at HORIBA, Ltd., and General Manager of the Group Strategy Division. He began his journey with STEC Inc. (now HORIBA STEC) in 1985, gaining global leadership experience across Taiwan, the U.S., Korea, and Japan. He has held key positions including President of HORIBA STEC and HORIBA STEC Korea, and Executive VP in the U.S.

Mr. Koishi also served on the SEMI Japan Regional Advisory Board, contributing significantly to the electronics design and manufacturing ecosystem worldwide.



A view of the HORIBA India Nagpur Facility

Q What are HORIBA India's key contributions to India's \$5 trillion economy vision?

Dr. Gautam: Our major contributions are in the form of technology localization, job creation, and research excellence. We've indigenized critical products and solutions that not only cater to Indian needs but are also exported, making India a global manufacturing hub.

Q HORIBA is known for 'HONMAMON'. How is this Japanese philosophy being applied in India?

Dr. Gautam: HONMAMON means authenticity and excellence. We integrate this value in everything from quality control in our products to ethical business conduct. Our technical centres and manufacturing facilities are ISO and NABL accredited, and our systems are designed with real-world relevance, ensuring both global quality and local affordability.

Q How do you view India's readiness for advanced technologies like hydrogen energy or semiconductor systems?

Dr. Gautam: India stands at the threshold of a transformative technological era, and our Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engine (H2-ICE) Test Bed at the Pune center is a strong reflection of this momentum. As the nation advances toward a more technology-intensive future, HORIBA is committed to enabling critical transitions.

Q Tell us about your leadership philosophy that's helped drive HORIBA India's transformation.

Dr. Gautam: My approach has always been centred on people-first leadership and long-term strategic thinking. I believe in empowering teams, fostering continuous learning, and making decisions that align with sustainable and inclusive growth.



Dr Rajeev Gautam
Senior Corporate Officer - HORIBA, Ltd., Japan
President - HORIBA India

An alumnus of IIT Roorkee, he has over 35 years of experience in biotechnology and leadership roles at Cadila, Ranbaxy, and Bremer Pharma. At HORIBA, he leads operations across India and SAARC, establishing advanced manufacturing in Haridwar, Nagpur, and Pune.

A strong advocate of AI, sustainability, and "Make in India," he actively contributes to industry platforms like CII, FICCI, and ASSOCHAM. Passionate about wellness and community upliftment, he supports CSR initiatives and enjoys poetry, cricket, and creative writing beyond his professional pursuits.

In Nagpur, HORIBA operates one of the region's advanced, high-end facilities for the manufacturing of haematology and clinical chemistry equipment, including reagents.

This integrated hub also houses the HORIBA India Technical Institute (HITI), a dedicated platform for upskilling healthcare professionals and technical staff.

HORIBA's Role in the Global Economy

Operating **47 group companies in 28 countries and regions**, HORIBA is a global force in analytical systems across **Energy & Environment, Bio & Healthcare, and Materials & Semiconductors**. The group spends ~10% of its annual turnover on R&D.

From **hydrogen energy solutions** and **carbon emission monitoring** to **cutting-edge diagnostic** equipment, HORIBA India is strengthening India's role in solving some of the world's most pressing challenges.

Beyond Borders: HORIBA's Strategic Expansion in SAARC with New! Bangladesh Office

HORIBA's footprint is also expanding across the SAARC region. In a strategic move that underlines its commitment to regional development, HORIBA will inaugurate its new office in Bangladesh in mid-August 2025, strengthening its presence and outreach in South Asia.

The **"Joy and Fun"** philosophy of HORIBA, known as Omoshiro Okashiku in Japanese, fuels the organization's unique work culture. It emphasizes pride in one's work, collaboration, and a sense of purpose.

HORIBA



Naveen Jindal, Member of Parliament
Chairman, Jindal Steel and Power Limited
Chancellor, OP Jindal Global University.

Building and creating world-class competences to make India self-reliant

For me, the Tiranga is much more than a flag. It's a symbol I see everywhere every day - from a flag bearer to the lapel pin I wear to work daily. My devotion to this sacred symbol led me to fight for its liberation, and it continues to inspire me to remain dedicated to its cause, says Naveen Jindal

Naveen Jindal moved a private member Bill for a comprehensive Food and Nutrition Security Scheme which became the basis for the Food Security Act. Also, it was after Jindal's continuous efforts and prolonged commitment to the issue that got Indian citizens the right to fly the national flag on all days. As President of Flag Foundation of India (FFI) Naveen Jindal welcomed the latest Amendment to the Flag Code of India 2002 after which a common citizen can hoist and unfurl the national flag 24 hours a day at their homes and office locations.

The Naveen Jindal Group is finalising a Rs 15,000 crore investment plan for the

development of renewable energy (RE) projects, aimed at generating captive clean fuel for its ramped-up steelmaking operations. As per the blueprint, the group is focusing on building new capacity additions with four GW of RE sources in-house within the next couple of years. This would help the Group reduce carbon emissions and produce green steel.

The new steel capacity are being planned under Jindal Renewable Power for developing solar and wind power projects for which sites have been identified, and land acquisition is underway. Majority of the projects will be in Rajasthan

and Karnataka. Further, the objective is to be more environmental, social and governance (ESG) compliant.

Jindal Steel and Power has emphasised the focus area for investment as steel and ancillary businesses such as mines, ports and power, and focus on green technologies to decarbonise its steel business. steelmaking capacity to about 15 million tonnes per annum by 2025-26.

Naveen Jindal Group's foray into green energy is poised to make a substantial impact on India's energy landscape, contributing to the nation's ambitious renewable energy targets. By leveraging cutting-edge technology and innovative solutions, the conglomerate aims to enhance efficiency, scalability, and sustainability across its renewable energy ventures. Moreover, the initiative is expected to generate employment opportunities, stimulate economic growth, and foster socio-economic development in the regions where these projects are implemented. Naveen Jindal Group is not only aligning with international sustainability goals but also positioning itself as a leader in the green energy revolution.

Jindal founded the O.P. Jindal Global University (OPJGU or JGU) in 2009, in memory of his father, Mr. O.P. Jindal. Jindal is also the Founder and Patron of the OP Jindal University, Chhattisgarh. It started as an engineering college and in a span of 4 years, OPJU became India's first and only private university to offer courses in steelmaking, metallurgy and management. The University was awarded the 'Best Private University in Chhattisgarh' at The Progress Global Awards 2020.

Crafting Solutions Building the Future

Fluid Controls shaping the future of engineering through innovation, sustainability, and inclusivity while driving the market for connected networks

DR TANSEN CHAUDHARI



Dr Tansen Chaudhari, Executive Director & CEO
Fluid Controls Limited

As India advances towards its ambitious goal of becoming a \$5 trillion economy, the engineering sector plays a critical role in building robust infrastructure for sustainable growth. At Fluid Controls Limited, we are proud to be at the forefront of this transformation, offering reliable, cost-effective, and innovative solutions to the global railway and industrial sectors.

Pioneering Innovation

I was deeply honoured to receive the 'Progressive Entrepreneur of the Year' award at the 5th Rail Analysis Innovation and Excellence Summit, 2024. This recognition reflects not only my vision but the collective efforts of the exceptional team at Fluid Controls. We have consistently prioritized innovation and intellectual property as key drivers of growth.

In the past year, we secured two global/USA patents for advancements in Ferrule Heat Treatment Processes—a core part of our fittings product line. Additionally, two Indian patents were granted for our work in manufacturing jigs and fixturing, enhancing production efficiency and quality.

Our in-house R&D centre, recognized by the Government of India's Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), continues to deliver breakthrough engineering solutions. With a dedicated team of engineers, PhDs, and postgraduates, we develop products that meet the highest global standards.

"At Fluid Controls, precision and performance are not just goals—they are our promise. We engineer trust into every connection we create"

Locally-Global Collaboration

In today's interconnected economy, we believe in co-creating value with OEM partners and earn their trust. We work closely with global and local engineering institutions for talent acquisition and training, ensuring that new recruits are aligned with the expectations of our industry partners. Our 'Centers of Excellence', comprising cross-functional teams, are designed to tackle the most demanding engineering challenges with agility and precision.

At Fluid Controls, we actively contribute to India's 'Make in India' mission by providing indigenous alternatives to imported components. We have adopted Lean Six Sigma methodologies for continuous improvement and outcome-based development. With NABL-accredited lab testing, our end-to-end offerings include products, services, and validation

processes—ensuring we meet global standards while maintaining local relevance.

Our business is anchored in robust governance systems—including ISO 37001 certification for anti-bribery and ERP systems for data-driven decision-making, in use since 2012.

Future Roadmap

Our vision is to expand Fluid Controls globally and enter new business verticals. Growth will be driven by new product development, backed by robust IP protection. Our focus will remain on differentiating ourselves through R&D excellence and customer-centric innovation while offering reliable, high-performance, and affordable solutions. Our journey reflects a belief in purposeful growth—serving customers, empowering communities, and driving national progress.

About Author : *PhD Mechanical Engineering from IIT Bombay, having 7 Global/USA Patents and have worked In various P&L roles Globally with General Electric (GE) for 10 years!! Also, worked as Ombudsperson & CSR Country Leader i.e. GE Volunteers*



Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Electronics & Information Technology & Railways, GOI

Digital India's New Architect

Ashwini Vaishnaw is steering India's economic future with a unique blend of administrative experience and technological expertise, with a focus on modernizing infrastructure and fostering indigenous innovation

Ashwini Vaishnaw, a former IAS officer turned astute politician, is widely regarded as a pivotal architect of India's ambitious drive towards a \$5 trillion economy and the overarching vision of "Viksit Bharat". His remarkable career, a unique tapestry woven from public service, corporate leadership, and technological expertise, provides a compelling blueprint for the nation's growth trajectory. He is often seen as a hands-on leader, known for his direct engagement with projects, whether it's meticulously inspecting railway tracks or riding a motorcycle to reach an accident site.

Born in Jodhpur, Rajasthan,

Vaishnaw's academic journey is a testament to his intellectual rigour. After graduating with a gold medal in electronic and communications engineering from MBM Engineering College, he pursued an M. Tech from IIT Kanpur. His thirst for knowledge led him to the prestigious Wharton Business School at the University of Pennsylvania for an MBA, a degree he financed with a loan. This diverse background, combining grassroots administrative experience with international corporate strategy, has profoundly shaped his policy-making approach. A notable example is his innovative use of technology during the 1999 Odisha super cyclone, where as a district collector, he

tracked the storm on the US Navy website to aid disaster management.

As a Union Minister holding the crucial portfolios of Railways, Communications, and Electronics & Information Technology, Vaishnaw is at the vanguard of India's economic transformation. He champions technology and infrastructure as the twin engines of growth.

Under his stewardship, the Indian Railways is undergoing massive modernisation, with indigenous Vande Bharat trains serving as a potent symbol of 'Make in India' excellence. He is a fierce proponent of the country's shift from being a consumer to a producer, particularly in the electronics and semiconductor sectors, and has been instrumental in the push for India's first indigenous semiconductor chip.

Beyond his professional life, Vaishnaw maintains a keen interest in music and is passionate about exploring the country, often traveling to understand the needs and aspirations of citizens on the ground. His personal philosophy is deeply rooted in 'Antyodaya,' the upliftment of the most marginalised sections of society. He holds a firm belief that believes that technology is the most powerful tool for achieving this.

With his strategic focus on technological advancement, indigenous manufacturing, and robust infrastructural development, Ashwini Vaishnaw is not just a minister but a pivotal force steering India toward a future of prosperity and global leadership. His hands-on leadership also extends to fostering a culture of innovation within his ministries, encouraging startups and entrepreneurs to play a vital role in nation-building. This collaborative approach, combined with his strategic foresight, is accelerating India's technological self-reliance and global competitiveness.

Powering India's Growth: The Critical Role of MEP Industry in Building the \$5 Trillion Economy

In this dynamic landscape, Listenlight is not only embracing technology but also actively driving India's journey toward a sustainable and digitally empowered future

HIMAY SHAH

India's march towards becoming a \$5 trillion economy in the near term, and an inspiring \$30 trillion by 2047, is powered by more than policy reforms and global market opportunities. At its very core lies a robust, future-ready infrastructure backbone. Behind every large Commercial Park, Hospital, Data Center, and Industrial setup is a complex engineering system based on precision of accuracy that sets up and keeps such critical infrastructure running efficiently and sustainably. This is where the MEP (Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing) industry takes center stage.

MEP: The Hidden Engine of Infrastructure

From sprawling industrial and logistics parks that move goods at lightning speed to superspecial healthcare facilities that are critical for lives, MEP is the unseen force ensuring these facilities operate with precision, safety, and resilience. MEP is not just about engineering; it's about enabling businesses, cities, and industries to function without disruption.

India's critical infrastructure spending — spanning across building Global Capability Center, Industrial plants, Hospitals, Data centers, Semiconductor industries and powering green energy systems — is set to surge as the country builds capacity to match its economic aspirations. The MEP sector is uniquely positioned to deliver on this

vision by integrating advanced design, innovative systems, energy-efficient HVAC systems, cleaner and greener energy sources and cutting-edge testing and commissioning practices into every project.

Listenlights: Building India's Critical Infrastructure

At Listenlights, we've been more than a service provider; we are strategic partners in shaping the nation's critical infrastructure. We have over 40+ years of Industry experience with major clients including Fortune 500 companies. This includes over 25+ million square feet of commercial corporate fit outs. Large-format warehouses for major U.S. multinationals and MEP for 50% of India's existing Data Center capacity has been built with our expertise.

All this is driven by a highly qualified team of over 800+ with proven track record in 3D Design, Planning, QC & QA, and Testing & Commissioning for high-complexity projects. This talent pool needs access to a steady stream of young engineering professionals. We addressed this need by adopting a grassroots strategy.

We conducted recruitment drives in Tier 2-3 cities like Sangli and Warangal to identify talent. Once chosen, each student gets the chance to work in each of our 22 departments before choosing which one he or she wants to pursue as a career. This induction period goes a long way in converting a student into a sharp industry ready professional.



Himay Shah
Executive Director & Group CEO
Listenlights

Our GET (Graduate Engineer Trainee) program has been very successful with two batches of students successfully deployed across our sites.

We followed this up with a tie-up with the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) this year. Here, we will help KIIT define its course material as well as give its students access to our sites for on-the-job training. This will ensure a steady stream of job-ready engineers for our industry.

Catalyzing Economic Growth

India's economic growth will generate thousands of jobs across sectors. Ensuring that the talent pool is relevant for the jobs being created is not restricted to educational institutions. We believe that companies have an equal responsibility as well.

With India's infrastructure push accelerating, MEP Companies like Listenlights are not just participating in this growth; we are engineering it. By marrying decades of technical expertise with next-generation solutions, we ensure that India's infrastructure is **built to last, built to perform, and built for the future.**



Akash Bhansali, Ace Investor

Angel Investor Fuels India's Growth

A knack for spotting transformative ventures and a strategic investment approach makes Akash Bhansali a pivotal force in India's financial ecosystem

Angel investor Akash Bhansali's strategic investments are reshaping India's financial landscape. His work propels startups and fosters economic growth. Bhansali's keen eye for transformative ventures has garnered substantial attention from the investment community. His insightful approach has not only generated significant returns but has also played a pivotal role in creating a vibrant ecosystem for new businesses.

A Closer Look at Bhansali's Portfolio

Based in Mumbai, Akash Bhansali has made significant waves in India's financial markets. With a net worth of INR 953 Crores, he is among India's top 10 investors. His investment strategies target

dynamic sectors like Fin-Tech, Clothing and Apparel, and Business Support Services. These sectors are chosen for their high growth potential and their ability to leverage technology and changing consumer trends. These investments have significantly influenced promising startups such as Herkey, Monsoon Credittech, and Purple Style Labs (PSL). Bhansali's early and consistent support has been a crucial factor in their success and expansion.

Bhansali's journey began with a strategic early investment in Zodiac Clothing. This move showcased his talent for spotting potential in the textile sector. He credits his father, Enam Group founder Mr. Vallabh Bhansali, as his inspiration. He was taught to

take calculated risks on unique companies with futuristic market trends in mind. This philosophy led him to invest in companies like Greenlam Laminates, which were ahead of their time. This foundational experience instilled in him the confidence to back unconventional businesses.

Strategic Growth and Impact

Bhansali's investment approach is concentrated, focusing on a select number of high-potential companies. His portfolio includes stalwarts like Laurus Labs Ltd., IDFC Ltd., and Amber Enterprises India Ltd. He holds stakes in 16 companies. Over the past year, his total portfolio value has surged by 15.2%. This impressive growth is mainly due to Welspun Corp's remarkable 116% surge in share price. Welspun Corp's strong performance in the market highlights the success of Bhansali's long-term investment strategy.

His influence extends far beyond mere investment figures. Bhansali notably led funding rounds for startups like Purple Style Labs. This round drew support from actor Madhuri Dixit Nene and Navroz Udwadia of Alpha Wave Global. PSL plans to expand its Pernia's Pop-Up Shop brand to New York and Dubai, demonstrating a clear vision for global growth.

Bhansali's strategic investments do more than just fuel company growth. They contribute directly to job creation, foster innovation, and promote broader economic development. His trailblazing strategies continue to inspire new investors and propel India's market toward a successful future. With his calculated risk-taking and astute market insights, Akash Bhansali remains a pivotal figure shaping India's economic narrative.



Nitin Mittal, Chairman & MD of Knest Manufacturers Pvt Ltd

Smart Sustainable Construction Solutions

Nitin Mittal shares the incredible journey of Knest Manufacturers Pvt Ltd anchored in innovation, sustainability, and strategic scaling

How has your journey been in building Knest?

Knest was founded in 2014 with a clear vision—to address a critical gap in the Indian construction sector. While aluminium formwork systems were being adopted globally, India was still dependent on traditional wood-based shuttering methods that were slow, inconsistent, and unsustainable. I saw an opportunity to introduce a faster, reusable, and eco-friendly alternative.

Aluminium formwork enables developers to build floors more quickly, reduce project timelines, and improve turnover. The resulting structures are monolithic, crack-free, and highly durable. Most importantly, the system is reusable up to 300 times and eliminates the need for wood—making it economically and environmentally advantageous.

Knest specialises in next-generation building systems, including aluminium formwork and

hydraulic safety screens. With growing demand, we rapidly scaled operations. In under a decade, we built a world-class manufacturing facility spanning 10 lakh sq ft, with a production capacity of over 2.5 lakh sqm per month.

Globally, we are among the largest players in construction technology and have raised ₹300 crore from Lighthouse Funds. This funding will help us double R&D, expand production, accelerate vertical integration, and grow our team to over 2,000 by the end of 2025. What began as a vision to bridge a market gap is now a mission to lead India's construction-tech transformation globally.

We're building a smarter, greener, more resilient India.

What makes Knest's solution unique?

Knest offers a fully Indian solution—designed, manufactured, and

supported locally. Our aluminium formwork panels use high-grade 6061T6 aluminium with single extrusions up to 600 mm, ensuring superior strength, flexibility, and durability.

Our 2 factories in Talegaon and 1 in Ahmedabad, features advanced technology like precision cutting, robotic welding, barcode tracking, and automated lacquering. Every production stage is tightly quality-controlled to ensure top standards.

What sets Knest apart is the blend of world-class machinery with proprietary software for precision engineering. We deliver custom, design-driven solutions with fast timelines and responsive after-sales support—making us a trusted partner in efficient, scalable, future-ready construction.

How does Knest contribute to India's growth story?

At Knest, we take pride in being a homegrown construction-tech company driving India toward a sustainable, self-reliant future. Our mission is to lead globally in construction technology while supporting environmental and social goals—like reducing wood use and enabling scalable, green infrastructure.

We help developers deliver faster, support affordable housing, and empower engineers through training and job creation. Fully designed and made in India, Knest is a key contributor to the 'Make in India' and 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat' government-led movements—replacing imports with high-quality Indian solutions.

Translating this essence, Knest is India's first indigenous construction-tech leader to create an anthem, "Desh me bana, desh ka apna", mirroring its efforts in driving sustainable progress across sectors, infrastructure, housing and urban development. This anthem is a tribute to our people, our company, and our industry—celebrating the pride of building India, with India.



Sabyasachi Mukherjee, Indian Fashion Designer

Designing Impact

Cultural ambassador and economic powerhouse, eminent designer Sabyasachi Mukherjee is an unusual visionary of India's \$5 trillion economy ambition

Sabyasachi Mukherjee has scripted a story that is a testament to the power of artistic vision fused with strategic business acumen. But this is more than an individual success story – the global success of his brand demonstrates the commercial viability of India's rich artisanal heritage, while creating a sustainable ecosystem of employment and cultural preservation

A Kolkata boy from a typical middle-class background who has designed a career and life trajectory that today has earned him not just the tag of a cultural ambassador but the status of an economic powerhouse – a true visionary aligned with India's dream of a \$5 trillion economy. That is Sabyasachi Mukherjee's story.

The Sabyasachi brand is far more than haute couture; it is a global testament to the commercial viability of India's rich artisanal heritage. By meticulously reviving and reinterpreting traditional Indian crafts, he has built a brand that is synonymous with luxury, culture, and economic empowerment. This

success is reflected in the brand's impressive financial performance. While specific, granular data on turnovers can be proprietary, industry analysts and reports consistently place the Sabyasachi brand's annual turnover in the hundreds of crores (tens of millions of USD), with a strong and consistent profit margin. This financial growth is a direct result of his ability to scale a luxury brand based on traditional craftsmanship.

A defining element of Mukherjee's impact is his pivotal role in the handloom sector. He has championed handwoven fabrics like Khadi, Banarasi, and Jamdani, providing a modern context for these ancient traditions. This isn't just about design; it's a direct economic lifeline. The Sabyasachi brand employs thousands of artisans and craftspeople across India, creating a sustainable ecosystem that preserves cultural knowledge while generating employment. This model of "slow fashion" directly counters the exploitative practices of fast fashion, providing steady wages and dignity to a vast workforce. The economic ripple

effect is significant, as a thriving handloom sector contributes to the livelihoods of countless families, injecting capital directly into rural and semi-urban economies. The brand's employment figures are a critical component of its social and economic impact, with estimates suggesting a direct and indirect employment footprint that runs into the tens of thousands.

Mukherjee's international firsts and collaborations have been instrumental in this journey. He is the only Indian designer to have presented at all three major fashion weeks—New York, Milan, and London. Collaborations with global brands like Christian Louboutin, Pottery Barn, and the high-street giant H&M have catapulted Indian design onto the world stage. While the H&M collaboration drew criticism for its fast-fashion alignment, it also introduced millions of consumers to the Sabyasachi aesthetic and, by extension, to Indian textile traditions. These collaborations are not just about raising the brand's profile; they are about creating a global demand for "Made in India" products, demonstrating its potential to be a global luxury standard. The growth figures for the Sabyasachi brand, particularly in international markets, show a steep upward trajectory, indicating that his vision has successfully translated into a scalable and profitable global business.

Sabyasachi's vision, therefore, is a microcosm of India's larger economic aspirations. He has shown that India's cultural capital—its crafts, textiles, and artistic traditions—can be a powerful driver of economic growth. Through his business model, he has created a template for how the creative industry can be a significant contributor to the nation's GDP, fostering a blend of tradition and modernity that is both commercially successful and culturally enriching. His brand's consistent growth in terms of turnover, profitability, and employment figures serves as a tangible example of how cultural preservation can go hand-in-hand with economic prosperity, making him a true visionary for a new, economically vibrant India.

From Legacy to Leadership

How Ryan Pinto is Shaping India's Next Generation

As India accelerates towards becoming a \$5 trillion economy by 2026–2027, the foundation of this ambitious vision rests not only on policy, infrastructure, and technology, but also on the nation's most valuable asset—its people. Ryan Pinto, CEO of the Ryan Group of Institutions, is among the visionary leaders shaping this human capital with a global outlook, innovative pedagogy, and a deep commitment to values-driven education.

The Ryan Group's remarkable journey began under the stewardship of Dr. A.F. Pinto and Dr. Madam Grace Pinto, whose pioneering vision nearly fifty years ago laid the groundwork for one of India's most respected education networks. Their relentless dedication to creating accessible, quality education has set a benchmark in the schooling ecosystem, inspiring successive generations to push boundaries and embrace innovation.

Leading one of India's largest private school networks—with over 150 institutions across 18 states and 40 cities, catering to 250,000+ students—the Ryan Group offers national and international curricula including CBSE, ICSE, ISC, IGCSE, IB, and SSC. Under Pinto's leadership, the group has embraced a transformative approach to schooling, ensuring that Indian students are future-ready for a rapidly evolving global economy.

Armed with a background in Finance and Entrepreneurship from



Mr Ryan Pinto, CEO, Ryan Group of Institutions

Cass Business School, London, Pinto spearheaded the group's successful international expansion into the UAE, where Ryan schools are now among the top-ranked K–12 institutions. In India, he has overseen the rollout of Ryan OS, a proprietary Learning Management System, and the creation of Ryan Innovation Labs that integrate AI, robotics, and experiential learning into everyday classrooms. These initiatives prepare students not only for academic success, but for leadership roles in technology, entrepreneurship, and sustainability—key pillars of India's

"As a parent, I'm truly grateful for the 13-year journey my daughter Chahak had at Ryan ICSE Malad. The school's strong academic foundation, dedicated faculty, and consistent guidance helped her excel in her Grade 10 boards with 99.4%. Ryan has been instrumental in shaping her into a confident, well-rounded student."

Sanjana Khemka

Parent of Chahak Khemka (Batch of 2025), RIS Malad ICSE

economic growth.

Equally important is Pinto's focus on holistic development. Programs like INMUN (Indian Model United Nations) and the International Children's Theatre Festival build global citizenship and creative thinking, while sustainability-led projects have earned the group the SDG School Award 2025. Pinto believes that he has been given an opportunity by God Almighty to impact society and he attributes all his success to Lord Jesus Christ. For his work, Pinto has received numerous accolades, including the K-12 Edupreneur Award of the Year 2024 and the Global Leaders Award at the India-UAE Partnership Summit. Yet, his most profound impact lies in the generations of empowered students his schools continue to nurture.

By investing in education that combines academic rigor, global exposure, and ethical grounding, Ryan Pinto is not just preparing students for jobs—he is preparing them to be innovators, leaders, and changemakers. In doing so, he is contributing directly to the nation's journey toward becoming an economic powerhouse.



AGAINST THE CURRENT: How Two Brothers Sparked Bengal's Digital Awakening

For those who know him as the "King of Good Times", might be surprised to discover that behind the effortless charisma and warm smile, lives a man of extraordinary foresight, grit, and relentless pursuit of purpose. Satyam Roychowdhury, the Founder and Managing Director of Techno India Group, and the Chancellor of Sister Nivedita University and Techno India University, Tripura, has quietly been one of the most

transformative edupreneurs in modern India. Alongside his elder brother Gautam Roychowdhury, the duo helped catalyse a silent revolution in Bengal, ushering in a digital awakening at a time when most of the state remained sceptical of computers and change.

Their journey is not one of privilege or inherited power. It is one of passion, purpose, and an unwavering belief that Bengal's youth deserved better.

The Roots:

Small Town, Big Dreams

It all began in the modest town of Chinsurah in Hooghly—in an old Bengali neighbourhood where the sound of conch shells echoed through narrow alleys at dusk, the scent of incense mingled with musty yet compelling bibliosmia and the aroma of tea, and stories of Rabindranath Tagore were passed from generation to generation. Born into a middle-class household steeped in values, books, and quiet

dignity, the Roychowdhury brothers were not handed opportunities; they created them.

The Roychowdhurys were part of a large family deeply steeped in literature, music and culture, and it was from this rich heritage that Satyam imbibed the values, tastes, and sensibilities that would shape his life. Their parents Rabindranath and Parul ensured that despite limited means, education and integrity remained the family's cornerstones. All the children in the family were raised with stories of rebels, poets, visionaries, and a deeply embedded belief that knowledge is the only true wealth. Satyam being the youngest of all siblings, the family traditions inculcated in him, very early in life, an immense adoration for art and culture.

The Spark of a Revolution

In the early 1980s, Satyam was poised to move to Bangalore for his engineering graduation, when destiny quietly rewrote his script. Due to a dearth of private engineering colleges in Bengal, meritorious students flocked to other states in search of better opportunities. But these two brothers looked inward. Why will Bengal suffer a constant brain drain



A tiny seed we had sown forty years ago has grown into a gigantic banyan tree today. I often look back and it all seems surreal, and then I realise the only truth of life – whatever you want to grow, you must nurture with all your love and care, irrespective of sunshine and storm, with all your might

Satyam Roychowdhury

Founder Managing Director, Techno India Group, Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University and Techno India University, Tripura



– this question haunted them day and night. At a time when typewriters were still seen as modern, and people queued up at government offices for handwritten transcripts, the brothers did what nobody else even thought of doing at that time—they could foresee that the life of the new generation would substantially be dependent on the application of computers in their everyday life, they dared to imagine computers in classrooms and coding in curricula! Satyam cancelled his plans to relocate to Bangalore and, driven by a dream to transform the educational landscape of Bengal, joined hands with his elder brother. Bit by bit, they pooled their resources—tuition earnings, help from relatives, a modest bank loan—and even mortgaged their ancestral home to buy a computer and set up a small training centre just a short walk from their house. In 1984, from a tiny room in Chinsurah, they launched Institute of Computer Engineers (India) or ICEI, Bengal's first private computer training centre, with just seven students in its inaugural batch. In fact, initial classes were conducted without a computer until it arrived a couple of months later. This wasn't just a new venture. It was a bold cultural statement in a state that

viewed technology with suspicion. ICEI democratized computer literacy, brought students from villages into a world of data and software, and laid the groundwork for Bengal's IT future.

ICEI: From One Room to Statewide Phenomenon

The initial days were anything but easy. Convincing parents in semi-urban Bengal to invest in "computer education" was a struggle. But slowly, as students began to secure jobs in government, banks, and emerging private firms—thanks to their ICEI certificates—the narrative shifted. ICEI became a symbol of hope, and its training programs turned into essential passports for employability.

By the 1990s, ICEI centres had mushroomed across Bengal. The impact was so profound, that ICEI certifications were often treated as de facto eligibility for IT jobs in the state.

Then came the breakthrough moment.

In 1994, the Election Commission of India awarded ICEI a contract to digitize photographs for the nationwide Voter ID card project. For a small-town startup, this was a seal of national legitimacy. It gave them visibility, experience at scale, and the operational confidence to dream bigger.

From ICEI to Techno India:

Building an Empire

In 1998, the Roychowdhurys laid the foundation of one of Bengal's first private engineering college —Netaji Subhash Engineering College, ushering in a new era for technical education in the state. This institution, which would later evolve into Techno India Group, broke barriers for thousands of young students, offering them access to world-class education right in their home state.

Over the next two decades, Techno India Group transformed into one of India's largest educational conglomerates, with Techno India University being established in 2012 as the first private university in Bengal, to operating multiple universities, engineering and management colleges, global schools, and international collaborations across healthcare, hospitality, media, and sports, all blossoming luminously under its colossal umbrella.

"A tiny seed we had sown forty years ago has grown into a gigantic banyan tree today. I often look back and it all seems surreal, and then I realise the only truth of life — whatever you want to grow, you must nurture with all your love and care, irrespective of sunshine and storm, with all your might," says Satyam Roychowdhury.

Satyam's vision was not confined to classrooms—it extended to creating knowledge ecosystems. He spearheaded ventures that blurred boundaries between disciplines: fashion and technology, AI and humanities, robotics and ethics. His leadership built Sister Nivedita University, a symbol of progressive, interdisciplinary education in Bengal, and Techno India University Tripura, bringing quality private higher education to the northeast.

A Phoenix Rising:

Setbacks and Comebacks

Even the most resilient leaders face trials. For Satyam, one such incident arrived in 1996, during ICEI's peak.



Today, as his newest literary venture 'Sri Aurobindo For You' makes a grand release, life has come a full circle for him; it is none other than the great sage who had once transformed the young entrepreneur's life during one of his most turbulent times, thirty years ago. After facing an unexpected betrayal from people he had nurtured, unable to bear the pain, he took a silent retreat to Pondicherry with his young wife, and in that beautiful spiritual town, away from all the chaos and negativity, he found solace and clarity of purpose, and he returned with renewed energy.

Techno India today: Bengal's Digital DNA

Today, Techno India isn't just a brand—it is part of Bengal's educational DNA.

With more than 25,000 students

graduating every year, tens of thousands employed in global firms, and a vision aligned with Digital India and Skill India, the Group continues to shape the intellectual and technological future of eastern India.

And now, with the launch of SKFU (Skill, Knowledge, and Fashion University)—India's first fashion university—and Netaji Subhash University of Sports and Entrepreneurship, Techno India is again rewriting the rulebook. Both universities break the mold of traditional education by integrating skill-based learning, global exposure, and innovation, addressing the growing demand for future-ready professionals in emerging domains.

The Man Behind the Mission

Despite being at the helm of an empire, Satyam Roychowdhury



remains deeply grounded. From riding his humble bicycle in Chinsurah to owning a fleet of luxury cars today, his demeanour remains unchanged—humble, warm, and introspective.

Growing up in one of Bengal's most beautiful river towns has taught him the best lessons of life. Just like a river effortlessly flows towards the estuary, he has travelled towards his dreams. He is like the river that has its own rhythm, its own course. No matter how long or winding the journey is, a river always merges into the sea – into something larger, deeper, infinite.

His leadership style is instinctive. "I often say that there are no rules, no adjustment problems in my life. If you love something truly, by emptying yourself, the universe conspires to get you closer to that," he smiles.

Known fondly as "SRC" among academic and social circles, he is

also a published author, public speaker, and cultural patron. But at heart, he remains the dreamer from Chinsurah who wanted Bengal's children to speak the language of computers when the rest of the state still romanticized typewriters.

Looking Ahead:

AI, Semiconductors, and Beyond
Techno India Group is now pivoting toward AI-driven education, semiconductor technology, robotics, and green DevOps—sectors critical for India's next-generation workforce. Under Satyam's leadership, collaborations with leading institutions across the US, Germany, UK, and Japan are being forged to bring global education to Indian soil.

In his words, "We started by teaching people to use computers.

Now, we teach them to build the future with AI, design chips for satellites, and launch ideas that can change the world."

Legacy of Vision and Courage

In hindsight, it's easy to glorify success. But what Satyam and Gautam Roychowdhury did in the 1980s took courage—infinite courage. They dared to dream when the world dismissed computers as a passing trend. They educated the masses when education was still a privilege. And they built institutions not just of brick and mortar, but of vision, conviction, and purpose.

As Bengal walks confidently into its digital future, it will always owe a quiet tribute to the Roychowdhury brothers—the unsung architects of its transformation.

Because they didn't just teach computers.

They taught Bengal how to dream again.